

TERC HIKING CLUB

SEPTEMBER, 1985
NEWSLETTER



***** TRIP NOTICES *****

CANOE TRIP - WATAUGA RIVER BELOW ELIZABETHTON LEADER: WARREN McLAIN
(Scheduled: Sat. Sept. 7, 1985) CLASS I & II. We will put in just below the Hwy. 19 bridge in Elizabethton and paddle about 8 to 9 miles to the town of Watauga. The water (if any) is usually very cold and the current fast. There are several places with mild whitewater. The trip is suitable for beginners. The scenery is good. Bring necessary equipment, a snack and beverage. For water in the river, we are totally dependent on the TVA generating schedule at Watauga and Wilbur Dams. Check with Warren McLain for final plans (phone 288-5762).

SUMMER PICNIC LEADERS: GERALD TUSTIN & JUDY McCLANAHAN
(Scheduled: Sun. Sept. 8, 1985) This year's summer picnic will be held at the TEC recreation area at shelter #9 and will begin at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, September 8, 1985. Two short hikes are planned on trails in the recreation area. The hikes will begin at 4:30 p.m. Photo albums highlighting past hiking and canoeing events will also be featured. Dinner is planned for 6:30 p.m. and will include barbecued hamburgers, hot dogs, fixings, baked beans, potato chips, ice tea, coffee and home-made ice cream. Other drinks will be provided at cost. Since evenings this time of year can be cool, plan to bring a light jacket, but - most important - plan to have fun!

Prices for the picnic are \$3.00 for adults and \$1.50 for children under 12 years of age. Please fill out the form below and mail it and your check to Gerald Tustin, Building 150B, TEC. Phone 246-8918 for additional information. In order to facilitate planning, please mail the form before Sept. 3, 1985.

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

NUMBER OF ADULTS ATTENDING: _____

NUMBER OF CHILDREN ATTENDING: _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO GERALD TUSTIN

TRIP NOTICE - BEGINNERS HIKE - VIRGINIA CREEPER TRAIL LEADER: STEVE COOK
(Scheduled: Sat. Sept. 14, 1985) This is a very easy hike. The trail was originally part of the old Virginia Creeper railroad bed. The line ran from Jefferson, N.C. to Abingdon, Va. and one of the steam locomotives is on display at the trail head. The hike is 3.6 miles long on wide, very level terrain. The old trestles have been converted to foot bridges by the park service. Bring water, lunch, ;and raincoats or umbrellas. We will meet at the B-215 parking lot at 8:45 a.m. for a 9:00 a.m. departure. Contact Steve Cook at 239-9340 if you have questions or want directions for going directly to the trail head. NOTE: IF YOU HAVE BEEN THINKING ABOUT HIKING OR GETTING YOUR FAMILY INTERESTED IN HIKING, THIS WOULD BE A GOOD HIKE TO START WITH. THE HIKE IS NOT LIMITED TO BEGINNERS. ANYONE IS WELCOME.

TRIP NOTICE - CAMP CREEK BALD TO DEVIL FORK GAP LEADER: STEVE BANKS
(Scheduled: Sat. Sept. 14, 1985) This 14 mile hike will go from Camp Creek Bald along the crest of Coldspring Mountain to Devil Fork Gap on the AT. It is rated difficult. Bring water, lunch, rain gear, and sturdy boots or shoes. Meet at B-215 at 7:45 a.m. for an 8:00 a.m. departure, or at the main Johnson City post office at 8:30 a.m. Additional information can be obtained by calling the trip leader, Steve Banks, at 288-3570.

TRIP NOTICE - RATTLIN HOLE CAVE HIKE LEADER: GREG KRAMER
(Scheduled: Sun. Sept. 15, 1985) This trip is rated difficult because prior experience is needed. The entrance is a 120 foot free drop. Persons interested in learning to rappel and climb on ropes should contact the trip leader at least 2 weeks before the trip. Rattlin hole is the most colorful cave in East Tennessee and is well worth the trip. Participants are expected to bring a change of clothes, lunch and a spare light in a day pack. Helmets and helmet mounted lights are also required but can be supplied by the trip leader if notice is given. Meet Sunday, Sept 15 at B-215 at 9:00 a.m. We should return by 8:00 p.m. For additional information call Greg Kramer at 239-7667.

TRIP NOTICE- AT, MAX PATCH ROAD TO HOT SPRINGS BACKPACK LEADER: STEVE BANKS
(Scheduled: Sept. 21 & 22, 1985) This two-day backpack will cover the 17 miles from Max Patch Road to Hot Springs, N.C., in the beautiful Bald Mountain range along the TN-NC state line. It is rated moderate. We will share gear (tents, stoves, etc.) as much as possible. In order to make the arrangements, pre-registration is required by September 7. Meet at B-215 at 7:45 a.m. for an 8:00 a.m. departure, or at the main Johnson City post office at 8:30 a.m. To pre-register or to get more details, contact Steve Banks at 288-3570.

TRIP NOTICE - AT, GREAT VALLEY TO BRUSHY MTN LEADER: KEVIN EDGAR
(Scheduled: Sat. Sept. 28, 1985) We will begin our moderate (10.8 miles) day hike in Southwest Virginia near Groseclose where the AT crosses I-81. We will hike south, traversing Glade Mtn, Locust Mtn, and Brushy Mtn on our way to the finish at the infamous Mt. Rogers Recreation Area "No Visitors" Center. We can expect some good views, hope for some crisp early fall weather, and look forward to a brisk 1500 ft. climb from Rt 11 to the top of Glade Mtn. Bring a lunch, water, rain gear, good shoes and a flashlight. We will meet at B-215 at 7:45 a.m. for a prompt 8:00 a.m. departure (it will be about a 90 minute drive to Groseclose). Call Kevin Edgar at 239-5742 for more information or to arrange meeting points.

TRIP NOTICE - TLP, FLAT GAP TO BIG WAR GAP LEADER: GORDON NEWLAND
(Scheduled: Sun. Sept. 29, 1985) This Sunday afternoon hike should be invigorating and pleasant in September. The distance is 4.5 miles atop Clinch Mtn. A relatively long car shuttle is required. Meet at B-215 parking lot for a 12:30 p.m. departure. Due to the long drive (to Mooresburg) we will be about 7:00 p.m. returning. For additional information, call Gordon Newland at 246-8845.

TRIP NOTICE - AT, CAMP CREEK BALD TO ALLEN GAP LEADER: STEVE BANKS
(Scheduled: Sat. Oct. 5, 1985) This 6 mile hike will go from Camp Creek Bald to Allen Gap on the AT. It is rated moderate. Bring water, lunch, raingear, and sturdy boots or shoes. Meet at B-215 at 7:45 a.m. for an 8:00 a.m. departure, or at the main Johnson City post office at 8:30. Additional information can be obtained from the trip leader, Steve Banks, at 288-3570.

***** FUTURE ACTIVITIES *****

DATE	TRIP	LEADER
Oct. 5	AT, Camp Creek Bald to Allen Gap	S. Banks
Oct. 12 & 13	Nantahala AT Backpack	K. Edgar
Oct. 12	Wildcat Saltpeter Cave Hike	G. Kramer
Oct. 19 & 20	AT, Max Patch Road to Davenport Gap	S. Banks
Oct. 20	Nolichucky Gorge Fall Colors Canoe Trip	G. Porter
Oct. 20	Dennis Cove - Laurel Falls	J. McClanahan
Oct. 26, 27, & 28	Cumberland Island Backpack	B. McNally

***** STEERING COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS *****

It will soon be time to elect three members to the steering committee. This committee works to oversee the general business of the hiking and canoeing club. Steering committee members serve for two years. If you would like to nominate someone for the steering committee, please send their names to E. E. Oliver, B-167, TEC or Route 10 Kanan Dr., Kingsport, TN 37664. No one will be placed on the ballot by the nominating committee until they have agreed to run and to serve if elected.

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

HUMP MOUNTAIN - June 8, 1985 Gordon Newland
Ten hikers enjoyed the fog on Hump Mountain as they tried the climb from US19E. Excluding the hard-cord, the Vermont Group was joined by Ron Stout and with the exception of some discussion over the actual versus the advertised distance the day was uneventful. Hikers were Gordon and Bobbie Newland, Evonne, Timothy, and Erin Crowder, Bruce and Mary Cunningham, Myrtle Brown, Richard Jones, and Ron Stout.

UNAKA MOUNTAIN RELOCATION AND TRAIL WORK June, 1985
We worked with the Konnarock crew on Unaka Mountain on June 15 and 16 and on June 20, 21, 22, and 23. We reworked the badly eroded Appalachian Trail on the north side of the mountain. Sections of the trail had eroded by as much as two feet below the original level. Over one hundred log and stone steps were installed to improve the trail. Numerous water bars were installed in order to reduce erosion in the future. Two relocations were made to avoid two steep or badly eroded sections. These two new sections use switch-backs to reduce the steepness of the trail. The Konnarock crew was able to spend one additional week on Unaka Mountain in July. They completed two additional relocations to avoid steep sections. The work done by the Konnarock crew in July completed the trail work on this section. We need to blaze the last two relocations.

As part of this work, Gordon Newland and Frank Williams were joined by Lewis Carson on June 15 and by Doug Lowman on June 16 for mud, sweat, and blisters. Darrol Nickels worked on June 20. Darrol was joined by Ed Oliver on June 21 and by Ed Oliver, John Thompson, Richard Jones, and Collins Chew on June 22. Sam Woodall and Ed Oliver helped on June 23. The successful completion of this project is another example of what can be accomplished through a joint effort of club members and volunteers from the Konnarock crew. When we expressed our appreciation to members of the Konnarock crew, one of them said that he was glad to work on the trail. He said "afterall it's my trail too." If you have never helped on a special project of this type, consider giving it a try. You can learn new skills and at the end of the day you can see what you have accomplished.

WORK TRIP - June 29, 1985 Stan Murray
On June 29, 1985, the A.T. Trail team covering Dennis Cove to Bitter End School performed its annual maintenance. Present were Linda Jewell, Bill Wortman, Paul

Arapakos, David Arapakos, Dewey Fuller, James Murray, Kathy Singleton, Reuel Smith, and leader Stan Murray. We cleared 9.2 miles in the uphill direction and left it in excellent shape. It is a very pleasant section and quite suitable for a one day hike by family groups and others. Even though thunder sounded ominously about mid-way, we escaped being rained upon.

MT. LeCONTE TRIP - July 13 & 14, 1985

Kevin Edgar

Down in the flatlands Saturday began in typical July fashion, bright, shimmering, air dense and motionless. We drove behind a family of South Carolina turtles to and through Gatlinburg. Newfound Gap was cooler, and it became downright pleasant as we began hiking through hardwood glades towards the Jumpoff, then out the Boulevard trail. We all enjoyed the flowers and the somewhat hazy views, and a few of us gave a shock to a grouse. We all welcomed the sight of the lodge atop LeConte, and our evening there was punctuated by good food, great camaraderie, and picture-postcard views of Clingman's Dome and the rest of the central Smokies from the ledges at Cliff Top at sunset. Many of us awoke and stumbled through the predawn gloom in time to see most of a pretty sunrise from Myrtle Point. Leaving on Sunday was made easier by the Alum Cave trail, with its ledges, views and the unusual Alum Cave. Joining to make it an excellent weekend were Gether and Sara Irick, Wayne and Molly Catron, Judy McClanahan, Emmett Dougherty, Jim and Ruth-Marie Rosser, Karen Watkins, Randy Jones, and Marilyn Edgar.

AT, TANYARD GAP TO ALLEN GAP - July 20, 1985

Steve Banks

Ten hikers made the trek from Tanyard Gap to Allen Gap on a warm and humid day. Views from the Rich Mountain fire tower were very limited due to haze and humidity. On the hike were Don Sexton, Mary Francis, Alan, and Heidi Aboushama, Charles and Beverly Smith, Judy McClanahan, Rod Gray, Ann Aitken, and Steve Banks.

CEDAR CREEK CAVE HIKE - July 29, 1985

Greg Kramer

This turned out to be the largest cave hike to date. A dozen people showed up to go to cedar creek cave. There were summer tecks, high school students, some grade school students and about six members of the local cave club. The children and one cave club member turned around about halfway into the cave. The halfway point is a area of the cave called the sewer pipe, which is a crawlway in the stream. The remaining eight people went to the end of the cave and returned safely. The round trip to the back of the cave took eight hours.

AT, TN 91 TO WATAUGA DAM ROAD - August 3, 1985

Gether Irick

On Saturday, August 3, 1985 Rodney Gray, Judy McClanahan and Gether Irick hiked the 15.6 miles from TN 91 to Watauga Dam Road. The weather was near perfect and good views of Watauga Lake and Roan Mountain were provided from several rocky overlooks. Two small rattlesnakes and a few late rhodendron blooms provided additional color. Blackberry growth and greenbriers were thick in parts of the second half of the hike, making for a few scratches on the two of us hiking in shorts. Overall, the trail was in good condition, and crossed at least two good sources of water. Despite the distance, it was still a good (moderate) day hike - 7 hours time on the trail with an easy car shuttle.