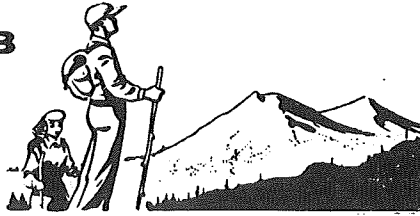


# TERC HIKING CLUB



APRIL, 1986  
NEWSLETTER

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

**HIKE NOTICE - AT, MAX PATCH ROAD TO HOT SPRINGS LEADER: RODNEY GRAY**  
(Scheduled: Friday, March 28, 1986) This 17.6 mile hike, rated difficult because of the distance, will begin at Max Patch Road (4820 ft.) and will proceed along the TN-NC state line over the beautiful Bald Mtn. Range (Walnut Mtn. 4280 ft. and Bluff Mtn. 4686 ft.) and continue to Hot Springs, N.C. (1326 ft.). Bring plenty of water and lunch and wear comfortable shoes and layered clothing appropriate for the weather. Meet at B-215 at 7:00 a.m. Additional meeting places and information can be obtained by calling Rodney Gray at 323-4466. Preregistration is required so you can be notified if the trip is postponed due to weather. We should be back in Kingsport by 8:30 p.m.

**HIKE NOTICE - AT, SAMS GAP TO SPIVEY GAP LEADER: G. IRICK**  
(Scheduled: Sat. April 5, 1986) This 12.2 mile hike will start at Sama Gap where the AT crosses US 23, and will cross the 5516 ft. summit of Big Bald before ending at Spivey Gap on US 19W. The hike is rated moderate, but involves a total climb of 2590 feet, and could provide cold, windy weather, and possibly snow at the high point. Bring plenty of high-calorie lunch and snacks and cold/wet weather clothing. If mother nature cooperates, we will enjoy superb panoramic views from the summit of Big Bald. We will leave at 8:00 a.m. from the lower parking lot of the Colonial Heights Hardware/Motz Pizzeria shopping center off TN 36, and should be back in Colonial Heights before 5:00 p.m. Reservations are not necessary, but if the leader doesn't know you plan to go, you're on your own if the hike is cancelled due to bad weather. Additional meeting places and info can be obtained from Gether Irick (phone 477-8207 or 239-5178).

**CANOE TRIP NOTICE - ELK RIVER LEADER: DAVE INGRAM**  
(Scheduled: Sun. April 12, 1986) NOTE: This hike was originally scheduled for April 6 but has been rescheduled for Sunday, April 12 due to a conflict with the Tennessee Scenic Rivers Association white water camp which is scheduled for April 3-6. Most TERC paddlers are familiar with the Elk River. It is mainly a technical Class II fast flowing stream. Plans are to meet at McDonalds' on main street in downtown Johnson City (near the main post office and Paty Lumber Co.) at 8:30 a.m. If the water level is too low for the Elk, we will run something else - Nolichucky, Doe, Toe, or "Gauley". For more information contact Dave Ingram at 282-5856 or 246-7171.

**HIKE NOTICE - AT, SUMMIT CUT TO US 58 LEADER: STEVE BANKS**  
(Scheduled: Sat. April 12, 1986) This is one of a series of hikes on the AT in the beautiful Mt. Rogers National Recreation Area in southwest Virginia. This 11.7 mile moderate day hike will begin where the AT crosses US 58 near "Summit Cut" on the western side of Whitetop Mountain. The hike will follow the AT over Lost Mountain and Straight Mountain, through Taylors Valley, and down Whitetop Laurel Creek to US 58. Bring water, lunch, and sturdy boots or shoes, and clothing appropriate for the weather. Meet at B-215 at 7:45 a.m. for a prompt 8:00 a.m. departure. For more information, contact Steve Banks at 288-3570.

**HIKE NOTICE - SPURLOCK CAVE HIKE LEADER: GREG KRAMER**  
(Scheduled: Sat. April 12, 1986) Meet at B-215 at 9:00 a.m. Spurlock is a multilevel cave. If you want to walk to the back of the cave you can. You will have to get into the stream at times. If you feel more like a challenge, you can try to stay out of the stream level and go to one of the upper levels. Participants need to bring lunch, water, and a spare light in a small pack and a change of clothes. A helmet and helmet mounted light are also required, but can be supplied by the trip leader. Contact Greg Kramer at 239-7667 for additional details.

**HIKE NOTICE - CLARKS CREEK, 40TH ANNIVERSARY HIKE LEADER: FRANK OGLESBY**  
(Scheduled: Sat. April 19, 1986) The activities of the Tennessee Eastman Recreation Hiking Club began on a Spring Sunday, April 28, 1946, with a hike to Clark's Creek. How that particular location was chosen has probably long been forgotten by the eighteen people who inaugurated the club activities. Actually to even call it a "club" at this point is stretching a point: no constitution, no by-laws, no officers - only a will to start a program to begin getting into and becoming better acquainted with the mountains that surrounded us and afforded the best of outdoor activity to be found anywhere. The idea took, and now forty years later we return to Clark's Creek, which by the way is south of the Nolichucky River, off of Highway 107 in the Rich Mountains, just west of Bumpus Cove. Plural leaders will be present so that anyone wishing to turn back after a lesser hike will not be kept dangling. Spring flowers should be in profusion, at least at some elevation. Bring lunch, water, suitable clothes and shoes. We will leave B-215 parking lot at 9:00 a.m. Call Frank Oglesby at 245-5447 for any additional information.

**CANOE TRIP NOTICE - BLUESTONE RIVER**

**LEADER: TERRY DOUGHERTY**

(Scheduled: Sat & Sun. April 19-20, 1986) An overnight canoe trip the easy way. The Bluestone is a Class I-II river. We will canoe the section between I-77 and Bluestone Lake, stopping at Pipestem State Park to spend Saturday night. I have reserved six rooms at Mt. Creek Lodge at a cost of \$28.50 single, plus \$6.00 for each additional person. The rooms have two double beds and will accommodate four persons. If you want to share a room, please indicate your wishes on the pre-registration form. Camping is also available at Pipestem Park. The lodge is on the riverbank in a 800 ft. gorge and is accessible only by cablecar or by river. Traditionally we have dinner at the Oak Supper Club where we enjoy good food and West Virginia's largest oak tree. At this time of year, weather conditions can be good to very bad, so before you sign-up be willing to cheerfully accept cold, rainy, winter conditions. We will finish canoeing about 2 p.m. Sunday on Bluestone Lake. Meeting times, travel arrangements, and other plans will be communicated to those who register for the trip. The rooms will be available on a first come first served basis of the returned pre-registration form. For more information call 323-2647.

**NAME:**

**PHONE:**

**NUMBER IN MY PARTY**

- I WOULD LIKE TO SHARE A ROOM WITH OTHERS  
 ----- I WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A ROOM FOR MY PARTY.  
 ----- I WOULD LIKE TO STAY IN THE CAMPGROUND.  
 ----- I WOULD LIKE TO DO SOMETHING OTHER THAN THE LISTED OPTIONS.

**RETURN TO: TERRY DOUGHERTY, BLDG. 54, TEC, BY APRIL 16, 1986.**

**HIKE NOTICE - WILDFLOWER HIKE**

**LEADER: JEAN BROWN**

(Scheduled: Sun. April 20, 1986) This hike which was originally scheduled for Saturday, May 3, 1986 has been rescheduled for Sunday, April 20, 1986. The hike is rated easy. We will walk approximately 4 miles along the Clinch River below Speers Ferry. This area is well known for it's many and varied wildflowers. Meet at B-215 for a 1:30 p.m. departure. Bring raingear, water and good walking shoes. Additional meeting places and more information can be obtained from the leader, Jean Brown (phone: 703-431-2139).

**HIKE NOTICE - AT, STEKOAH GAP TO FONTANA DAM**

**LEADER: KEVIN EDGAR**

(Scheduled: Sat. & Sun., April 26 & 27, 1986) Preregistration was required for these hikes. At press time, these hikes were filled. If you are interested in either of these day hikes, contact Kevin Edgar (phone 239-5742). Your name will be placed on the waiting list in case there are any cancellations.

**CANOE TRIP NOTICE - LAUREL CREEK/SOUTH FORK HOLSTON RIVER**

**LEADER: W. McLAIN**

(Scheduled: Sat. April 26, 1986) (Rated: Class II & III) This is a real "fun-run" requiring waters from spring rains to fill the small streams. It is almost continuous Class II with one Class III rapid. Put-in is on small Laurel Creek about two miles above Damascus, Virginia and ends on considerably larger South Fork of the Holston River. After two portages and much splashing numerous other creeks add to the flow enroute. We will leave from McDonalds in Colonial Heights at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, April 26. Usual gear is required: canoe, spare paddle, life jacket, lunch and beverage, and dry clothes. Choose clothing carefully for weather conditions. Distance to the put-in is about 60 miles. Expect to be away from Kingsport for 6 to 7 hours. Please preregister with Warren McLain (phone 288-5762).

**40TH ANNIVERSARY PICNIC**

**LEADERS: KEVIN EDGAR & FRANK OGLESBY**

(Scheduled: Sun. May 4, 1986) LOCATION: Eastman Recreation Area, Shelter #9. The third annual TEHC picnic will be held this year in spring, in order to celebrate the 40th anniversary of our club. We will begin the festivities at 4:00 p.m. with hikes led on the trails of the recreation area. At 6:30 p.m. we will commence eating, enjoying a feast of burgers, hot dogs, slaw, chili, fixin's, iced tea, coffee, and home made ice cream for dessert. After dinner we will reminisce, so please help out by bringing along your antique hiking equipment, as well as pictures and slides which illustrate the historic adventures (and misadventures) of our club. The cost is only \$3.00 each for adults, \$1.50 each for children under 12, so please come out and share the fun with us! In case of rain, we will start the celebration at 6:30 p.m. in the Eastman Cabin.

PLEASE SEND THIS RESERVATION FORM ALONG WITH PAYMENT BY APRIL 30 (SO WE HAVE TIME TO GET THE RIGHT AMOUNT OF FOOD) TO KEVIN EDGAR, B-150B, TEC.

**ADULTS @ \$3.00 EACH:**

**CHILDREN UNDER 12 @ \$1.50 EACH**

**TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED:**

(Make checks payable to Kevin Edgar)

\*\*\*\*\* ADVANCE TRIP NOTICES \*\*\*\*\*

AT BACKPACK, DEEP GAP, N.C. TO UNICOI GAP, GA. LEADER: KEVIN EDGAR  
(Scheduled: May 24-26, 1986) First, note that the Georgia terminus for this 3 day backpack is Unicoi Gap, not Dicks Gap as the author erroneously claimed in the 6-month schedule. Happily, this means we get to hike an extra 17 miles. The whole trip is about 31 miles, beginning just north of the NC-GA border and finishing in the Blue Ridge mountains in Georgia. The undulating trail has roughly 4500 feet of climbing along the ridgeline through the wilderness of north Georgia. Rhododendron, mountain laurel and flame azalea abound along the trail. Preregistration is required for this trip, which will also involve Friday night in a motel somewhere in the Franklin, NC area. The number of participants will be limited, so sign up as soon as possible by calling Kevin Edgar, 239-5742.

AT BACKPACK LEADER: STEVE BANKS  
Anyone interested in a four day, 46.5 mile AT backpacking trip between Groseclose, Va (I81) and Bastian, Va (I77) during August, September, or October, 1986 please contact Steve Banks at 288-3570.

MAINE AT BACKPACK, MONSON TO HIGHWAY 27 LEADER: DOUG LOWMAN  
(Scheduled: Sept. 5-14, 1986) Come join the club on a backpack trip from Monson, Maine, south to Highway 27 along the AT. This section includes the Kennebec River, Moxie Pond, and East and West Carry Ponds. Major climbs include Moxie Bald Mountain, Pleasant Pond Mountain, Roundtop Mountain, and the Bigelow Mountain range. Total hiking distance is 68 miles. We will fly to Portland, Maine on Saturday, September 5 (estimated cost: \$280), then drive to Monson, Maine on Saturday evening using a rental car. The hike will begin on Sunday. A car shuttle from Monson will be arranged before we arrive in Monson so that our car will be waiting for us at the end of the trip. I also plan to look into a food drop at the Karatuck Post Office for the middle of the week. We will leave the trail at Highway 27 on Saturday afternoon and drive back to Portland to catch an early morning flight back to Kingsport. The flight is scheduled to arrive back in Kingsport by mid-afternoon on Sunday, Sept. 14. If interested in this trip, contact Doug Lowman B-150, TEC or 4613 Belvedere Lane, Kingsport, Tn. 37663 or call 239-9701 soon so that plane reservations and lodging arrangements can be made.

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

DATE	TRIP	LEADER
Sat., May 3	Doe River Canoe Trip	D. Ingram
Sun., May 4	40th Anniversary Picnic	K. Edgar/F. Oglesby
Sat., May 10	Toe River Canoe Trip	E. Brown
Sat., May 10	AT, Walker Mountain Hike	K. Finch
Sun., May 11	Painter Creek Wildflower Hike	D. Nickels
Sat., May 17	North Toe River Canoe Trip	D. Ingram
Sat., May 17	Turtle Rock, Jonas Ridge Hike	G. Newland
Sat., May 17	AT, White Top Mountain Hike	S. Banks
Sat., May 17	Little Stoney Creek Falls Hike	R. Smith
Sat., May 17	Obey Creek Cave Hike	G. Kramer
Fri., May 23	Roan Mountain Moonlight Hike	L. Carson
May 24-26	AT, Deep Gap to Unicoe Backpack	K. Edgar
May 24-26	Embreeville Mtn to Devil Fork Gap	D. Nickels
May 28,31, June 1	Canoe School	R. Phelps
June 12-22	AT, Spivey Gap to Damascus Backpack	D. Nickels

\*\*\*\*\* REQUEST FOR HIKE AND CANOE SUGGESTIONS \*\*\*\*\*

It is time to think about hiking or canoeing activities that you would like to see scheduled during the second half of 1986. Send hike and social suggestions to Paul Worsham, TEC, Building 23/. Send canoe suggestions to Gerald Tustin, TEC, Building 150B. Please submit your suggestions by May 1, 1986. Include the following information: (1) Your Name, (2) Name of Hike or Canoe Trip, (3) Difficulty Rating, (4) Recommended Date of Trip, and (5) Whether or not you are willing to lead the trip.

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

UNTHANKS CAVE HIKE - Jan. 11, 1986 GREG KRAMER reporting  
We were unable to get into Unthank's cave so the group went up the hill to Skull cave. Skull cave is a two entrance cave. The lower entrance can be climbed into. The upper entrance is a very steep drop into the main room of the cave. The cave is named for the multitude of animal bones and skulls in the main room of the cave. The upper entrance is a natural booby trap and any unsuspecting animal that travels too close to the entrance will fall in. After examining the bones in the main room, the rest of the cave was explored. Participants were Emmette Dougherty, Greg and Betty Kramer, Bob and David Whittemore, Joe, Keith, and Derrick.

FROZEN WATERFALL HIKE - Jan. 12, 1986 Darrol Nickels reporting  
It was a clear, frosty morning as the twelve of us made several crossings of Painter Creek on our way up to Mill Shoal, a two hundred foot cascade. As expected it was frozen and white - SPECTACULAR! We ate lunch in the warm sun near the top of the cascade then climbed to the rim of the drainage and viewed the whole Painter Creek valley from a cliff. We continued along the ridge to another cliff (actually a jumble of boulders) which we descended. Then the leader sort of lost his intended path and led the group straight down the steep side of the ridge through brush and over talus. Participants were Bruce and Mary Cunningham, Emmett Dougherty, Ruth Goldberg, Rodney Gray, Griff Johnson, Richard Jones, Garry Luttrell, Judy McClanahan, Ann Scott, Frank Williams, and Darrol Nickels.

DENNIS COVE UPPER FALLS - Jan. 19, 1986 Rodney Gray reporting  
Ten hikers gathered at B-215 at 1:00 p.m. under cloudy and rainy skies for the trip to Dennis Cove Campground where we began this "easy" four mile hike to the upper falls of Laurel Fork. It was snowing when we arrived and lightly covered the ground before becoming flurries. We successfully negotiated two footlog bridges with overhead hand cables where the trail crossed Laurel Fork but were stopped at the third crossing where the footlog bridge had been washed out. Fortunately, ole man winter had provided us with an ice bridge (about 30 feet across) which we very lightfootedly crossed and proceeded to the falls where we were presented with the hoped for ice spectacular. After exploring a trail upstream along Laurel Fork a short distance, this hardy group, wet and cold but in good spirits, retraced their steps to Dennis Cove Campground for the return trip home. Enjoying the hike were Judy Davidson, Tom Pridgen, Robin Wilkerson, Darrol Nickels, Ann Scott, Ruth Goldberg, Alan Jones, Richard Jones, Paul Jones, and Rod Gray.

CLARKS CREEK (BUCKEYE FALLS) - Feb. 2, 1986 Judy McClanahan reporting  
Lucky for us that the air temperature was in the fifties. On a warmer day, our excursion could have been steamy. However, on a warmer day our feet might have been warm and possibly dry. We counted 23 crossings of Clarks Creek that we made. We didn't know how to count the climb up the middle of the stream bed to the falls. Particularly lucky for the trip leader was this good spirited crew. Only once did they threaten to use her for a footlog. We found the trail well blazed, but because we chose to park our cars rather than drive them through the creek, we walked an additional four and one-half miles. Total distance was 9 miles. We decided that the cascading falls do not have the greatest vertical drop among falls in Tennessee. They are unique in that they begin at the top of a mountain. Most waterfalls lie somewhere downstream rather than at the mouth of a stream. Our trip was made more interesting by historical detail of the area that Boyce Crossa gave to us. Maintaining a good attitude on the trip (we can't speak for Richard's dog Lady -- she may hate him) were "T.C." Jim Von Bald, Boyce Crossa, Don Gedeon, Rodney Gray, Linda Jewell, Richard Jones, Teresa Latham, Judy Moffitt, Stan Murray, Linda Robinson, and Judy McClanahan.

AT, US 421 TO DAMASCUS HIKE - Feb. 8, 1986 Rodney Gray reporting  
The skies were overcast and there was light rain as five hikers gathered at B-215 for this hike. However, the rain soon stopped and the weather conditions continually improved throughout the day providing some sunshine and no wind making for great winter hiking. Although the hike was 14 miles long, it was a short 14 miles as the up and down grades on the first half were gentle and short and the second half gradual downhill into Damascus. The trail followed the top of Holston Mountain ridge providing continuous good views on both sides. On the way home four of us stopped in Abingdon where we had a delicious meal at the Starving Artist Cafe. Enjoying the hike were Ann Aitkens, Judy McClanahan, Emmett Dougherty, P.R. Jones, and Rod Gray.

BIG CEDAR CREEK CANOE TRIP - Feb. 8, 1986 Ben Becker reporting  
Gordon Porter, Dane Faulkner, Kurt Kauffman, and Ben Becker decided that an exploratory canoe trip on this southwest Virginia stream was in order since abundant water was available and the creek looked interesting on the topographical map. We wound around Russell County until we got to Nash Ford on the Clinch River and left a vehicle there. We shuttled back to Lebanon, Va. and started from the US 19 bridge. The first three and a half miles had a gradient of 30 ft/mile with a couple of interesting ledges and two class 3 barbed wire fences. Dane, our resident tree expert, pointed out some large white cedars which may be how the creek got its name. The stream did not have any pools, and was constantly moving. We passed a number of springs and cave openings including Daugherty's Cave. It was set back about 200 ft. from the creek with a natural picnic area in front of it. The opening was large enough for us to enter standing up. From the sunlight that filtered in we could see some of the typical cave formations, but since we didn't have the proper caving equipment, and it got dark in there in a hurry, we retreated to the river. Below here things began to pick up. The next 4 miles had a gradient of 50 ft/mile. The ledges got bigger and the rapids longer and more continuous. This section was more remote than the start of the trip and we were able to see some geese, herons, kingfishers, and hawks. There were also signs of beaver along the stream banks. After running a 5 ft. ledge we stopped for lunch on a small midstream island. The setting was beautiful, almost park like. Another spring flowed out of a bluff at the edge of the river. We discussed how much better this was than watching TV and had a leisurely meal of sandwiches, fruit, and "atomic blasters". About 100 yards below this ledge and lunch area was "BIG FALLS", a runnable 12 foot drop. Maybe we should have waited to have lunch until after this? Who wants to run it first? After careful deliberation and analysis, the river right portage seemed to be the popular option. However, one daring boater, after sliding his craft over the first 3 foot section, hopped into the boat and successfully sky dived the boat the final 9 feet into the pool at the bottom. This drop alone was worth the trip, but around the corner was another breathtaking creation of nature. The Pinnacle is a rock outcropping in front of a sheer 600 foot bluff. We managed to maneuver downstream while leaning our heads back to view the bluff. It reminded me of tourists in New York City trying to see the tops of skyscrapers. Around the final turn we came to the confluence of the Clinch River. At 4000 c.f.s. it was rolling. The next two and a half miles seemed to take about 10 minutes with the paddle needed only for ruddering. It too had some beautiful bluffs, but signs of civilization were more apparent. Sure enough there was the car waiting for us with its heater, hot coffee, and dry clothes. At the take-out, eagle eye Kurt found evidence that others had used this spot for put-ins and take-outs. I hope their experience was as enjoyable as ours. It was a delightful trip with opportunities for fishing, white water, and spelunking all rolled into one.