

TERC HIKING CLUB

JULY, 1986
NEWSLETTER

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

HIKE NOTICE - VIRGINIA CREEPER TRAIL, SECTION 1 **LEADER: RODNEY GRAY**
(Scheduled: Sat. July 19, 1986) The Virginia Creeper Trail is the old railroad bed of the Abingdon Coal and Iron Company Railroad minus the track and the railroad ties. The railroad was built in the early 1890's and ran between Abingdon Va. and West Jefferson, N.C. It became the Virginia-Carolina Railroad in 1900. One of the steam locomotives that for many years pulled the unique little train on the far famed mountain railroad that affectionately was named the "Virginia Creeper" is preserved for viewing right at the trail head in Abingdon. The Virginia Creeper Trail crosses some of the highest scenic terrain of any standard gauge railroad in the eastern United States. It is 55 1/2 miles long and has 108 trestles which have been converted into beautiful pedestrian bridges with sturdy planking and handrails. This four mile hike is the first of a series of hikes to traverse the entire length of the Virginia Creeper Trail. This first section will begin at the trail head in Abingdon where we will view the locomotive and read the history of the Virginia Creeper posted there. So come along and enjoy easy side by side hiking through beautiful countryside. We will meet at Building 215 parking lot at 8:45 a.m. for a prompt 9:00 a.m. departure. Bring lunch and water and wear appropriate clothing and shoes. For additional information contact Rodney Gray at 323-4466.

HIKE NOTICE - HANCOCKS CAVE HIKE **LEADER: GREG KRAMER**
(Scheduled: Sat. July 19, 1986) Meet at B-215 at 9:00 a.m. This will be a good trip for anyone interested in climbing. The cave is multilevel. Moderate climbing skills are needed to reach many of the different levels. Belays and handlines will be supplied as needed. If you are interested in doing a cave with a bit of challenge to it, Hancocks is for you. Bring lunch, flashlight, water and a complete change of clothes. Helmets and helmet mounted lights are also required but can be supplied by the trip leader. Contact Greg Kramer.

CANOE TRIP NOTICE - WATAUGA RIVER **LEADER: WARREN McLAIN**
(Scheduled: Sat. July 19, 1986) Rating: Class I-II. We will paddle one section of the Watauga River. The group can decide at the time, depending on conditions. If we go anywhere below Wilbur Dam, we will be completely dependent on TVA's generating schedule at Watauga and Wilbur Dams. If we go above Watauga Lake, we must have some rain at the right time. Because of the uncertainty, please pre-register with Warren McLain (phone 288-5762) or Gerald Tustin (phone 246-8918).

WORK TRIP NOTICE - DENNIS COVE RELOCATION **LEADER: PAUL WORSHAM**
(Scheduled: July 31 thru August 4, 1986) The work with the Konnarock Crew scheduled for July 31 thru August 4 has been moved from Round Bald to the relocation in Dennis Cove. We hope to complete the relocation to move the Appalachian Trail off the road in Dennis Cove during this time period. Club members are needed to help with the work. Plan to come out and enjoy the fellowship and sense of accomplishment that these work trips provide. For additional information contact Paul Worsham.

1986 MULTICLUB MEETING

The 1986 Multiclub meeting will be held at Nolichucky Expeditions near Erwin, Tenn. on August 30 thru Sept. 1, 1986. The meeting which is a yearly get-together for the southern hiking clubs will be hosted by the Tennessee Eastman Hiking Club. In case you are not familiar with Nolichucky Expeditions, it is adjacent to the Nolichucky River on one side and the Cherokee National Forest on the other side. The Appalachian Trail is within a few feet of the camping area. A full range of activities is planned for the weekend, including hikes Saturday and Sunday, tours of local areas, a square dance Saturday night, and an informal jam session with local musicians Sunday evening. Nolichucky Expeditions has agreed to let us have exclusive use of their camping area for this event. There is room for over 150 people. If needed, overflow camping space is available in the National Forest along the AT and at Forest Service Campgrounds near Erwin. Sanitary and shower facilities will be provided. Consider spending this Labor Day Weekend with fellow hikers this year. In order to plan for the events, we would like to encourage advance registration. Registration fee is \$5.00 per person prior to August 18 and \$7.00 per person after August 18. Children under 12 years of age can attend free. The camping area will be available starting Friday evening. To register, please send the attached form to Edward Oliver; Route 10, Kanan Dr.; Kingsport, Tenn. 37664. Make Checks payable to Kevin Edgar.

NAMES: _____

COST

NUMBER OF PEOPLE (12 YEARS OLD AND OLDER) @ \$5.00 per person _____
 NUMBER OF PEOPLE (LESS THAN 12 YEARS OLD) NO CHARGE _____
 TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____

For our information, would any member of your group be interested in the tours of local historical and scenic areas? Yes _____ No _____. Note, your answer to this question does not obligate you to attend any of the tours.

NAME AND PHONE NUMBER OF PERSON TO NOTIFY IN CASE OF EMERGENCY:

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

DATE	TRIP	LEADER
Sat. Aug. 9	Gilleys Cave Hike	G. Kramer
Sat. Aug. 16	Kingdon Come State Park, Clinch, Ky.	R. Gray
Sun. Aug. 17	Nolichucky River Canoe Trip	G. Tustin
Aug. 30 thru Sept. 1	Multiclub Meeting	P. Worsham

***** FOR YOUR INFORMATION *****

Club members can receive a discount at High Country Adventure in Johnson City. Just show your Recreation Club pass when you pay for your purchase.

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

TRAIL OF THE LONESOME PINE WORK TRIP Darrol Nickels reporting

On March 9, 1986 four of us worked on about three miles of the Trail of The Lonesome Pine on the west end of the 11 mile section between TN 66 and TN 77 northwest of Rogersville.

AT, CAMPCREEK BALD TO DEVIL FORK GAP - March 22 Rodney Gray reporting
It was a brilliant, cool, cloudless, windless day as eight hikers left B-215 at 8:00 a.m. for this 14 mile hike. The weather remained perfect for hiking the entire day with temperatures on the trail hovering around 30°. To eliminate a lengthy car shuttle, we arranged a key swap by dividing into two groups of four each. At mid-trail we met and lunched on a mountain top grassy bald with a tremendous view of the valley of Greeneville, Tn. below. Beautiful clear weather and great views of the Smokies and Black Mountains made for a good hike. Hikers starting from Camp Creek Bald were Owen Holbrook, Gary Luttrell, Art Mullins, and Gary Sawyer, and from the other direction were Steve Banks, Emmett Dougherty, Kevin Edgar, and Rod Gray.

NOLICHUCKY RIVER CANOE TRIP - March 23, 1986 Gerald Tustin reporting
This trip was cancelled due to bad weather.

AT, SAMS GAP TO SPIVEY GAP HIKE - April 5, 1986 Gether Irick reporting
Seven of us enjoyed this beautiful, but strenuous 12.2 mile hike across Big Bald. We got to watch people from the development area flying kites on the bald while we basked in the sun during lunch. A church group was doing a highly commendable job of cleaning up the highway area around Sams Gap when we returned. Participating in the hike were Gary Sawyer, Griff Johnson, Art Mullins, Gether Irick, Dave Olson, Judy McClanahan, and Richard Jones. Jean Brown joined us for part of the hike.

AT, SUMMIT CUT TO US 58 HIKE - April 12, 1986 Steve Banks reporting
Eleven hikers enjoyed this trek from Summit Cut to US 58 on the AT in the beautiful Mount Rogers National Recreation Area. The weather was perfect, and we had good views of Whitetop and other peaks from various locations of this section. Those on the hike were Gordon Newland, Susan Greenwood, Wanda Crosby, Carl and Helen Ray, Art Mullins, Ann Spearow, Rodney Gray, Ann Aitken, Owen Holbrook, and Steve Banks.

ELK RIVER CANOE TRIP - April 12, 1986 David Ingram reporting
Due to low water, the Elk River was not runnable. The Nolichucky was the alternate choice. Five paddlers enjoyed the excellent water and beautiful spring weather.

WILDFLOWER HIKE - April 20, 1986 Jean Brown reporting
Twenty-eight wildflower lovers braved the threatening rain and were rewarded with only cloudy weather. The wildflowers were the most beautiful ever with yellow poppy and larkspur, many varieties of trillium, squirrel corn, Dutchman's britches, bluebells, etc. in abundance. This hike along the Clinch River gave us a beautiful view of the river as well as waterfalls on the cliffs. Hikers were Doris Carson, Bill Little, Pricilla Little, Chris Little, Jack Young, Ruth Goldberg, Laura Johnson, Griff Johnson, Jane Adams, Susan Miller, Paul Miller, Reuel Smith, Jean Brown, Edith Olinger, Francis Robinson, Violetta Blankenship, Joe Smith, Ruby Clark, Leland Crant, Judy Roach, Joe Givens, Boyce Cross, Todd Dorr, Loretta Ashton, Eric Ecklund, Scott Thompson, Kathy Krupnick, and Dan Abbott.

DAY HIKES IN THE STEKOA GAP AREA - April 26 & 27 Kevin Edgar reporting

In retrospect, it probably wasn't a great idea to attempt two long, rugged sections, each with more than its share of climbing, on consecutive days. The unseasonable late April 85 degree plus weather didn't help any, either. In any case, the entire crew was dehydrated, desalinated, and exhausted at the end of the hike Saturday. As one might have predicted, a somewhat smaller group of loonies gathered at the trailhead on Sunday morning. The trail from Stekoah to Fontana was especially scenic, with a number of excellent views of the Smokies all the way to Clingman's Dome, as well as views of Joyce Kilmer National Forest. It was an eventful day -- in addition to wearing ourselves into the ground, we saw a grouse, a couple of snakes, and a blowdown. The blowdown was unique in that it occurred while we were standing within 100 feet of it, with almost no wind, and with hikers on the trail on either side of it. Fortunately, no one got too close a look. Those who crawled back on the trail Sunday morning were treated to a slightly easier day (just as much climbing, but mostly on graded trail), as well as the views from Cheoah Bald. Wildflowers were abundant all weekend, including yellow, white and purple trillium, rue anemone, wild iris, and at least one Jack-in-the-Pulpit. Even so, the highlight of the weekend had to be Marilyn's fruit crepes Sunday morning. Survivors of the weekend's hiking included Gether Irick, Owen Holbrook, Anne Spearow, Chip Dougherty, Andy Clark, Val Blumer, Judy McClanahan, Karen Watkins, Steve Banks, Doug Lowman, Griff Johnson, and Jimmy Allen (Saturday), as well as Anne, Andy, Val, Judy, Doug, and Ron Moore (Sunday).

HIKING CLUB 40th ANNIVERSARY PICNIC - May 4, 1986 Kevin Edgar reporting
We had a magnificent afternoon and a good crowd (about 45 strong) for an evening of hiking, eating, showing slides, and reminiscing. Frank Oglesby was instrumental in making it an enjoyable day for all. He assembled a large number of veteran hikers, organized the hike and the display of antique hiking equipment and pictures, and contributed his own excellent vintage slides to the slide show. We were also treated to some outstanding hamburgers and hot dogs, mostly cooked up by Paul Worsham and Ed Oliver. After the main course we culminated the meal with a beautiful 40th anniversary cake obtained by Frank, as well as delicious home-made ice cream in three flavors contributed by Frank, the Worshams, and Marilyn Edgar, as well as many strong arms on the cranks. As enjoyable as all this was, the highlight of the day was still the slide show, narrated ably by Frank, Stan Murray, and Clark Johnson. The photographs and the story-telling were first-rate, and the narrators carried us all back with them to the enjoyment and adventure of the trips we were viewing. Everyone who was there is eagerly looking forward to the 50th anniversary picnic!

GARDEN MTN. A.T. HIKE - May 5, 1986 Kirk Finch reporting
We had a beautiful, sunny day. The leaves were out enough to partially obscure Burke's Garden but to make up for it we saw flame azalia, trillium, moccasin flower and May apples in bloom. We were joined part of the trip by a married couple hiking the entire A.T. this Spring and Summer. Three of the hikers returned to Kingsport and six of us went off to Troutdale for dinner, where we enjoyed chicken, steak, trout, and venison. The hikers were Richard and Paul Jones, Warren McLain, Susan Greenwood, Bob Rucetta, Jeanette and Judy Ralston and Barbara and Kirk Finch.