

TERC HIKING CLUB

AUGUST, 1986
NEWSLETTER

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

WORK TRIP NOTICE - DENNIS COVE RELOCATION

LEADER: PAUL WORSHAM

(Scheduled: Sat. & Sun. Aug. 2&3, 1986) Club members who wish to participate in helping the Konnarock Crew complete the relocation of the Appalachian Trail in Dennis Cove should meet at B-215 parking lot at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, August 2 and/or Sunday, August 3, 1986. For further information, contact Paul Worsham at 239-5672.

HIKE NOTICE - GILLEYS CAVE HIKE

LEADER: GREG KRAMER

(Scheduled: Sat. Aug. 9, 1986) Meet at B-215 at 9:00 a.m. This is the largest cave in Lee County, Virginia. The passage is usually walking passage with a variety of side leads. Participants need to bring lunch, water, a change of clothes and a flashlight. A helmet and helmet mounted light are also required but can be supplied by the trip leader. Contact Greg Kramer at 239-7667.

HIKE NOTICE - KINGDOM COME STATE PARK

LEADER: RODNEY GRAY

(Scheduled: Sat. Aug. 16, 1986) This outing, rather than a hike, is a 65 mile motor trip to Kingdom Come State Park in Cumberland, Kentucky, which boasts several unusual rock formations (sand cave, cascade, natural bridge, Camel's Hump Rock, crevasses, and slender stone arch). If you love to scamper over large rock outcroppings or just look as you walk around them, this is for you; as hard or as easy as you wish to make it. You can also drive your car to picnic tables and play areas in the park. As a side trip (1/2 mile off the highway) on the way to the park, we will drive to the top of Black Mountain (4145 ft.), the highest peak in Kentucky, and also, on the way, drive past old abandoned coal mines and some coal mines that are still producing. So bring the family, a big picnic lunch and drinks, wear comfortable clothing appropriate for the weather and "rock scampering" shoes. Meet at B-215 at 9:00 a.m. We should be back in Kingsport by 5:00 p.m. For additional information contact Rodney Gray at 323-4466.

CANOE TRIP - NOLICHUCKY RIVER

LEADER: G.C. TUSTIN

(Scheduled: Sun. Aug. 17, 1986) We will canoe the Class I-II section below Unaka Springs. Bring proper safety equipment, lunch, and water. For information regarding meeting place and time, call Gerald Tustin at 246-8918.

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:

***** ART EXHIBIT FOR 1987 ATC MEETING *****

For all you who dawdle behind on hikes, snapping photographs and doodling sketches of wildflowers, the Appalachian Trail Conference is pleased to announce that the upcoming Conference '87 (July 3-11, 1987) will feature a judged art exhibit, open to artists in all mediums including photography. A \$100 purchase prize will be awarded and the winning exhibit will be placed on permanent exhibition at the Appalachian Trail Conference headquarters in Harper's Ferry, West Virginia. You say you don't do wildflowers but you do fantastic abstract oils of manhole covers? Wonderful. We want diversity. For additional information, contact Parthena Martin at 910 Constitution Dr. #105; Durham, N.C. 27705. You may send the following information to Parthena Martin in order to enter.

TITLE OF WORK:

MEDIUM:

NAME:

ADDRESS:

PHONE NUMBER:

I certify that the submitted work was done by myself and that all other information is accurate. I understand that any entry which does not meet eligibility or submission requirements may be disqualified. I also understand that neither the Appalachian Trail Conference nor the affiliated clubs can be held responsible for damage or possible loss of work.

SIGNATURE:

NAME (Printed or Typed):

If you wish your name to appear in the program, please return the entry form by September 1, 1986. Otherwise, mail entry form by May 1, 1987.

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

DATE	TRIP	LEADER
Sept. 13	Jonas Ridge Hike	G. Newland
Sept. 13-14	Nantahala River Canoe Trip	D. Ingram
Sept. 20-21	AT, Carvers Gap to Highway 19E	J. Thompson
Sept. 27	AT, Groseclose to VA 42	Edgar/Banks
Sept. 27	Unthanks Cave Hike	G. Kramer

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

AT, WALNUT MTN. ROAD TO US 19E - May 10, 1986 Kevin Edgar reporting
A small but enthusiastic group of hikers enjoyed a letter-perfect day for this short walk on the AT near the highlands of Roan. The day was mostly sunny, cool, and full of the sights and smells of spring. We saw a few wildflowers (wild iris, painted trillium, Indian paintbrush), many deer tracks but no deer, and enjoyed a snack at the outstanding Don Nelan shelter. We had a nice visit with Mr. Campbell, who lives just off the AT on Campbell Hollow Road and who enthusiastically shares his spring water with passing hikers (witness the large "Water for Hikers" sign he has posted next to the spigot). The views of the Roan Highlands at lunch were diminished only slightly by the old sofa someone had thoughtfully provided just off the trail at our luncheon spot. Enjoying the views were Jack Young, Gether Irick, and Kevin and Marilyn Edgar.

TOE RIVER CANOE TRIP - May 10, 1986 Earl Brown reporting
This trip was cancelled due to low water.

PAINTER CREEK WILDFLOWER HIKE - May 11, 1986 Darrol Nickels reporting
Many of the wildflowers were past their peak but it was still a great trip. We were also searching for a stone pinnacle that I had seen from a distance on an earlier trip. Yes, we found it, a stone chimney set on the edge of a cliff which stuck out of a very steep hillside. There was another rewarding surprise: Carolina Rhododendron with snow-white blooms was growing profusely in the headwaters of the creek. Participants were Judy Davidson, Joy Kyle, Ed Schell and Darrol Nickels.

ALDHA WORK TRIP - May 17, 1986 Collins Chew reporting
The American Long Distance Hikers Association sponsored another work trip with the Tennessee Eastman Hiking Club to construct an AT relocation bypassing the roadwalk in Dennis Cove. The new trail was pushed quite a way up the mountain by sidehill digging. The conversation was quite interesting with the varied background, outlook, and experience of the individuals. Tom Watson, ALDAH leader, is a manager of the Nantahala Outdoor Center. Warren Clarke is a five and almost six time through hiker of the AT who also has hiked the Pacific Crest Trail and the Wyoming and New Mexico portions of the Continental Divide Trail. Morgan Sommerville of ATC and ALDAH did most of the trail layout. Sam Waddle, volunteer caretaker of Jerry's Cabin, came alone and found us without much indication of our location except the sound of the chain saw. His motorcycle tag reads "ALDHA". TERC Hiking Club attendees included Frank Oglesby on the chain saw, Jeff Sirola, artist with the rake to "polish" the new trail, Darrol Nickels of TERC and ALDHA, and Collins Chew, common laborer with a pulaski. We were saddened to hear that one of the ALDHA crew who worked with us on last Fall's trip was lost at sea from a sailboat in the Caribbean.

TURTLE ROCK - May 17, 1986 Gordon Newland reporting
This was a fine hike which involved some bushwhacking and rock hopping. We passed by the unique rock formation (Turtle Rock) and two waterfalls (Cranberry and Upper Creek). We should put it on the list for fall hikes.

AT, WHITETOP MOUNTAIN - May 17, 1986 Steve Banks reporting

The original leader for this hike, Steve Banks, had to be out of town on this day, so Rodney Gray agreed to be the hike leader. Those on the hike were Ann Aitken, Owen Holbrook, Art Mullins, Jack Young, and Rodney Gray.

SAND CAVE HIKE - May 17, 1986

Reuel Smith reporting

This hike occurred at the end of the drought we had in April-May. On Sunday into Monday before the hike it rained very much. After hiking about 0.25 miles up Little Stoney Creek, we found the water covering the trail, over to a sheer rock face about 60 feet high. To get around it, we would have had to backtrack and go up and over it or wade through placid backwaters perhaps a foot deep. However, the big problem was that Little Stoney Creek was a raging torrent, and as I remember the hike from the previous year, we had to cross the creek 2 or 3 times by rock-hopping. Anyone losing his footing would be swept downstream head over heels. It was plainly too dangerous to try to wade Little Stoney Creek. Someone suggested we hike to Sand Cave off US 58 "about an hour away". It was more like 2 hours from where we were parked, including driving a short distance past the turn-off from US 58. However, we did hike to sand Cave, and spent about an hour there. We saw quite a few varieties of wildflowers on the hike. We stopped at the Hob-Nob Restaurant in Gate City on the way back and arrived in Kingsport at about 9:30 p.m. Hikers were Beth Thompson, Jamie Herman, Alex Stollberg, David McPeak, Dave Sterling, Jim von Braemer, Mary JFrances Aboushama, Heide Aboushama, Alan Aboushama, Jean Brown, Edith Olinger, and Reuel Smith.

EMBREEVILLE MTN. TO DEVILS FORK GAP - May 24-26

Darrol Nickels reporting

Three hikers started from the old Embreeville School by the Nolichucky River on a foggy and threatening Saturday morning. Our objective was to follow the center of the ridge crest to Cold Spring Mountain, then take the Appalachian Trail to Devils Fork Gap. By the end of the day we had traversed half of Embreeville Mountain to the gap above Furnace Stack Hollow (Clark Creek). We had walked only 6.5 miles. During the night we experienced the loudest thunderstorm I have ever heard. On Sunday we were able to go only as far as Bearwallow Gap, a few miles short of our goal of Wilson Knob. We found that searching our the crest in complex topography and walking without a trail is very slow. The next time we try this we'll do it when the leaves are off. Sunday night we camped on Higgins Creek, below Bearwallow Gap, and on Monday we cut the trip short by descending Higgins Creek to a vehicle which had been left there by one member who had planned to go out early. The highlight of the trip was surprising a large black bear on Embreeville Mountain. Participants were Garry Luttrell, Frank Williams, and Darrol Nickels.

DEEP GAP, NC TO UNICOI GAP, GA BACKPACK - May 24-26

Kevin Edgar reporting

After getting reacquainted on Friday evening at the motel in Franklin, we ate a hearty breakfast, placed the cars with the invaluable help of Sarah Irick and Marilyn Edgar, and started off in partly cloudy weather at Deep Gap. We were to enjoy three days of walking on the strenuous and sometimes rough AT in southern NC and north Georgia. Fortunately the monsoons which reportedly wracked Kingsport that weekend largely missed us, and we only got wet briefly on Sunday evening. There were few views, and most of those came on Monday from Tray Mountain, whose summit afforded us unobstructed 360 degree views of fog. On the other hand, the flowers were spectacular. Mountain Laurel was profuse, there was quite a bit of flame azalea in flower, and on top of Tray Mountain there were both of these plus many beautiful rhododendron. What a show! A mutiny was narrowly avoided on Sunday afternoon, when we met two day-hiking ladies who described in succulent detail the repast they had waiting for them back at Dicks Creek Gap, through which we had just come. Only firm action by the leader prevented a mass turnaround and stampede back to the Gap. The constant climbs and descents of North Georgia took their toll on some of us, but we all survived to gather at an Asheville eatery and tell war stories on Monday evening. Comrades included Gether Irick, Emmett Dougherty, Art Mullins, Judy McClanahan, Wayne and Molly Catron, Richard Lane, Tom Kunz, Steve Banks, Owen Holbrook, and Kevin Edgar.