

THE TENNESSEE EASTMAN HIKING & PADDLING NEWS

March 2000

www.tehcc.org

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NEXT TWO MONTHS				
March 4	Watauga/Doe River	IV-V	D. Fuller	764-7340
March 11	Leader's Choice	IV-V	M. Morrow	245-1201
March 17	Winter Dinner Meeting	Fun	C. Fritz	477-4669
March 18	Third Saturday Maintenance		B. Stowell	239-7697
March 18	Doe River	II-III	D. Ingram	282-5856
March 25	South Toe River	II-III	E. Montgomery	247-7795
March 25	Equador in Tennessee (Leader's Choice)	III-IV	J. Hefferman	669-9597
April 1	Sand Cave (Ewing, Virginia)	M-D	Steve Perri	349-5091
April 1	Big Moc Creek, Snowflake, Virginia	III	Dane Faulkner	348-7902
April 8	Elk River, Tennessee	III	G. Porter	288-6513
April 8	Family/Beginner Hike: Laurel Falls	M	Steve Wilson	239-0456
April 8-9	Backpack: Alleghany Trail (Virginia-West Virginia)	M	Garry Luttrell	239-9854
April 15	Tax Day Run - Leader's Choice	II-III	Brian Stubblefield	753-7584
April 15	Third Saturday Maintenance		Bill Stowell	239-7697
April 22	Leader's Choice	III-IV	John Jefferman	540-669-9597
April 29	A.T. - Dennis Cove to Bitter End	M	Richard Colberg	288-8333

Tennessee Eastman Hiking and Canoeing Club Winter Dinner Meeting 2000

When: Friday, March 17th, 2000 **Note:** This is a change

Where: Eastman Lodge

Agenda: 5:30pm Social 6:30pm Dinner 7:30pm Awards 8:00pm Program

Program: Ben Lawhon of the Appalachian Trail Conference will present the slide program "Open Areas Along the A.T."

Menu: Wright's Country Cuisine: Roast Beef Au Jus, Ham Served With Pineapple Glaze, Seasoned New Potatoes, Italian Cut Green Beans, Honey Glazed Carrots, Tossed Garden Salad, Dinner Rolls, Assorted Deserts, Tea & Coffee

Dinner Price: \$11.00 (Inclusive)

Reservations: As always there is no charge for attending the program only. Please fill out the form below and send it and a check made out to TEHCC to:

Mike Morrow, B-280 or

Mike Morrow

1028 Surmont Ct.

Kingsport, Tennessee 37660

Reservations Form:

Name: _____

Number of Meals _____ X \$11.00 = _____

IMPORTANT NOTE: The check and reservation form must be received by Monday, March 13th

TEHCC Appalachian Trail (A.T.) Committee Open to Interested Parties

(Steve Perri Reporting)

The A.T. Committee is a sub-committee of TEHCC that facilitates issues regarding TEHCC's 127 mile Trail Section from Spivey Gap, North Carolina to Damascus, Virginia. The committee meets about 6-8 times per year in the evenings at the Eastman Employee Center and focuses primarily on A.T. projects, formal decisions, plans and responses to a number of issues with the Appalachian Trail Conference (ATC) and the United States Forest Service (USFS). Most projects discussed relate to trail relocations, bridge construction projects, and shelter repair/maintenance. The committee provides an opportunity for participants to make valuable contributions to comprehensive planning and to learn how the cooperative agreement between the ATC, trail maintaining clubs and USFS works together to manage the A.T. for everyone to enjoy hiking and backpacking while conserving the natural, scenic, historical, and cultural resources of the trail. So if you're interested in learning about trail maintenance, stewardship or how the cooperative process works, you are welcome to join the committee. For more information, contact Steve Perri at 423-349-5091.

Funds Available for First Aid Training for A.T. Maintainers

(Steve Perri Reporting)

Funds are available for A.T. maintenance volunteers to seek training for First Aid/CPR Training. ATC has offered clubs limited funding to certify volunteers by reimbursing club members for the cost of certified courses in First Aid and CPR. Last year we organized a class through the American Red Cross in Kingsport for about ten members. This year we would like to encourage all trail

volunteers interested in the training opportunity to sign up to take classes at a time that meets their convenience. Classes are conducted at the American Red Cross in Kingsport at a variety of times. So if you would like to receive the training this year, you can contact the American Red Cross to sign up for any class that has an opening that fits your schedule. Since funding is limited, we would like to limit the full reimbursement to about 10-12 people this year. For more information, please contact Steve Perri at 423-349-5091 so we can generate a formal list to keep track of reimbursements. To register for a class, you can contact the American Red Cross at 423-378-8700.

Southern Regional Management Committee Meeting of the Appalachian Trail Conference

(Steve Perri Reporting)

The Southern Regional Management Committee Meeting (SRMC) of the ATC will be held on March 24-26 in Roaring Creek, North Carolina at Camp Cheerio. This is an annual meeting that brings together all the managing agency partners of the Southern Region of the ATC to discuss many aspects of management issues of the Appalachian Trail. Anyone interested in attending will need to register for the meeting. For more information, contact Steve Perri at 423-349-5091.



Introductory Whitewater School 2000

The 29th annual "Canoe School", sponsored by the Tennessee Eastman Hiking and Canoeing Club in association with the Appalachian Paddling Enthusiast's (APEs), will be held June 8th, 10th, and 11th. The school is targeted for beginner and novice solo and tandem whitewater canoeists and kayakers,

and consists of an evening of lecture and videos plus two days on the water. As in the past there will continue to be a strong emphasis on river safety. Participants will be responsible for providing their own gear and transportation.

Minimum required gear: Whitewater canoe w/ one paddle per paddler plus one spare per boat and helmet, or a whitewater kayak w/ paddle, sprayskirt and helmet. One PFD (life jacket) per person. Canoes should have bow and stern lines. All boats must have air bags. Rain jacket. Knee pads. Lunch. Change of clothes in a waterproof bag.

Schedule:	June 8th (Thur)	Lecture and films. 6:00 - 9:00 PM. Eastman Lodge, Room A2 Eastman Recreation Area, Near Bay's Mountain Students must attend this meeting to participate on Saturday.
	June 10th (Sat)	Lake and River Trip, class II. 9:00 AM Duck Island Parking Lot Warriors Path State Park, Kingsport, Tennessee Students must participate on Saturday to participate on Sunday.
	June 11th (Sun)	River Trip, class II. 10:00 AM T.B.D.

Note: Instructors reserve the right to exclude anyone if they believe safety will be compromised. Participants must be a member of TEHCC or APE's. Applications will be provided on Thursday night. If you are a member of the American Canoe Association (ACA), please bring your membership card and member number. This will save you \$5.00.

Cost: \$20.00 per student payable at the school. Plus membership fee, if applicable.

To register contact Mike Morrow at 423-245-1201 or complete and return the form below and mail it to Mike Morrow at 1028 Surmont Ct. Kingsport, Tennessee 37660 by May 30. Feel free to call for more details.

REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Work Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

Craft: Solo Canoe ____ Tandem Canoe ____ Kayak ____

Experience: Beginner ____ Novice ____

My tandem partner's name: ____ . Need partner ____

List previous clinics taken:

List up to five rivers you have paddled and their levels (if applicable)

Introductory Whitewater School Instructor/Safety Boaters Needed

The 29th annual TEHCC/APE's Introduction to Paddling Clinic is quickly approaching. The clinic is the weekend of June 10th and 11th. Volunteers are needed to help instruct and safety boat. The clinic will only be successful if I have your help. PLEASE volunteer to help at this year's clinic. Call Mike Morrow at (423) 245-1201 if you can help on one or both days. Thanks in advance.

Scheduled Activities and Trip Reports

Hike Notice: Guest River Gorge, Saturday, March 11, 2000, M-D

Collins Chew Reporting

This is a hike along a Rails-to-Trails old railroad grade beside the rushing Guest River between Coeburn, Virginia and the Clinch River. There are a number of pretty and interesting sandstone

cliffs, some with coal beds, that border the trail. If we go all the way to the Clinch River, the round trip is 12 miles but since it is in and back, the trip is only as far as we want to go; the grade is always easy, and the footway nice and even. It is about a 50 mile drive one-way. Trip will be cancelled if roads are icy. Meet at 8:00 AM between McDonalds and Burger King in Colonial Heights. Wear clothing appropriate for the weather; bring lunch and water. For information call Collins Chew at 423/239-6237.

For more hiking and paddling opportunities, please check next two months at a glance on page one! Contact trip leaders for more details.

And this trip report and thank you note from a Scout friend:

Thank you for the opportunity you provided for my Eagle Project. A big thanks for providing the materials, too!! I constructed a bridge over a creek in the Cross Mountain Section on the Appalachian Trail. My project will help hikers using this section by providing them a safe way to cross the creek. Another benefit is helping to reduce erosion along the banks where hikers had to cross. Mr. Ed Oliver was good to work with and I appreciate his help very much. Thank you!

Sincerely,
Steven Jarrett

If April Showers,



Bring May Flowers,



What do the March Winds Bring?



BLOWDOWNS!

Contact Bill Stowell, 239-7697, to volunteer for trail maintenance teams!

Please send any trip reports, scheduled activity notices, or news events to Jan Mayo for publication

in the newsletter. Outlook notes are wonderful but a handwritten notice won't be rejected. Send to Jan Mayo, P. O. Box 431, Kingsport, Tennessee, 37662. Our goal is to publish the newsletter by the last day of the preceding month, so please send submissions by the 23rd for inclusion in the next month's newsletter.

A.T. Section Maintenance and Special Projects

February 11, Section 20, Spivey Gap to Temple Hill

Bill Berry reporting

I worked from Spivey Gap over to Temple Hill. Since then we have had some high winds, so I plan to go again on 2/26/00. 8 Hours.

February 22, Section 19, Indian Grave Gap

Ed Oliver Reporting

Ed Oliver, Frank Williams, Bill Elderbrock

3 people X 8 hours = 24 person-hours

Summary: Ed Oliver, Frank Williams, and Bill Elderbrock worked on trail rehab, digging 400 ft of trail from Indian Grave Gap going south. There is more repair needed. Also checked the place where the power lines cross the trail, trail north of Indian Grave Gap. There are no larger trees in that area. It will be years before any problem needs attention in this area.

February 15, 2000, Section 16, Iron Mountain Gap

Ed Oliver Reporting

Ed Oliver, Ben Lawhon, Bob Peoples, Bill Elderbrock, Darrol Nickels, Frank Williams

6 people X 9 hours = 54 person-hours

Summary: Ed Oliver, Ben Lawhon, Bob Peoples, Bill Elderbrock, Darrol Nickels, Frank Williams went north from Iron Mountain Gap to do some additional clearing in the apple orchard. The spring in this area was improved and the trail to the spring was blue blazed. The brush was piled for the students from Asheville who will be coming at the end of the month to work on this clearing project. Also Ed looked at a possible relocation from the orchard going trail south. The workers met two thru-hikers heading north who started in Georgia in January. They got to Spence Field in the Smokies and bypassed the rest of the Smokies because of three feet of snow.

February 13, 2000, White Rocks Fire Tower

Bill Stowell Reporting

People: Bob Peoples, Ed Oliver, Frank Williams, and Bill Stowell

4 people X 11 hours = 44 person-hours

Summary: We drove to Hampton and hooked up with Bob Peoples who drove us up to the White Rocks Fire Tower. Ed and Frank worked on flagging around the fire tower area. Bob and I cut blow downs first going trail north from the tower to near the overlooks and then back to within 1 mile of Moreland Gap Shelter.

February 9, 2000, Section 8, Watauga Dam Road to Shook

Branch

Ed Oliver Reporting

People: Ed Oliver, Bruce Cunningham, Bill Elderbrock, Frank Williams, Darrol Nickels

5 people X 8 hours = 40 person-hours

Summary: Ed Oliver, Bruce Cunningham, Bill Elderbrock, Frank Williams, Darrol Nickels cut blowdowns from Watauga Dam Road to Shook Branch. The shelter was found to be in good condition. Bruce picked up trash in the area of U.S. 321. The group also walked up towards the wilderness boundary and cut 4 trees in the power line area and blowdowns up to the wilderness boundary. The group of five spent 8 hours on this effort.

February 19, 2000, Section 9, Hampton Trail Head to Pond Flats

Bill Stowell Reporting

Mike Floyd, Kevin O'Donnell, Kireina Bell, Ajay Kalra, Ed Oliver, Frank Williams, Bob Peoples, Bill Stowell

8 people X 9 hours = 72 person-hours

Summary: We met at the parking area near Shook Branch. Bob Peoples, Kevin O'Donnell, Kireina Bell, and Ajay Kalra drove to the Hampton trail head and started cutting trees where the blue blaze intersects the A.T. and headed up towards Pond Flats. Mike Floyd, Ed Oliver, Frank Williams, and Bill Stowell headed trail south from Shook Branch towards Pond Flats cutting blowdowns. All the blowdowns are currently cleared on this section.

February 19, 2000, Section 19, Indian Grave Gap

Bill Stowell Reporting

Bruce & Mary Cunningham, Phyllis Cairnes, and Mary Ellen Ress

4 people X 7 hours = 28 person-hours

Summary: The group of: Bruce & Mary Cunningham, Phyllis Cairnes, and Mary Ellen Ress, drove to Indian Grave Gap and lopped growth going trail south to the side trail before rain got the best of them.

February 4, 2000, Pond Mountain Inspection

Ray Hunt Reporting

People: Ray Hunt, Darrol Nickels, Dave Ferguson, Morgan Sommerville

Today, the four of us went to inspect land, bought, and to be bought for the A.T. We looked at five tracts in a row on the north side of the A.T. on the west end of Pond Mountain as the trail comes up out of Laurel Fork gorge, heading north. Status of the tracts, from west to east, is as follows:

1. FS is working on a swap with a lakeside tract. This will probably go through.
2. Optioned. Will be bought soon.
3. Already bought.
4. Changed from Priority 2 to 3. This means this tract will not be condemned. This was the biggest decision of the day. The Trail can be relocated for a length of maybe 500 feet to get away from this tract if necessary, but this will probably not have to be done.
5. Priority 3. Okay to leave it that way.

Trip time for Ray and Darrol was six hours.

