

THE TENNESSEE EASTMAN HIKING & PADDLING NEWS

August
2000

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NEXT TWO MONTHS				
August 3-7	Konnarock!		Joe DeLoach	423-753-7903
August 10-14	Konnarock!		Joe DeLoach	423-753-7903
August 19	Third Saturday Maintenance		Bill Stowell	423-239-7697
August 19	First Timers, Nolichucky Gorge	III-IV	Dewey Fuller	423-764-7340
August 20	Grotto Falls, Great Smoky Mountains National Park	E	Ed Oliver	423-349-6668
September 1-3	Multiclub Meet, Appletree Campground	E-M	Bill Stowell	423-239-7697
September 9	A.T.: Iron Mountain Gap to Indian Grave Gap	M	Bill Stowell	423-239-7697
September 16	Third Saturday Maintenance		Bill Stowell	423-239-7697
September 23	Little Stony Creek Falls	E	Collins Chew	423-239-6237

Plan for Konnarock Crew time this summer!

Konnarock Crew - Roan Highlands Relocations (Scheduled for July 20-24, August 3-7, and August 10-14 2000)

Leader: Joe DeLoach (Telephone 423-753-7903)

Each year the Konnarock Crew, a summer work program sponsored by the Appalachian Trail Conference and the U. S. Forest Service, works with Appalachian Trail-maintaining clubs on Trail projects. We have no shortage of projects to work on and thanks to Konnarock have been able to complete a number of major relocations in the last few years, including Pond Mountain, Doll Flats, Cliff Ridge, and Little Rock Knob to name a few. One of our sections that's

needed work for awhile is the Roan Highlands, where the combination of soft soil, high precipitation, and heavy use has led to significant erosion. The Forest Service has approved relocations of the Trail from the south side of Carvers Gap (towards Roan High Knob) to the north side of Grassy Ridge, near the Stan Murray Shelter. We have three weeks of Konnarock Crew time this year and in all likelihood will be working on a relocation from Grassy Ridge heading north towards the Stan Murray Shelter. This is a very steep and badly eroded section that can be treacherous to descend in wet weather with resource damage due to the erosion. The planned relocation reduces the steepness and will be a sidehill trail to prevent erosion.

The Konnarock Crew starts working on Thursday afternoon and works until Monday morning. Volunteers are sought any of those days but we'll definitely have trips on the weekend days and probably the Fridays. On those trips we'll meet in Colonial Heights in the parking lot between McDonald's and where Burger King used to be at 8:00 AM. Bring water, lunch, and work gloves. Tools will be provided, but PLEASE let us know if you're coming so we'll have enough tools and will be looking for you. Those who work at least five days with the Konnarock Crew receive a highly coveted T-shirt. The work's fun and we really accomplish a lot for the Trail on these trips. To sign up or for more information, please contact Joe.



Tennessee Eastman Hiking Club

www.tehcc.org

PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 12, 2000

CONTACT
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Appalachian Trail Committee Chair
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Four Kingsport Residents are Named to Honor Roll of Volunteers for Appalachian Trail Conference

Harpers Ferry, W.V. - Kingsport residents Darrol Nickels, Frank Oglesby, Ed Oliver and Ray Hunt were named to the honor roll of volunteers of the Appalachian Trail Conference (ATC). The non-profit organization protects and manages the 2,167-mile Appalachian Trail that stretches across 14 states from Maine to Georgia.

Nickels, Oglesby, Oliver, and Hunt, who are members of the Tennessee Eastman Hiking and Canoeing Club (TEHCC), are among 75 people named to the ATC's Volunteer Honor Roll, which was established by the conference to help celebrate its 75th anniversary this year and is sponsored by Backpacker Magazine and American Express. Among the general criteria for selection were the role that individuals served as Appalachian Trail advocates, the number of hours that individuals worked on the trail, their willingness to serve as mentors to new members, and special leadership skills.

Darrol Nickels is a retiree from Eastman Chemical Company and a longtime leader in TEHCC's trail maintenance efforts. His major accomplishments pertain to his role as structure coordinator for shelters and bridges as well as a data compiler for the ATC guidebook. Nickels served in many other capacities on the club's Appalachian Trail Committee and currently serves on the Open Areas Committee.

Frank Oglesby is also a retiree from Eastman Chemical Company and one of the founders of the club in 1946. Oglesby initiated the club's maintenance effort with ATC in 1947, became a member of the ATC Board of Managers in 1948, served as the club's first Appalachian Trail Committee Chair and has contributed as a longtime member of the club's Appalachian Trail Committee. Oglesby was recognized with the Volunteer of the Year award sponsored by the American Hiking Society in 1997 as Tennessee's State Trails Volunteer and currently serves on the club's Public Relations and Education Committee.

Ed Oliver is also a retiree from Eastman Chemical Company and one of the club's most dedicated volunteers. Oliver has served in various capacities and typically exceeds his peers in hours spent on the trail annually (>600 hrs/yr). He has coordinated a number of club projects including trail relocations, rehabilitations, structure (shelters and bridges) renovations, and other special projects. Oliver was recognized with the Volunteer of the Year award sponsored by the American Hiking Society in 1995 as Tennessee's State Trails Volunteer. Oliver is truly one of the club's most active and diverse leaders.

Ray Hunt is also a retiree from Eastman Chemical Company and a former chair of the ATC Board of Managers. Hunt has served in various capacities including: the ATC Board of Managers, chair of the club's Appalachian Trail Committee, and the club's Public Relations and Education Committee. Hunt is active as the club's Land Acquisitions Liaison and Open Areas Coordinator and has been a tireless Appalachian Trail advocate both locally and nationally for almost fifty years.

According to ATC Executive Director David N. Startzell, "Together, these four outstanding individuals have volunteered many thousands of hours of their time over the course of several decades to help maintain the Appalachian Trail, and each has held various leadership positions within TEHCC. They symbolize the hard work and dedication of the thousands of volunteers who help manage and protect one of America's premier hiking trails and the world's longest footpath." Founded in 1925 to promote, build, and protect the Appalachian Trail, ATC is one of the most successful volunteer-based conservation and outdoor recreation organizations in the United States. No other nonprofit organization has the day-to-day responsibility for such a large expanse of public land.

ATC manages the trail with the help of a 4,200-member volunteer work force that, in 1999, spent 181,500 hours (averaging 497 hours a day) on trail work alone. Such work forces are coordinated and organized by local trail clubs, such as TEHCC. TEHCC was founded in 1946 and maintains 127 miles of the Appalachian Trail in Virginia, Tennessee, and North Carolina. In 1999, TEHCC reported a record number of volunteer hours for trail maintenance of 7,980 hours with 269 volunteers.

CPR/First Aid Class Opportunity

Steve Perri reporting

Some of you have expressed the interest in receiving CPR/First Aid training. I have added a few to the list since you have been recently certified for Chainsaw Operation by the USFS which requires First Aid and CPR.

I have a schedule of courses for both and can give a copy to anyone who requests one. But here's a summary for Aug and Sept.

Standard First Aid (6-10 pm), 2 evening classes to complete course

Aug 1 & 3

Aug 28 & 29

Sep 19 & 21

Sep 25 & 26

CPR (6-10 pm), 1 evening class to complete course

Aug 1

Aug 22

Sep 11

Sep 19

A class for just our group requires 6 or more people. We can try to work a class together or feel free to take one that fits your schedule. I'd be glad to get us in one of these dates if there's enough room in these existing classes for the first pass. Just let me know your preferred dates and specific course. Alternatively, it might be easier if you mention what date(s) you can't make.

Some of you told me what you need and I still know (Joe, Bill, Richard and Kathy). I need your request for Rick, Garry and Steve B.

If there are others you know that might be interested, let me know and I'll contact them or forward this note on to them. Remember, ATC will pick up the cost for our club for up to \$200. So save your receipts. If we go over, we'll split the additional cost difference above the reimbursed amount.

Chainsaw Certification Class

Ben Lawhon (ATC) reporting

I'm pleased to announce the Wayah Ranger District, in Franklin North Carolina will be offering a two-day chainsaw certification course in September. The course will be taught at the Wayah District work center. The dates of the course are: September 27-28. This is a Wednesday and Thursday. I realize that weekdays are difficult for many volunteers, but hopefully some of your club members will be able to attend. Please pass this message on to club members via e-mail, phone, word-of-mouth, carrier pigeon, etc., and have any interested folks contact me. The District Ranger told me that there are 15 slots open for volunteers. Please contact me no later than JULY 26, 2000. I have to let him know how many people are interested. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or need additional info.

I AM WORKING ON SCHEDULING SOME WEEKEND COURSES FOR THIS FALL AND EARLY SPRING 2001.

Special Activity and Trip Reports



Mike Morrow reporting:

Well, it finally happened. It took 29 years but it finally happened. The kayaks outnumbered the open

canoes at this year's Introduction to Whitewater School "A.K.A. Canoe School". And, for the second year in a row, an OC-2er was wishing she were in a kayak on the first day of the clinic. Come to the dark side Carrie. The dark side is strong! This year's clinic was a little later and the water was a bit low. However, the students enjoyed the warm temperatures at the lake and on the river. For the second year, we used a format on Saturday of a half day at the lake and a half-day at the river. Students and instructors commented on how they prefer this format. There were too many swims to keep track of. We had what I am referring to as, "The massacre at Devil's Looking Rock (Rapid near Cherokee Adventures). Many kayakers along with an OPEN CANOE safety boater (who will go unnamed but there was only one safety boater and Brad Dayvolt was the instructor) took a swim as a result of a few well placed rocks. On Sunday, there was no massacre. The students learned well! Sunday's trip was uneventful. We had a nice day on the river and the students were practicing their newly gained skills.

A big thanks to all of the Instructors and Safety Boaters: Steve Cheers, Bill Platt, Wayne Lemon (OC-1 Safety Boater), Jamie Gaither and John Heffernan.

Watch out for these new students on the local rivers:

Mike Davidson, Debbie Dayvolt, Brad Hofung, Candie Horner, Mike Kinnick, Mike Welcher, Melissa Ottem, Sam and Samuel Lewis, Jeff and Carrie Marek, Dane Hinkle, Benjamin Platt and Lauren ?.

The dates for next year's clinic are already set. The clinic will be June 7th, 9th, and 10th. So mark your calendars now. I had a limited number of Instructors and Safety Boaters this year. As a result, I had to turn some students away. This was not fun to do but was necessary to maintain the appropriate safety in the clinic. No excuses, you have a year's warning in advance!

Fun Fest Moonlight Hike

Carl Fritz reporting:

Four hundred and ten people ventured out on to the Bays Mountain trails at dusk. Although most were walking, several under one year of age got free rides the whole way around the lake by snuggling into packs. The evening was cooler than normal and the wolves howled at seeing the hundreds of lights dancing along the lakeside. The only thing missing was the moon. Thanks go to the many Club members and their families and especially the co-ops who volunteered at this event. They were: Lauren Donohoe, Gabriel Lee, Transito Macias, Wesley Moyer, Brandon Weathers, Kent Wilson, Nancy Wilson, Bill Stowell, Katherine Hall, Brandi Prater, Josey Prater, Mary Jane Fritz, Carl Fritz, Shaun Mayo and Jan Mayo.

Scheduled Hiking Opportunities

A.T. Hike from Kent, Conn. To Hudson River in N.Y., August 9- 16

Kent Wilson reporting:

Kent Wilson, Leader

We will be hiking approximately 63 miles on this hike from Kent, Connecticut, to the scenic Hudson River area of New York. This is a joint hike with a Club in Delaware. We plan to drive to the Newark, Delaware area on August 9, then on to New York August 10. We will camp in one of the N.Y. State Parks and day hike from Kent, Connecticut to the Hudson River area of N.Y. We will plan to return to Kingsport on August 16. Please contact Kent or Nancy Wilson (423)239-7554 for further details.

Grotto Falls Hike, August 20

Hike Leader: Ed Oliver

Join us for this easy hike to Grotto Falls in Great Smoky Mountains National Park. This hike is suitable for anyone who enjoys a leisurely walk. Meet at 8 a.m. on August 20 at the parking area between McDonald's and the former Burger King location in Colonial Heights. Bring lunch and water. Call Ed Oliver at 349-6668 for additional information.

A.T. Section Maintenance and Special Projects



June 17-24, 2000 - Section 20 (Nolichucky River to Spivey Gap)

Bill Berry reporting

Total person-hours: 3 people x 9 hours = 27, 1 person x 10 hours = 10. Total - 37 hours.

The trail from Spivey Gap to Temple Hill Gap is in good shape. Will need to cut weeds in the next few weeks.

Work hours:

	Bill Berry	Spivey Gap to No Business	9 hrs
6/17/00			
6/24/00	Bill Berry	No Business to Temple Hill	9 hrs
6/24/00	Ed Oliver		10 hrs
6/24/00	Joe Allen (Florida Trail Association, Indian River Division)		9 hrs

Monday, June 26, 2000 - Clear blowdowns

C. B. Willis reporting

Old Timers Hiking Club

Total person-hours: 2 people x 5 hours = 10 total hours

Cleared remaining blow downs at Low Gap and worked some on the old A.T. (access trail).

Members participating were Sandra Perry and Waymon Mumpower.

July 1-2 - Section 7 (Pond Mountain Wilderness boundary (north) to Watauga Dam Road) - Cut weeds, clean shelter and remove any problem blowdowns

Jim Harrison reporting

People: Jim Harrison and Steve Webb (Emory and Henry Outdoor Club)

Total person-hours: 2 people X 12 hours = 24 total hours

Steve and I packed in and camped one night. We woke and proceeded to whack weeds from

Watauga Dam Road to the Wilderness boundary, concentrating on problem areas. We dismantled

2 fire-rings, and cut out one major blowdown on the A.T. that was causing a serious impasse. At Vandeventer Shelter, we dug out the fire pit and and raked clean the thoroughly denuded area in front of the shelter, and we packed out a bag of garbage. Our most monumental task was clearing the rather long, steep blue blazed trail down to the spring. The path was a total impasse. We chopped waist high nettles and cleared many troublesome blowdowns. I also managed to receive two nifty hornet stings upon the top of my head. Yea. The section looks pretty good but will no doubt require another weed whacking trip in the early fall.

Tuesday, July 4, 2000 - Section 14 (Hump Mountain to Carvers Gap) - Flag for Konnarock

Bill Stowell reporting

Total person-hours: 2 people X 10 hours = 20 total hours

Ed Oliver and Bill Stowell drove to Carvers Gap to refresh the flag line with new paint and stakes where needed. Also a weed eater was used to define the pathway through the grass. We completed the line up to the rock and on the backside of Round Bald. We could not find the stakes from the rock to the top of Round Bald so Ed will contact Morgan on how to proceed. As we were coming down Round Bald at the end of the day, we noticed someone yelling for help. A lady in her 70's had fallen on one of the log steps and broken her ankle. I got out a space blanket to keep the sun off of her and provided some adhesive tape to hold an ice bag on the ankle. Some one went to the toll both to get help and also someone had a cell phone and called for help. The first crew to arrive was from the Fork Mountain rescue team. They stabilized the leg with a splint and carried her down the mountain in a rescue basket to the waiting rescue squad to take her to the hospital. Another casualty of the trail up Round Bald. This would not have happened if the new relocation was done.

Thursday, July 6, 2000 - Section 9 (U.S. 321 to Hampton trailhead) - Cut weeds

John Thompson reporting

Total person-hours: 2 people X 8 hours = 16 total hours

John Keifer and John Thompson checked out and cut weeds as needed. They were relatively low except for the bottom 100 yards and about 10 short areas along this 2.4 mile section. We lopped small trees and bushes at the blue blaze lookout to improve the view, and cut low rhododendron overhanging at three spots.

Saturday, July 8, 2000 - Section 14 (Hump Mountain to Carvers Gap) - Prepare for Konnarock

Bill Stowell reporting

Total person-hours: 4 people X 9 hours = 36 total hours

We cut out the flag line going up Round Bald to prepare for the Konnarock crew relocation to begin in a few weeks. The trees in the way were cut off four feet high and other lower growth like rhododendrons were cut also. Along for a day of entertainment were Ed Oliver, Collins Chew, Kevin O'Donnell, and Bill Stowell.

Wednesday, July 12, 2000 - Section 14 (Hump Mountain to Carvers Gap) - Continue working on route of the Round Bald relocation

Ed Oliver reporting

Total person-hours: 2 people X 8 hours = 16 total hours

On July 12, Ed Oliver and Frank Williams cut the remaining trees from the Round Bald relocation. We also flagged the route from the big rock to the summit of the bald. We were able to find one more of the wooden stakes that we had installed two years ago to mark the route. It looked like the stake had been cut in two, possibly by the metal blade of a weed-eater.

Sunday, July 16, 2000 - Section 15 (Carvers Gap to Hughes Gap) - Cutting weeds, painting blazes,

clearing blowdowns

Steve Wilson reporting

Total person-hours: 2 people x 8 hours = 16 total hours

Jill and Steve Wilson cut weeds, painted blazes, and cleared blowdowns at Hughes Gap on Roan Mountain. The weeds had been cut between the road and the mileage sign (100 yards) going trail north, but the stinging nettles were chest high for about half a mile further. We found three blown-down trees amongst the weeds and used the chainsaw to clear them.