

**THE TENNESSEE EASTMAN**  
**HIKING & PADDLING NEWS**

February  
2001

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NEXT TWO MONTHS				
February 3	White Rocks Mountain, Coon Den Falls	M	Neil Dotson	423-245-6105
February 10	A.T. - Tanyard Gap to Hot Springs	M	Nancy Wilson	423-239-7554
February 16	Paddler's Winter Party - Fun!		Mike Morrow	423-245-1201
February 17	South Beyond 6000 Hike	D	Garry Luttrell	423-239-9854
February 17	Third Saturday Maintenance		Bill Stowell	423-239-7697
March 2	Maintainers Dinner, Bldg. 310		Bill Stowell	423-239-7697
March 17	Third Saturday Maintenance		Bill Stowell	423-239-7697
March 23-25	Southern Regional Management Committee Meeting	E	Bill Stowell	423-239-7697
March 30	Annual TEHCC Dinner, Eastman Lodge		Kent Wilson	423-239-7554
March 30-April 1	Allegheny Trail backpack	D	Garry Luttrell	423-239-9854

**Chain Saw Certification Course/First Aid Classes**

*Steve Perri reporting:*

As a reminder, club members who are involved in operation of chainsaws for maintenance need to have First Aid and CPR certification in order to be fully certified on USFS public lands. Last year only a few club

members obtained their CPR Recertification. January and February are a good time for people to sign up for a class for this kind of training. ATC will provide financial support for up to \$200 per club. So if anyone needs training in First Aid or CPR, you can sign up at the American Red Cross. In Kingsport, you can call 378-8700 to find a class schedule that fits your personal needs. Save your receipt and the club will reimburse you for these costs at the end of the year. For more info on safety training, contact Steve Perri 229-1484.

*And this note from Ben Lawhon of ATC:*

F.Y.I. - Dates have been selected for the two-day chainsaw certification course scheduled to be held on the Appalachian Ranger District in Hot Springs, N.C. The course will be February 23-24, 2001. Participants who successfully complete this course will receive a three-year certification, which will be valid on USFS or NPS lands. This course is geared for the volunteer who has never attended an A.T. specific chainsaw training course, OR for the volunteer whose current certification is expired, or is about to expire. Please pass this message on to anyone you think might be interested. Registration for this course is through our office. I can be reached at the number at the bottom of this message. Please spread the word! Thanks for your help,

Ben Lawhon, ATC Associate Regional Representative for Ga., N.C., and Tenn.  
P.O. Box 2750  
Asheville, NC 28802  
828.254.3708 Phone  
828.254.3754 Fax

### **Annual Maintenance Dinner**

*Bill Stowell reporting:*

**Date: March 2, 2001**

**Location: Building 310, Room 219**

The annual maintenance dinner is to be held on Friday, March 2, 2001, in room 219 of B-310. We will begin to serve dinner at 5:30 with the meeting to start shortly after dinner is over. We should be finished by 7:30 p.m. Let me know if you are coming so we can plan for the right amount of food. Call 239-7697. Hope to see you there!

### **Winter Dinner Meeting**

*Jan Mayo reporting:*

**Date: March 30, 2001**

**Location: Eastman Lodge**

We've had to reschedule our winter dinner meeting to avoid conflict with the A.T. Southern Regional Management Committee meeting. Please mark your calendars now, and the reservation form will appear in the March newsletter. It promises to be a good time, with annual awards presented, and a very interesting program.

### **15th Appalachian Trail Days Festival**

*John Reese reporting:*

**Dates: May 18, 19, and 20, 2001**

**Damascus, Virginia**

The 15th Appalachian Trail Days Festival will be May 18, 19 and 20, 2001 in Damascus, Virginia. Damascus, famous "refueling" stop for A.T. through hikers, is known as the Friendliest Town On The Trail. In addition to outdoor equipment manufacturers being on hand to answer questions and help with repairs, Hiker Talent Show and the Hiker Parade are popular happenings at the event. Food and music are plentiful.

John Reese

Chair

Appalachian Trail Days 2001

### **33rd Biennial Meeting of the Appalachian Trail Conference**

**July 14-20, 2001 - Shippensburg University, Shippensburg, Pennsylvania**

**Web Page and Registration**

In February, the Registration Package will be available online for you to download.

Register before May 10 and save \$10 per person. Hikes, workshops, excursions, entertainment, and youth activities and general information will be available to you online. Entertainment tickets are limited due to the size of our auditorium. Enclose your check or money order with your Registration

Form and mail it to:

Shippensburg 2001

P. O. Box



20123, Lehigh Valley, Pennsylvania 18002-0123.

For more information, contact Thyra Sperry at .

**Susquehanna Appalachian Trail Club**

**Katie Jones, President**

**504 Highland Court**

**Carlisle, Pennsylvania 17013-3923**

**(717) 249-6727**

#### **Hike Leaders Very Much Needed**

The Susquehanna Appalachian Trail Club (SATC) and other Pennsylvania A.T. clubs will host the Biennial meeting of the Appalachian Trail Conference at Shippensburg University this summer and they will need hikers and leaders. The time to volunteer has arrived! Around 1500 hikers, from all over the east coast and beyond, are expected to attend this week-long conference. The Hikes Committee has chosen 75 different hikes, most offered more than once, for a total of 183 hiking opportunities. All of these hikes must be led by an experienced hike leader. Most need a co-leader as well. SATC members will be leading many of these hikes, but we'll need help from other clubs as well.

Hike leaders who live too far from southern Pennsylvania to scout a hike in advance will be assigned with a co-leader who is familiar with the hike, or to a hike, perhaps on the A.T., for which blazing is reliable and extensive documentation is available. The Hikes Committee will be putting together packets containing driving directions, driving maps and trail maps for each of the hikes and will provide them to hike leaders in advance.

There are two ways to sign up to lead a hike. Volunteers can choose a specific hike by indicating its code number from the schedule. The schedule, codes and descriptions for these hikes are available now from

SATC's web site, in February from the Appalachian Trail Conference web site, and will be published in the March issue of Appalachian Trailway News. Alternatively, volunteers can indicate a day and level of difficulty and let the Hikes Committee assign them to the hike for which they are most needed. If you have any questions, forward them to Katie Jones at the address shown above.

**Hike Leader Volunteer Form**

The 33rd meeting of the Appalachian Trail Conference  
July 14 - 20, 2001

Shippensburg University, Shippensburg, Pennsylvania

Volunteers must have prior hike leading experience and be willing to become familiar with the hike before leading it for the conference.

Thank you for volunteering!

You will be provided with complete information and instructions before the conference.  
Hike leaders will be provided with a first aid kit to carry during conference hikes.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to co-lead hikes with \_\_\_\_\_ (put co-leader's information on back)

Street address \_\_\_\_\_

City, state, zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Hiking club affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency contact name and phone number \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

For each day of the conference that you are able to lead a hike, circle your preferred difficulty level(s). E = easy (Under 6 miles with little elevation gain), M = moderate, S = strenuous (more than 8 miles and/or significant climbing), VS = very strenuous (more than 12 miles and/or multiple strenuous climbs). *If you would like to lead a particular hike*, please list the code numbers, in order of preference, below the date. If you are already familiar with the hike, please indicate this by circling the code number. Hike descriptions and code numbers may be found on SATC's web site and will be available soon on ATC's website.

July 14	July 15	July 16	July 17	July 18	July 19	July 20
Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
E M S VS	E M S VS	E M S VS	E M S VS	E M S VS	E M S VS	E M S VS

Please return this form to or to

Katie Jones, 504 Highland Court, Carlisle, PA 17013-3923

Questions? Call Katie at (717) 249-6727

**Appalachian Trail Conference Land Trust**

*Special notice from Rita Rudolf, trust assistant of ATC*

Do You Want to Be a Landowner?

Along the Appalachian Trail?

And Have a Home in the Woods!

You can become a Conservation Buyer through The Appalachian Trail Conference Land Trust. Our program matches conservation buyers people like you -- with people who are selling land along the A.T.

You locate your home out of sight from the Trail, and all we ask is that you donate a conservation easement on the rest of the property. A conservation easement "runs with the land" that is, no present or future owner can develop it!

AND, because an easement is an irrevocable gift of a property right, you get a nice income tax deduction

equal to the value of the easement. Contact Bob Williams, Director of Land Trust Programs, at , (304) 535-6331, or write to P.O. Box 807, Harpers Ferry, West Virginia 25425.

### **Tennessee Paddle Festival for the Obed**

*From "Tennessee Paddle":*

Tennessee Paddle's 2001 Festival will be April 6-8, 2001 in Wartburg on "the Plateau". If you love being outdoors this is the place to be! Give them a look over and see why they love the Obed area so much and why they're still raising money for conservation projects. There's lots to learn about this wonderful area of Tennessee. Also, keep up to date with the Alerts and What's Up areas of the site where you can learn about current events and issues. Tennessee Paddle is proud to do this event to raise funds to assist the Obed V and Scenic River with their watershed management program. 2001 is the 25th year for the Obed as a designated wild and scenic river!

Tennessee Paddle works hard all year to increase the public's understanding about the conservation and access issues that they're concerned about. To learn more about these issues visit the "our goal" area on their web site. Again in 2001, they'll have lots of "events" planned both on the water and elsewhere in the area to offer a great weekend!

### **Canoeing News**

Hmmm, no news. Don't worry, fellas, the ice will melt.

### **Special Activity and Trip Reports**

**Hike Report: Laurel Fork Falls, January 13, 2001**

*Kent Wilson reporting*

We had a nice day to hike to these falls near Hampton. The day started out cloudy but turned into a warm sunny day. The first challenge was negotiating the icy parking lot at the trailhead. The lower elevations around the creek were snow covered, and the trail was mostly snow and ice covered. This was fine for the flat but made the few up and downhill sections a little more challenging (we had a few hikers snow tube down the hills without their tubes). The falls were about 75% frozen and very pretty. We opted for the high water route for the return to avoid some of the more slippery trail. Those enjoying this early year hike were Mike Patrick, Susan Owenby, Lee Neely, Freda Kuo, Bill and Priscilla Little, and Kent and Nancy Wilson.

## **Scheduled Hiking, Paddling and Trail Maintenance Opportunities**

**Hike Notice - Coon Den Falls - February 3, 2001**

*Trip Leader: Neil Dotson, phone 423-245-6105*

*Distance: 6 miles*

Let's try this again. Three years ago, (just after the flood) I tried to lead this hike but it turned into a damp and cold trail maintenance excursion, battling fallen trees and rhododendrons heavy with wet snow. Perhaps it will be different this time! This hike is out of Dennis Cove and is around 6 miles long: a partial loop on the A.T., new and old. For some midwinter vistas, we will hike southwards on the A.T. to the White Rocks Mountain fire tower site (there is one nice view en route), and then come back via Coon Den Falls. Be warmly dressed and bring food and water. Current plans are to meet in Colonial Heights between

McDonalds and the building formerly known as Burger King at 8:00 a.m., the standard departure time and place. Keep an eye on the weather; inclement weather or hazardous roads may be cause for postponement, cancellation, or a call to bring saws and do the trail maintenance thing one more time! For more information call your hike leader, Neil Dotson, at 423-245-6105.

**Hike Notice: Tanyard Gap to Hot Springs - February 10, 2001**

*Trip Leader: Nancy Wilson, phone 423-239-7554*

We will hike south from Tanyard Gap to Hot Springs, N.C., 5.8 miles of mostly downhill. There will be excellent views from several vistas, including the famed Lover's Leap Rock from which the Indian Maiden, "Mist-on-the-Mountain" threw herself after the death of her lover, Magwa. Excellent views of the French Broad River are in store as we approach Hot Springs. There will be an optional trip to the Hot Springs Sp for a relaxing soak after our short hike (cost \$7.50/hr. or less if we have more than 15). We will meet at 8: a.m. at the parking lot between McDonald's and the bank (former Burger King) in Colonial Heights. Wear layers of clothing and bring water and lunch.

**Hike Notice: South Beyond 6000, Plott Balsam and Yellow Face - February 17, 2001**

*Trip Leader: Garry Luttrell*

*Telephone: 423-239-9854*

*Rating: Difficult*

This will be a full day hike, and we will either drive over to Waynesville, North Carolina on Friday night, and stay in a motel; or, leave real early from Kingsport on Saturday morning. Gear for winter conditions is required. For more information, contact the hike leader (Garry Luttrell) by phone at 423-239-9854, or .

**Third Saturday Maintenance, February 17, 2001**

*Trip Leader: Bill Stowell*

For third Saturday in February we will work on blow downs from Bitter End to White Rocks Fire Tower. We will meet at the parking lot in Colonial Heights between McDonalds and State of Franklin Bank. We will leave at 8:00. Please let me know if you plan to come so if we cancel due to bad weather, I won't miss anyone. Hope to see you there. Contact Bill Stowell - work phone: 423 229-5163, work email: , home phone: 423 239-7697.

**Mt. Elbert, Leadville, Colorado, August/Sept 2001**

*Leader: Collins Chew*

Several have asked me to repeat a trip like the Mt. Whitney, California trip of 1990. This trip will include hiking to acclimate to altitude around Leadville, Colorado (10,160 ft., highest city in the US) and hike up nearby Mt. Elbert (14,433 feet, highest in Colorado, 2nd highest in the lower 48). This would take about 4-5 days in Leadville (motel or San Isabel NF campground) with day hikes in the spectacular high country interspersed with other local sights/activities such a scenic railroad, mining museums (home of "The Majestic Mine" of Baby Doe fame), an underground mine tour, shopping in nearby Aspen and Vail, and hi scenic road passes. In other words, this should even be attractive to non-hiking spouses although too late the year for school children. The timing is to miss the crowds, let the snowfields melt, hopefully miss most the summer thunderstorms but be too early for hard snow. We will pick the exact time later. Mt. Elbert has several trails of about 6 miles one way with a 4,000+ foot climb. It would be a day hike. Mt. Massive, next highest in the country and 12 feet lower, is just across the road and with a somewhat longer and more difficult trail. I plan a loosely organized trip with people doing their own thing but having enough for mutual support particularly on high trails. The trip could be a part of a longer Western vacation. If interested, contact Collins Chew at 423/239-6237 or .

# A.T. Section Maintenance and Special Project Reports

## Section 1 (Damascus to Backbone Rock) - Trail Maintenance

*Garry Luttrell reporting*

Number of people: 10 (Freda Kuo, Nancy Wilson, Kim Peters, Lee Neely, Olin Babb, Don Baker, Gether Irick, Bill Elderbrock, Collins Chew, and Garry Luttrell)

Total person hours: 12 X 9 = 108

We spotted one van at Backbone Rock then drove the other two van loads of hikers and equipment to begin the hike at Damascus, Virginia. It was a little chilly to start, but it didn't take us long to start peeling off layers as we climbed Holston Mountain and got onto the sunny ridge top. We carried loppers and bow saws and cut five blowdowns, but left three 18' - 20" blowdowns, starting at about 0.1 mi. trail south of the Tennessee-Virginia state line and ending at a point, N36 36.449, W081 50.309, on the A.T., before the Backbone Rock Trail intersection. Otherwise, this trail section is in good shape - blazes were bright, side trail was reasonably good throughout, and we clipped back branches that were in the trail. Weeding will be needed later in the year. Thanks for the work, and fun. Also, Don and Gether were first timers with this Friday Hikers bunch. Y'all go with us again, ya hear.