

THE TENNESSEE EASTMAN
HIKING & PADDLING NEWS

March 2001

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| NEXT TWO MONTHS | | | | |
|------------------|--|--------|----------------|--------------|
| 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 23-25 | South Beyond 6000 Hike | D | Garry Luttrell | 423-239-9854 |
| 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 |
| April 6-8 | Tennessee Paddle Festival | | | |
| April 7 | South Toe Paddling | II-III | Ed Montgomery | 423-247-7795 |
| April 14 | Marguerite Falls Spring Wildflowers | M | Joe DeLoach | 423-753-7903 |
| April 21 | Train Wreck Site in Smokies | E | Garry Luttrell | 423-239-9854 |
| April 21 | 4th Annual Trail Fest, Hot Springs, N.C. | FUN | | |
| April 28 | Pinnacle State Park, Virginia Wildflowers | E | Kathy McDavid | 423-245-6105 |

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.

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

Date: March 30, 2001 (note change from originally scheduled date)

Location: Eastman Lodge

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

Program: Collins Chew - The Miocene Fossil Site in Gray - see below

Menu:

Mixed greens with sliced apples, spiced pecans, cabernet vinaigrette

Rosemary and garlic roasted pork loin with Brazilian mustard sauce

Rice Pilaf

Vegetable Stir Fry

Rolls

Coffee/Tea

(provided by Jane's Lunch Box) plus dessert provided by TEHCC

Dinner Price:

Adults: \$15.00 (Inclusive)

Children 12 and under: \$6.75 (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:

Jessica McGee, B-280

Or

Jessica McGee

937 Childress Ferry Road

Blountville, Tennessee 37617

Reservation Form:

Name: _____

Number of Adults' Meals _____ x \$15.00 = _____

Number of Children's Meals _____ x \$6.75 = _____

TOTAL = _____

IMPORTANT NOTE

The check and reservation form must be received by Monday, March 26th.

At the dinner meeting, we will have club patches, brochures, and other club memorabilia for viewing and purchase. Award recipients, including Hiker of the Year, Maintainer of the Year, and Paddler of the Year, will be recognized. Patches from TEHCC and the Forest Service will be given to trail maintainers, and a special recognition plaque will be presented. A special video of the Round Bald relocation project will be shown. A very interesting program of local interest will be given by Collins Chew - here is a description:

The Miocene Fossil Site in Gray - Collins Chew

Since the discovery of the fossil site in Gray, Tennessee was discovered last year by accident, a lot of changes have been made to accommodate the road project and to allow the continued dedicated research to proceed at the site. Vested interest for networking between the academic community and the State of Tennessee has brought together a synergistic group to develop the site. Many new developments have already been discovered through this collaborative research at this site which has changed some aspects of what we believed this period of history was like. Come hear what new developments are being made from discovering our past.

Mark your calendars now! It promises to be a great time, with lots of awards to be presented, a very interesting program, and loads of fun!!!

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 became 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 hike 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

Club Rental Equipment

Carl Fritz reporting

Two dozen tents ranging from a one-person bivy to a six-person tent were set up and checked out by a group of volunteers in late January. They also inspected the dozen backpacks. They also made some minor repairs. A couple of items will require replacement parts. Most of the equipment including sleeping pads are in very good shape. Several new items are going to be added to our collection this year including a sleeping pad, a woman's medium, internal frame, 2600 cubic inch, Marmot Glissade backpack; a men's internal frame, 5500 cubic inch, Kelty Slickrock backpack; and a Eureka four-person Timberline tent with two doors and a total weight less than nine pounds. If you have need to rent something for an outdoor adventure for a couple of days or a couple of weeks, check out the [information on our Web site](#) or go to the Employee Center to see the book with the equipment descriptions. All the equipment is available at the front office at the Employee Center. You must be a member of the Hiking Club to rent the equipment. Thanks to these volunteers for sacrificing an evening: Katherine Hall, Kathy McDavid, Bill Murdoch, Steve Perri, Tish Perri, Bill Stowell, Ray Tarpley, Frank Williams, Kent Wilson, and Nancy Wilson.

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 Valley 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!

New Hike Classification Guidelines

Kathy McDavid reporting

The Steering Committee recently voted to use a new rating system to give more information to prospective hikers. These are "borrowed" from the Georgia Mountain Club, and we hope it will give an accurate description of our hikes.

Hike Rating Codes

Distance

AA over 13 miles

A 9-13 miles

B 5-9 miles

C under 5 miles

Pace

1 very fast (2.5+ mph)

2 fast (2-2.5 mph)

3 moderate (1.5-2 mph)

4 leisurely (<1.5 mph)

Terrain

A very strenuous

B strenuous

C average

D easy

Thus a killer hike would be AA/1/A and an extremely easy one would be C/4/D. So, take a hike!

Canoeing News

Introductory Whitewater School 2001

The 30th 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 7th, 9th, and 10th. 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 with one paddle per paddler plus one spare per boat and helmet, or a whitewater kayak with paddle, sprayskirt and helmet. One PFD (life jacket) per person. Canoe 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 7th (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 9th (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 10th (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. Participation must be a member of TEHCC or APEs. 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 31. 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)

Special Activity and Trip Reports

Hike Report: Tanyard Gap to Hot Springs, N.C., February 10, 2001

Nancy Wilson reporting

Sixteen people made the trek from Tanyard Gap approximately 5.8 miles to Hot Springs, N.C. It was a nice day, slightly overcast. We enjoyed great views of Hot Springs and the French Broad River from the ridges and Lover's Leap Rock. Seven people stayed over to enjoy a trip to the Outfitter and a relaxing hour filled with good conversation and a lot of laughter at the Hot Springs Spa hot tubs. Those making the trip were Lynn Carmichael, Steve and Cathy Johnson, Sherri Jones, Freda Kuo, Bill and Priscilla Little, Lee Neely, Kim Peters, Linda Phillips, Rebecca Ramsey, Cherlene Reasor, Bob and Suzanne Viers, and Kent and Nancy Wilson.

Hike Report: South Beyond 6000, Plott Balsam and Jones Knob, February 17, 2001

Garry Luttrell reporting

Five of us left Kingsport at 6 am, drove to the Canton Exit on I-40, and met the Wilsons for breakfast at the Waffle House. Since the Blue Ridge Parkway was closed, we had to go to Plan B, which involved hiking to Plott Balsam and Jones Knob, then back to where we started. The route was one used by Gether Irick a few years ago, starting at a point about 1 mile south of Balsam Gap on the Blue Ridge Parkway, and hiking through the housing development on the south face of Jones Knob to Plott Balsam, to Jones Knob, then back. Total distance hiked was 12 miles with an elevation gain of 3000 ft. The weather was chilly, sometimes cold, but a great day for hiking in the Plotts. After a fine dinner in Waynesville, we returned to Kingsport by 10 pm. Those enjoying the full day hike were Freda Kuo, Lee Neely, Kim Peters, Nancy Wilson, Kent Wilson, Larry Miller, and Garry Luttrell.

Scheduled Hiking, Paddling and Trail Maintenance Opportunities

Hike Notice - Allegheny Trail backpack - March 30-April 1, 2001

Hike Leader: Garry Luttrell, phone 423-239-9854

Rating: moderate

On this trip we will camp in Watoga State Park, West Virginia, and we will spend three days day-hiking on the section of the Allegheny Trail between Meadow Creek and Huntersville, W. Va. For more information, contact the hike leader by phone, or .

A.T. Section Maintenance and Special Project Reports

Ed Oliver reporting

Date: Tuesday, January 23, 2001

Purpose: Maintenance from Shook Branch to Watauga Dam Road

People: 4 (Bill Elderbrock, John Thompson, Frank Williams, and Ed Oliver)

Total Person-hours: 4 X 7 = 28

Summary: On January 23, Bill Elderbrock, John Thompson, Frank Williams, and Ed Oliver walked around Watauga Lake from Shook Branch to Watauga Dam Road. The weather was sunny and mild. There was about an inch of snow in the sheltered areas. We removed about 10 blow downs. Most of the blowdowns were pine trees that had been killed in the past couple of years. There was very little litter.

Jim Mann reporting

Date: February 2, 2001

Purpose: Apple House Shelter inspection

Number of People: 2 (Jim and Patricia Mann)

Total hours: 8 hours

Summary: Jim and Patricia Mann decided to celebrate Groundhog Day by walking in to the Apple House Shelter and leaving a rake, shovel, and broom. The weather was clear, but very windy and cold. Jim will remember to take gloves

any future cold weather trip. Patricia remembered her gloves and enjoyed giving Jim a hard time for being forgetful. The hiking labrador, Shadow, thoroughly enjoyed being along for the walk. The shelter was inspected and found to be in excellent shape. Many dead limbs were removed from the trail which overall was in great shape. Total time for this short walk, but long drive was four hours each for a total of eight hours.

Ed Oliver reporting

Date: Saturday, February 3, 2001

Purpose: Flag gravel drop locations on Round Bald and check relocation trail south

Number of People : 5 (Ed Oliver, Frank Williams, Bob Peoples, Seiko, Jamie Donaldson)

Total person-hours: 5 X 5 = 25

Summary: Areas to drop gravel to complete the Round Bald work were marked with stakes. Also checked relocation trail south of Carvers Gap for drainage problems. A report from a hiker had mentioned a problem but none was found.

Bruce Cunningham reporting

Date: February 7, 2001

Purpose: Trail Maintenance, Bitter End/Walnut Mountain Road/Campbell Hollow Road

Number of People: 6 (Frank Williams, Ed Oliver, Bob Peoples, Bill Elderbrock, Bruce and Mary Cunningham)

Total Person hours: 54 (6 x 9)

Summary:

BITTER END/WALNUT MOUNTAIN ROAD: Cut two large blowdowns and many smaller ones. Clipped a few bad briars but did NOT paint blazes. Trail is open but needs rhododendron clipping both north and south of the stream, in the middle of the section.

WALNUT MOUNTAIN ROAD/CAMPBELL HOLLOW ROAD: Trail is open and in good shape. We cleared blowdowns, clipped and painted blazes in both directions.

CAMPBELL HOLLOW ROAD/CHURCH: Walked - trail OK, will need clipping and painting later.

Bob Peoples reporting

Date: February 9, 2001

Section: Shook Branch to Pond Flats

Purpose: cut blow downs

Number of People : 2 (Bob Peoples, John Bryant)

Total person-hours: 2 X 9 = 18

Summary: Cut blow downs from Shook Branch to Pond Flats

Frank Williams reporting

Date: February 13, 2001

Purpose: Watauga Dam Road to Shook Branch-Feed the Cat and Trail Maintenance

Number of people: 3 (Ed Oliver, Bill Elderbrock, Frank Williams) Frank Williams reporting

Total person-hours: $3 \times 7 = 21$

Summary: The purpose of this trip was to feed Bill Stowell's cat, but on the way we stopped at Watauga Dam Road. We clipped, cut blow downs, painted blazes both ways and cleaned water bars from Watauga Dam road to Shook Branch Recreation Area. This section of trail is in good condition except a trip to pick up litter around the lake close to the recreation area will be needed.

Bill Stowell reporting

Date: February 17, 2001

Sections: 11, 12, 13

Purpose: Cut blow downs

Number of People : 10 (Ed Oliver, Bob Peoples, Seiko, Bruce & Mary Cunningham, Bill Stowell, Frank Williams, Carl Fritz, David Gibson, Steve Falling). Bob Peoples & Seiko 2 hours each

Total person-hours: $2 \times 2 + 8 \times 9 = 76$

Summary: Ed Oliver, Bruce and Mary Cunningham, Bill Stowell, Frank Williams, Carl Fritz, David Gibson, and Steve Falling met in Colonial Heights (David drove in from Atlanta). We met Bob Peoples and Seiko in Hampton. Bob and Seiko were to drive to White Rocks and cut blow downs towards Moreland Gap Shelter. The key Bob had did not open the gate so they went home. Bruce dropped Bill, Steve, and Carl off at Bitter End to cut into Moreland Gap Shelter. Bruce drove the next group up to near Doll Flats. This group cut blow downs down to 19E. The others cut blow downs from High Point Church to 19E. This group picked up 5 full trash bags of litter near where the bridge crosses Bear Branch. They took the trash to the transfer station in Roan Mountain, where the operator waived the fee for dumping because the group had picked up litter on the A.T.

Bruce Cunningham reporting

Date: February 21, 2001

Section: U.S. 421 South (Low Gap) to Double Springs Shelter

Purpose: Trail Maintenance

Participants: Frank Williams, Ed Oliver and Bruce Cunningham

Summary: Did maintenance work on section from U.S. 421 (Low Gap) south to Double Springs Shelter. Cut out one 3' blowdown plus 6-8 other smaller ones. Clipped most of the greenbriers. Cleared trees from the first "vista" - the second one was OK. The Forest Service gate at U.S. 421 end had been destroyed.

Reported this fact to the Forest Service.

Bob Peoples reporting

Date: Friday, February 23, 2001

Section: White Rocks to Moreland Gap Shelter

Purpose: cut blow downs

Number of People : 2 (Bob and Pat Peoples)

Total person-hours: 2 X 6 = 12

Summary: Bob and Pat drove up to White Rocks and cut blow downs going trail south to Moreland Gap Shelter.

Bruce Cunningham reporting

Date: February 27, 2001

Section: Low Gap (U.S. 421) north to McQueens Gap

Participants: Bruce Cunningham, Bill Elderbrock, Dave Gibson, Ed Oliver, Frank Williams

Total person hours: 10 hours X 5 = 50 hours

Summary:

1. Installed 17 water bars and 21 drainage ditches - finished the section.
2. Cut 15 blowdowns, THREE of the HUGE variety.
3. Moved LARGE rock (estimated 300 lbs.) off trail. (Engineering by Gibson and Oliver)
4. Picked up three bags of trash - one at U.S. 421 and two at McQueens Gap.

C. B. Willis reporting

Date: February 28, 2001

Section: The half mile of trail south of Iron Mountain Gap

Total Person Hours: 15 persons x 6 hours each, 90 hours total

Summary: Some of the trail has been eroding. We dug out and leveled about 500 feet of trail so that hikers no longer have to walk on the side of a hill. We also cleared debris from this area, and picked up litter where the A.T. crosses Highway 107. There was a winter's worth of litter here. Those team members participating were: Arnold, Loretta; Culbertson, Rick; Derouen, Gil; Lewis, Dick; Lloyd, Sam; Lloyd, Daryl; Miller, Bob; Ottenfeld, Neil; Perry, Sandra; Schell, Ed; Sparks, Wayne; Spencer, Bob; Taylor, Clyde; Willis, CB; Wolf, Malcolm. We have scheduled March 14th to inspect our entire adoption and to clear blow downs, winter debris, etc.