

THE TENNESSEE EASTMAN
HIKING & PADDLING NEWS

July 2001

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NEXT TWO MONTHS				
<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Rating</u>	<u>Leader</u>	<u>Phone</u>
July 7	Mt. LeConte Creek Hike	A/1/A	Dewey Fuller	423-764-7340
July 13-20	ATC Biennial Meeting, Shippensburg, Pa.	C/4/D		
July 19	Fun Fest Moonlight Hike - Bays Mountain Park	C/4/D	Steve Perri	423-229-1484
July 21	Mt. LeConte from Cherokee Orchards (Mt. Elbert training)	AA/1/A	Collins Chew	423-239-6237
August 29-September 5	Mt. Elbert/Leadville, Colorado (various hikes)	AA/1/A-C/4/D	Collins Chew	423-239-6237
August 31-September 3	Multiclub Meet	C/4/D	Steve Perri	423-229-1484

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.

Hikes, workshops, excursions, entertainment, and youth activities and general information will all be available to you online. Entertainment tickets are limited due to the size of the 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

Trail Skills Workshops

Bill Stowell reporting:

Here is the list of trail skills workshops put on by the Appalachian Trail Conference for the rest of the year:

Date	Subject
April 28	Drainage
May 5-6	Wilderness First Aid
May 9	Basic Maintenance
May 12-13	Rock Work
June 2	National Trails Day - N.C./Tennessee
June 2	National Trails Day - Georgia
June 23-24	Leave No Trace
July 28	Bog Bridge / Turnpike

These are held at various locations. If you are interested, let Bill Stowell know, and he can give you the full info.

Paddling News



TEHCC paddler Mike Morrow submitted this picture for the Paddling News section this month. It was taken on May 20, 2001, and shows Mike running "The Chief" rapid in the Narrows of the Green, on the Green River near Saluda, North Carolina. Click on the small photo to see the full size photo (175KB).

Special Activity and Trip Reports (*Past*)

Steve Humphrey reporting:

Great Smoky Mountains Memorial Day Hike #2 - (May 25-28)

Seven hearty hikers gathered at Davenport Gap at the eastern end of the Great Smoky Mountains to begin the 2nd straight backpacking excursion through the most visited National Park in the United States. Three of the hikers successfully completed the traverse of the Appalachian Trail through the Western Smokies during Memorial Day weekend 2000. Those brave hikers, Steve Humphrey (a.k.a. THE Raven), Chris Niederer (a.k.a. The Tortoise) - both members of TEHCC, and their California visitor Rob Holhmann (a.k.a. Fireball)

were joined for this trek through the Eastern Smokies by Kenrick Venett, Smith Peeler of Gaffney, South Carolina and Michael and Jennifer Floyd of Cincinnati, Ohio.

The band got a late start on Friday evening from Newfound Gap but still managed to make the 5.4 mile hike to the Kephart Shelter (on one of the Smokies side trails) by nightfall. The evening basically consisted of a quick dinner and bed. The next two days were spent traversing the bulk of the Appalachian Trail through the Eastern Smoky Mountains, and the weather could not have been more perfect. The entire 23 or so mile terrain was surrounded by an incredible expansive valley to the North and luscious green mountains to the south. Spectacular views were had at Charles Bunion on Saturday and at Black Hawk on Sunday. The group pitched tents at shelters on Saturday and Sunday evening - arriving much earlier to enjoy good hours of camaraderie as well as good cigars. Sunday was so nice that the Tortoise managed to get in a good two hour nap at the midpoint Tricorner Knob Shelter before making the final traverse of the day.

The rain so common to the Smokies finally arrived early Monday morning and five of the band got stuck packing their tents up soaking wet. But, actually, the rain made the final hiking perfect because the last day was spent on side trails in the lower elevation right beside the fast flowing Big Creek. The super 7 reached the Big Creek Campground and their waiting vehicles about 1:00p.m., soaked, satisfied and ready for a good meal after a weekend of 38-39 miles. Lunch was the Pizza Hut in Gatlinburg.

For those of you who haven't hiked through the Smoky Mountains, make it an upcoming priority in your backpacking plans.

Vic Hasler reporting:

Hike Report: Laurel Falls, June 17, 2001

Hopefully everyone spent a good day with their fathers or children. This Sunday was a gorgeous, sunny day -- perfect for a hike in the gorge. For information, the trailhead on U.S. 321 is 32 miles from Colonial Heights -- taking 45 minutes travel time (obeying all posted speed limits). In order to avoid the "Stairmaster" approach down from Dennis Cove Road, we started at the Hampton trailhead. High water during spring flooding and a couple of beaver dams have rerouted the trail up and over some rock scrambles. I would suggest that the rating for this hike should be upped from "easy" as shown on TEHCC "[Our Favorite Hike](#)" to C/4/B. The climbing makes it more difficult than a beginner hike, like Beauty Spot or Watauga Lake. Taking this trek were Vic, Clark, and Ben Hasler with Fritz (Jack Russell terrier).

Scheduled Hiking, Paddling and Trail Maintenance Opportunities (*Future*)

Hike Notice: Mount LeConte Creek Trip, July 7-8, 2001

Leader: Dewey Fuller

Rating: Extremely Difficult

The LeConte Creek Trip is an off-trail ascent of Mount LeConte via one of several LeConte creeks. This trip involves scrambling up and around very steep cascades as well as lots of bushwhacking through thick undergrowth, stinging nettles, and blowdowns. Typical trips take from 8 to 12 hours with very little time for resting. Once at the top, hopefully before dark, the group will be staying at LeConte Lodge, a rustic inn with cabins, real beds with clean sheets, and a dining room. For more trip details contact Jon Mather at 239-6766. The \$85.17 per person cost includes overnight accommodations at the lodge, dinner Saturday evening, and breakfast the next morning. Confirm your reservations for the trip by sending a check, payable to me, Dewey Fuller. Mail to Bldg-216A or 608 Vance Drive, Bristol, Tenn 37620. Often, all of the reservations are not taken by those wishing to go up the creek. If you would like to go on the waiting list for

the trail hike, let me know.

Hike Notice: Fun Fest - Moonlight Hike at Bays Mountain Park - July 19, 2001

This year, we are again co-sponsoring the Moonlight Hike around the reservoir at Bays Mountain Park, on Thursday, July 19. This is a popular Fun Fest event, and we usually have approximately 200 participants. We will need at least 12 - 15 volunteers to walk the hike, and to stand at trail intersections to keep hikers from getting lost. It is a lot of fun to be on the mountain after dark, and one of our few opportunities to do so. Please volunteer to help Dave Taylor at the Park, by calling Steve Perri, 229-1484.

Hike Notice: Mt. LeConte from Cherokee Orchards, Saturday, July 21, 2001

Leader: Collins Chew, Phone: (423) 239-6237, Rating: Difficult

This is the second training hike for the September, Mt. Elbert, Colorado hike but all hikers are welcome. This will be a difficult hike up Mt. LeConte in the Smokies starting from Cherokee Orchards and return. It is the only nearby hike I know that will be much like the one in Colorado except that it is 8000 feet lower. We will hike up the Rainbow Falls Trail and probably return by the Bullhead Trail. These are both very nice and interesting trails. The roundtrip hike should be about 13 miles with a climb of about 4,000 feet. Since it will be a long day, I would like to leave from our regular meeting place in Colonial Heights near McDonalds at 6:30 A. M. in the morning. (I hope to leave earlier than this in Colorado.) Bring lunch (and snack), water, comfortable boots, raingear, and appropriate clothing (13 degrees cooler on top). It will be a long day. We might eat supper in Gatlinburg. For more info, call Collins Chew 423/239-6237 or email to .

2001 Multi-Club Meet, August 31-September 3, 2001

Leader: Steve Perri

The 2001 Multi-Club meet will be hosted this year by the Tidewater Appalachian Trail Club on Labor Day weekend Friday Aug. 31-Sept. 3, 2001. Multi-Club is a weekend of hiking, renewing old friendships, making new friends, and just having fun with people who maintain the A.T. in the Southern Region. The location this year is Sherando Lake Campground near Waynesboro, Virginia.

Registration and meal forms are available from Steve Perri, 423-229-1484 or e-mail . Registration is \$12.00/person, there is no charge for persons under 16, and there is no camping fee. Meals provided through registration are for Sat. breakfast, Sat. dinner, Sun. breakfast, and Sun. evening cookout.

Registration deadline is August 3, 2001. For more info, call Steve Perri or check out the [Tidewater Appalachian Trail Club](#) website.

North Rim □ North Plateau Loop, September 15, 2001 (Tennessee Trails Association)

Leader: Chris Fox, (731) 586-4744,

Park Name: Savage Gulf State Natural Area

City, State: Monteagle, Tennessee

Note: this is a Tennessee Trails Association hike

This loop combines the 6.3 mile North Rim Trail, with its spectacular views of the gulf, with a return through plateau hardwood forest on the 7.1 mile North Plateau Trail. The North Rim Trail provides more overlooks than any other trail in the South Cumberland area, as it follows the rim of the Savage Gulf. The trail is rated easy, but 13.4 miles makes for a long day. Let's prepare adequately for a long day hike, with lunch at the Hobbs Cabin campsite. Meet at 9am at the Savage Ranger Station.

A.T. Section Maintenance and Special Project Reports

Bill Stowell reporting:

Konnarock Crew, Week Two - Round Bald/Grassy Ridge Relocations

Date: May 31 - June 3, 2001

Thursday, Friday and Saturday were spent finishing the Round Bald gravel part of the project. What an accomplishment! This section was measured at 5,301 feet. During the first week, 966 feet of trail was completed and during the second week, 800 feet of trail was completed. The whole project works out to 2 pounds of gravel per foot of trail.

On Sunday and Monday, we started on the upper end of the Grassy Ridge relocation. We had a very productive day, clearing vegetation, defining the trail, digging some sections, and moving rocks. This is going to get challenging real fast though, with lots of steep slopes with rock at or just below the surface and numerous small streams to negotiate. Also, this is all organic soil, which will be very prone to getting muddy and hauling gravel in is not an option.

Participants:

- **Date:** Thursday, May 31
Ed Oliver, Darrol Nickels, Frank Williams, Bruce Cunningham
Number of hours: 10 hours X 4 people = 40 person-hours
- **Date:** Friday, June 1
Ed Oliver, Carl Fritz, Bruce Cunningham, Bob Peoples, Justin Arner, Lara Dieringer
4 hours X 6 people = 24 person-hours
Paul Benfield 5 hours X 1 person = 5 person-hours
- **Date:** Saturday, June 2, 2001
Ed Oliver, Carl Fritz, Bob Peoples, Steve Perri, Bill Stowell, Thru hikers (Chris "Salty" Lucas, Linda "Wasabi" Derks, Leigh "Yellow" Drachman, Lisa "BiBi" Lou, Michael "Belu" Hager, Jason "Whitey" Titus, James "Ropeyarn" Kennedy)
Number of TEHCC participants: 12
Number of hours: (12 people x 11 hours) = 132 person-hours
- **Date:** Sunday, June 3
Number of TEHCC participants: 9
Number of hours (7 x 10) + (2 x 9) = 88
Names: Steve Banks, Steven Banks, Paul Benfield, Bruce Cunningham, Mary Cunningham, Ed Oliver, Frank Williams - 10 hours each
Craig DeLoach, Joe DeLoach - 9 hours each

Bill Stowell reporting:

ASU/SAGO (Appalachian State University/Student Affairs in the Great Outdoors) Outing

Date: June 1, 2001

The second annual ASU/SAGO outing was held Friday, June 1. The SAGO (Student Affairs in the Great Outdoors) is a week long summer seminar that ASU hosts. Educators from around the country attend, and at the end of the week a group comes to work with us to have a maintenance experience.

This year the weather was bad at Carvers Gap. The wind was rocking my truck and the rain was flying sideways. The Konnarock Crew had already left for the day because of the poor working conditions. Since the group showed up, we decided to walk into the spruce/fir forest on the trail south side of Carvers Gap to look at the work that had been done by student groups the previous year. Then we decided to go see a real A.T. shelter and hiked on to Roan High Knob Shelter. As we came back to Carvers Gap, the weather had improved so the group wanted to see what they would have been doing had the weather cooperated. We hiked up to the top of Round Bald and arrived just a few minutes before the clouds covered up the mountain.

Everyone seemed to enjoy the visit even though we did not get to do any work. Those who participated were: ASU/SAGO Shari Galiardi, Cindy Smith, Jen Moylan, Tim Blair, Liz Okuma, Kim Uyttenhove, Adrien Shoffner, Mike Address, Jerry Mason, Demar Bonnemere, Audria Stout, Dave Huthison, Greg Czyzyczon and from TEHCC member Bill Stowell.

Michael Watts reporting:

Date: June 2, 2001

Section: Walter Mountain Road to Bitter End

Participants: Rick Lott, Michael Watts

Total person hours: 2 x 8 = 16 hours

We were successful in locating Bitter End this Saturday, June 2. The access road was one of the few we didn't explore a couple weekends ago. If you want to supplement your notes for road access points, the access road to Bitter End does have a street sign and is labeled Howard Harrison Lane. It's a paved road approximately one mile from the turn-off from Buck Mountain Road.

Rick Lott and I completed trail maintenance from Walnut Mountain Road to Bitter End. We repainted blaze south to north, clipped, weeded, and picked up a small amount of trash. There were no blow downs. The trail is generally in good shape. Total of 16 hours.

I'm a big fan of spray paint for blazing. However one small problem in past trips is that the cardboard templates get saturated by the paint after a while and begin to deform. I found a template in the hiking club room that someone had covered with duct tape. That worked very well. Another testimony to the versatility of duct tape!

Bill Berry reporting:

Date: June 4, 2001

Section: Flattop Mountain Road to No Business Shelter

Participants: Bill Berry, Joe Allen

Total person hours: 2 x 8 = 16 hours

We worked on the A.T. from Flattop Mountain Road to No Business Shelter. Cut weeds and many blowdowns. Still have seven trees across the trail between "Devil Creek" and the shelter. Will cut these on Saturday June 9. Also in process of cutting back rhododendron on up hill side from "Devil Creek" north for one mile. Joe is in on vacation and is a trail maintainer in Melbourne, Florida.

Bill Stowell reporting:

Konnarock Crew, Week Three - Grassy Ridge/Elk River Relocations

Date: June 7-11, 2001

The Konnarock Crew worked Thursday and Friday on the Grassy Ridge relocation. Morgan and Ed as well as the crew leader and several club members, were concerned about the combination of water and soil encountered on the Grassy Ridge relocation we started, trail south of Stan Murray Shelter. There was a great deal of concern that the segments that had been dug were going to cause more problems than anticipated due to the inadequate drainage of the soil there. They determined that it would be best to discontinue beyond what had been done so we could monitor the segment for drainage over the course of this summer and fall. While this is an unprecedented decision, we think it is in the best interest of protecting the resource and to be judicious as opposed to continuing beyond this point with work over the next few weeks which may do more harm than good. So the crew moved to the Elk River and started that relocation. We began on the ridge near Jones Branch, and started digging up hill towards Jones Branch Falls. On Saturday and Sunday we completed 880 feet of trail on the Elk River relocation.

- Thursday, June 7, 2001: Sue Kanopka - 5 hours - total 5 hours
- Friday, June 8, 2001: Ed Oliver, Carl Fritz, Frank Williams, Paul Benfield, Sue Kanopka - 8 hours each

total 40 hours

- Saturday, June 9, 2001: Ed Oliver, Carl Fritz, Kim Peters, John Thompson, Joe Deloach, Craig Deloach, Bill Stowell - 13 hours each - total 91 hours
- Sunday, June 10, 2001: Ed Oliver, Kim Peters, Joe Deloach, Craig Deloach, Bob Peoples, Bill Stowell - 10 hours each - total 60 hours

Steve Perri reporting:

ATC Education Workshop

Date: June 8-10, 2001

Time: 24 hours

Participants Steve Perri

ATC and the ATPO have been considering the development of a trail education program as a strategic thrust. This was initially considered in 1999, but at that time it was difficult to assess what was currently being done by partners and trail clubs to even begin to address the needs. John Buchheit, the new ATC Education Planner, conducted a survey of activities, resources and tools the A.T. community currently uses. That survey turned up about 600 items! So they recently held a workshop at the National Conservation Training Center in Shepherdstown, W.Va. to identify potential themes, audiences and tools that might be used to meet the ATC and ATPO goals. TEHCC was one of 6 trail clubs in attendance. Many other agency partners up and down the A.T. corridor were also present. After much discussion and consideration, the group identified five themes to focus on as a means of conveying the goals of ATC while meeting the needs of the potential audiences. Identifying the relevant and interested audiences of educational programs and the appropriate tools took the longest time. A greater emphasis was placed on trail users and communities that have a more direct link or potential relationship with the A.T. A number of recommendations were made as to how to organize the information and prioritize the lists. The Education Committee will attempt to prioritize the programs and ideas and propose these with recommended resources needed to fulfill the needs. From maintaining clubs' perspectives and ATC Field Reps., we support the ideas but are concerned with the resource limitations in carrying out some of the proposals on top of our existing responsibilities and workloads. ATC emphasized they were currently aware of limited resources and will carefully review the addition or reallocation of staff to support any new educational efforts.

Overall this was a very productive workshop and introduced me to a lot of people and ideas for a wide range of educational opportunities. We will most likely hear more about the conference's plans for rolling out programs and perhaps the development of some new partnerships.

Steve Banks reporting:

Date: June 8, 2001

Section: 3

Purpose: Weed between McQueens Knob and Abingdon Gap Shelter

Number of people: 2

People: Steve Banks, Steven Banks - 8 hours each

Total hours: 16

Cleared weeds between McQueens Gap and Abingdon Gap Shelter, between the shelter and the spring, and between McQueens Gap and McQueens Knob. Stinging nettles and green briars are very prolific in many areas. Met five thru-hikers.

Bill Berry reporting:

Date: June 9, 2001

Section: Flat Top Mountain Road to No Business Knob Shelter

Participants: Bill Berry, Joe Allen

Total person hours: 2x 8 = 16 hours

Continue to cut laurel and rhododendron on the uphill side of the trail. The Trail is now clear from Spivey C to No Business

Knob Shelter. Hikers going south report the Trail is in good shape from Temple Hill Gap south to No Business Knob Shelter. Will work from Temple Hill Gap to No Business Knob Shelter on June 16. Joe Al is a cousin from Florida and a member of the Florida Trail Association, Indian River Chapter.

Steve Banks reporting:

Date: June 10, 2001

Section: 3

Purpose: Weed between McQueens Knob and Spring

Number of people: 2

Participants: Steve Banks, Mary Banks, and our dog Meggie - 8 hours each

Total hours: 16

Cleared weeds between McQueens Knob and the spring at the south end of my adopted section. Cut lots of stinging nettles, green briars, and poison ivy. Met two thru-hikers.

C. B. Willis reporting:

Date: June 13, 2001

Sections: 17 and 18

Purpose of trip: Early summer weeding, etc.

Cut weeds, clipped laurel, cleared small blowdowns, cleaned shelter, checked springs and water bars. Trail is in good condition. We left one blowdown that is too large for bow saws, one half mile north of Indian Gap. It can be easily walked around. We will return with a chain saw later. The following members worked eight hours each (total team hours = 160): Rick Culbertson, Gilbert Derouen, Hueston Fortner, Howard Guinn, David Ingram, Nancy Kinkead, Carl Kincheloe, Sam Lloyd, Daryl Lloyd, Bob Miller, Waymon Mumpower, Neil Ottenfeld, Sandra Perry, Pat Ramsey, Ed Schell, Bob Spencer, Clyde Taylor, Reta Taylor, C. B. Willis, Malcolm Wolf.

Bill Stowell reporting:

Date: Saturday, June 16, 2001

Section: 12

Purpose: Lees McRae College student service project

We had our first work project with Lees McRae College. This was a service project with students who will be freshman in the fall. We worked on digging new trail on the Elk River relocation in the area where the Konnarock crew left off. In general this received positive feedback from the College, and future projects will probably be planned. Those helping from TEHC were Ed Oliver, Bruce and Mary Cunningham, Bob Peoples, Frank Williams, Carl Fritz, Steve Perri, and Bill Stowell. Those from Lees McRae College were Sean McAndrew, Kathleen Buttolph, Sarah McAllister, Victor Gizonne, Adienne Casey, Mairy Trexler, Mar Anderson, Adam DeWitt, Nolan Snyder, and Micheal Thor.

Carl Fritz reporting:

Date: 6/22/01

Sections: Hump Mountain north to 19E

Purpose: Cut weeds

Number of People: Four (Bruce Cunningham, Carl Fritz, Ed Oliver, Frank Williams)

Total person-hours: 4 X 7 = 28

Using scythes and string trimmers, we cleared this entire section. The grass on top of Hump Mountain was still too short to cut. One blowdown was cleared after pushing it off the trail. The Apple House Shelter was

very clean. The old road/trail up to the shelter is beginning to show signs of erosion. We were just back to the van when heavy showers started.