

# THE TENNESSEE EASTMAN HIKING & PADDLING NEWS

June 2004

www.tehcc.org

**Note:** the deadline for submitting articles and photos for next month's newsletter is the 15th of the month!

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NEXT TWO MONTHS				
Date	Description	Rating	Contact	Phone
May 27-31	Konnarock: White Rocks Mountain A.T. Relocation	☐	Joe DeLoach	423-753-7903
Jun 3-6	Introductory Whitewater School	☐	Rebekah Morrow	423-245-8045
Jun 5	National Trails Day: Bays Mtn☐Laurel Run Parks Trail Construction/Hike	☐	Collins Chew	423-239-6237
Jun 12	A.T.: Cloudland to Grassy Ridge	B/3/C	Vic Hasler	423-239-0388
Jun 17-21	Konnarock: White Rocks Mountain A.T. Relocation	☐	Joe DeLoach	423-753-7903
Jun 18-20	Smokies: Twenty-Mile Creek Area (S900M)	A/3/C	Garry Luttrell	423-239-9854
July	Smokies: Mount LeConte	B/3/B	Steve Falling	423-239-5502

10-11	Lodge			
July 17-18	Wilderness First Aid Course	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rebekah Morrow	423-245-8045
July 22 (Thurs)	F/B: FunFest Moonlight Hike	C/4/C	Terry Oldfield Kim Peters	
July 22-26	Konnarock: White Rocks Mountain A.T. Relocation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Joe DeLoach	423-753-7903
July 24-25	APE's/TEHCC Swiftwater Rescue Course	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mike Morrow	423-245-8045

### **Konnarock Crew**

#### **White Rocks Mountain A.T. Relocation**

**May 27-31, June 17-21, July 22-26 and August 12-16, 2004**

*Contacts: Joe DeLoach (423-234-0374) and Ed Oliver (423-349-6668)*

This year we have four weeks of Konnarock Crew time to continue the series of Appalachian Trail relocations on White Rocks Mountain we began in 2003. White Rocks Mountain is in Carter County, stretching 10 miles trail south of Dennis Cove. We are working on seven individual relocations, with two completed in 2003. The Konnarock Crew works from Thursday through Monday, with Thursday and Monday being short days, and it really helps to get the work done when we have a good turnout of Club volunteers. We have had excellent support for the Konnarock Crew in years past and let's continue that in 2004! Those volunteers who work at least five days with the Crew earn the coveted Konnarock T-shirt. We'll have trips leaving from Colonial Heights at 8:00 AM each day; bring lunch, work gloves, and plenty of water. Please let us know in advance if you'd like to help so we can bring enough tools. For details or to sign up, contact Ed or Joe.

### **National Trails Day Event**

**Work/Hike Trip: Bays Mountain  Laurel Run Parks**

**June 5, 2004**

*Leader: Collins Chew (423-239-6237)*

On Saturday, June 5, 2004, a National Trails Day Event will complete work on a new trail, a decades-old dream for many local outdoor lovers. The new trail will connect existing trails in Bays Mountain Park with Laurel Run Park in Hawkins County by following along the creeks in Kiner Hollow and Laurel Run. The new trail will follow near the creeks with several beautiful waterfalls and cascades. At this time of year, many lovely wildflowers line the trail. TEHCC and BMPA along with some others agreed to sponsor completion of this trail as a celebration of National Trails Day.

A preliminary trip on May 7 completed about half of the work: more than half the trail digging and less than half the brush and blowdown clearing under the leadership of Ed Oliver. Since 21 people participated in this effort, it will be a challenge to complete the

work and paint blazes on the new two-mile trail on June 5. About 500 feet of digging of side-hill trail, 3,300 feet of brush/blowdown clearing, and all the blazing remain to be done.

To reduce congestion in the Laurel Run Parking lot, meet at our regular spot between McDonalds and State of Franklin Bank in Colonial Heights at 8:30 A.M. on Saturday, June 5, and carpool to Laurel Run Park. If it is much more convenient, meet at Laurel Run Park, Tennessee on Saturday, June 5, 2004 at 9:15 A.M. Bring lunch, gloves and wear appropriate clothing. Laurel Run must be forded twice, and if the flow is high (recent rain), wading sneakers are recommended. Because chain saws will be used, Bays Mountain Park will require a release from liability to be signed. The nature of the work makes it inappropriate and unsafe for small children. Let Collins Chew know if you plan to come so he can plan tools. Contact him at 423-239-6237 or . He can also give directions to the park.

## **Eastman Hikers User Group Established**

*Submitted by Kim Peters*

Have you suddenly discovered that you are free for the weekend and would like to go hiking, but there isn't a scheduled hike? Perhaps you want to lead a hike but scheduling in advance is too difficult with your busy schedule? Is there a trail you always wanted to hike but aren't quite sure how to get to the trailhead? Are you in the market for new gear, and wonder if anyone can offer you advice (or some good used stuff)? There are probably lots of other hiking related questions and issues that you would like to discuss with someone in the club. Well, now you can!

An Eastman Hikers User group has been set up on Yahoo for all club members to use for just such occasions. This group site is intended to facilitate communication between club members (and perhaps help some of them get out on the trail more!). Occasionally, we receive notices of general interest to club members, which are not appropriate for the newsletter perhaps due to their commercial nature. We will use this group site to post information of general interest to hikers.

Over the next few weeks each club member with a valid email address will receive an invitation to join Eastman Hikers. When you get this invitation, please take a few minutes to sign up. If you can't wait for your invitation, then you can visit the site

(<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/eastmanhikers>) and make a request to join.

Some notes about use of this group site:

- You must have a Yahoo account to use this group. This is easy to set up and is free.
- This user group will be restricted to club members only and is moderated, no spam or offensive postings will be allowed.
- When signing up, you may choose to receive individual emails such that you get an email every time someone posts a message or you may choose a daily digest (recommended), which will send you one summary email note each day that a posting is made. You can also choose not to receive email at all, but then you must visit the site to read the posts.

- Posts with attachments such as photos will not be accepted. If you want to share some photos you can do so by sending them to either the owner or moderator (listed on the site) who can post them for you.
- When you post or reply to a message, it will by default go to all group members. If you want to reply to an individual then you must select them from the drop-down menu. The Steering Committee has been using a similar user group to provide a forum for discussion of topics between meetings and to evaluate quick requests. It has been successful in keeping the Steering Committee members informed.

**Multiclub Meet 2004  
Camp Wesley Woods; Walland, Tennessee  
September 3-6, 2004**

*Submitted by Steve Perri*

The Smoky Mountains Hiking Club is hosting the annual Multiclub Meet in 2004 at Camp Wesley Woods. The weekend consists of hiking in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and surrounding areas, as well as excursions, slide shows and a dance. There will be plenty of time to spend with friends both old and new.

Located about 30 miles south of Knoxville, Tennessee, Camp Wesley Woods is a beautiful 710-acre retreat 20 minutes from the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Streams, cliffs, mountain forest and river frontage provide stimulating settings for outdoor recreation. Many trails diverge in the woods, leading the inquisitive from valley to ridge tops abundant with wildflowers and wildlife.

Look around their website at [www.campwesleywoods.com](http://www.campwesleywoods.com) to learn more about Camp Wesley Woods and the outdoor experience that they enjoy offering to you.

There will be accommodations in cabins or in your own tents. Two cabins at Wesley Woods have been reserved with a capacity of 12 people each. Spaces in the cabin rent for \$11 per person per night. Tent camping is available at various sites around the Wesley Woods compound. Tent sites cost \$5/person/night. Meals are served by the camp staff at Tipton Lodge. Wesley Woods does not provide supper on Fridays, but there are several restaurants within easy driving distance. Wesley Woods provides only cold meals on Sundays.

For more information about Multiclub 2004, contact Dianne Gruber or Pete James at 865-977 0807 or .

**NC Court of Appeals Rules in Favor of A.T.  
in Putnam Mine Case**

*Submitted by Steve Perri*

On May 4, 2004, the North Carolina Court of Appeals delivered a unanimous decision (3-0) in favor of the Appalachian Trail Conference, the National Parks Conservation Association, the State of North Carolina, and the tenacious local citizen's group led by Jay Leutze □ Citizens to Protect Belview. The Court of Appeals reversed the Superior

Court on all counts and upheld the revocation of the mine permit issued to Clark Stone to operate the Putnam Mine in view from Hump Mountain on the A.T. along the TN/NC state line.

This is a sweeping win for the State and the Appalachian Trail and clarifies that the State has the authority to protect the environment in permitting decisions, even after issuance. It also reinforces the State's authority to correct its mistakes since Clark Stone's appeal was that the State could not revoke a permit that had been granted to Clark Stone. Clark Stone can appeal the matter to the NC Supreme Court, but the Supreme Court does not have to take it up (2-1 decisions can be appealed automatically; 3-0 decisions only go up at the discretion of the Supreme Court). If the NC Supreme Court agrees to hear the appeal, that would happen late fall or next winter if at all. If the Supreme Court will not hear it, or if Clark Stone does not appeal, the matter is closed.

The attorneys from the Environmental Law Center and Jim Gulick at the NC Department of Justice are to be commended for over-seeing the favorable decision through the justice system.

This has been a long battle since the initial effort to communicate the potential negative visual and audible impacts of the mine on the A.T. was first brought to the attention of the A.T. community and management partnerships in 2000 by Jay Leutze. The following organizations and individuals are to be congratulated: Appalachian Trail Conference, National Parks Conservation Association, Unincorporated Association of Citizens to Protect Belview Mountain, Jay Leutze, and Ollie Cox, Faye Williams and Trip Van Noppen of the Southern Environmental Law Center for handling the case.

## **Richard Guinn To Replace Cory Wells on TEHCC Steering Committee**

*Submitted by Vic Hasler*

Cory Wells continues to be on shift work, and thus cannot fulfill his role on the TEHCC Steering Committee. Richard Guinn, whose input had been appreciated for the prior two years, has agreed to return to the Steering Committee. Per Section 1 of Article IV of the club constitution, he can fill the vacancy until the next election; thus four positions will be open. Please consider if you can help guide the general business of TEHCC as eight nominees will be sought this fall.

## **Reminder to Potential Eastman Chemical Company Retirees**

*Submitted by Richard Colberg*

If you plan to retire from Eastman and would like to continue receiving the TEHCC newsletter, please send Richard Colberg () an e-mail note with your home e-mail address (if you have e-mail at home) as well as your home street address. We prefer to send the newsletter via e-mail to save us time and money, and so you can receive it (and any late hike notices) in a more timely manner. However, we would also like your street address so we can still reach you if your e-mail address changes. Thanks.

## Introductory Whitewater School June 3-6, 2004



*Submitted by Rebekah Morrow*

The 32<sup>nd</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup>. 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 3 <sup>rd</sup> (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 5 <sup>th</sup> (Sat)	Lake and River Trip, class I-II. 9:00 AM Duck Island Parking Lot Warriors Path State Park, Kingsport, TN Students must participate on Saturday to participate on Sunday.
June 6 <sup>th</sup> (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:** \$25.00 per student payable by April 30<sup>th</sup>. (Make checks out to Rebekah Morrow, see address below). Plus membership fee, payable at the Thursday evening lecture.

**Registration:** Complete and return the form below and mail it along with your check by **April 30<sup>th</sup> to Rebekah Morrow, 1900 Madison Ave., Kingsport, TN 37665.** Feel free to call for more details.

**Questions:** Contact Rebekah Morrow at (423) 245-8045.

**REGISTRATION FORM**  **Introductory Whitewater School**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Craft (please check one): 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)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any health related conditions the instructor should be aware of during this course? If so, please explain (this info will only be made available to the instructor(s) but if you would feel more comfortable talking with them in private about your condition, please do so):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Wilderness First Aid Course**  
**July 17-18, 2004**  
**Eastman Lodge**  **Kingsport, TN**



*Submitted by Rebekah Morrow*

The Appalachian Paddling Enthusiasts (APE□s) and Tennessee Eastman Hiking and Canoe Club (TEHCC) are sponsoring a Wilderness First Aid (WFA) course taught by Stonehearth Open Learning Opportunities (SOLO). The course will be tailored to the needs of the class participants. For example, if the participants consist mainly of hiking enthusiasts, the instructor(s) will gear the class towards the needs of hikers. There is a great need for this training in our local paddling, hiking, and outdoors enthusiast community. Red Cross First Aid is not enough for the situations outdoor enthusiasts place themselves in for recreation. Below is an explanation of the course from SOLO□s website ([www.soloschools.com/wfa.html](http://www.soloschools.com/wfa.html)):

*□...Very few first aid programs actually address the issues of providing emergency care in a rural, wilderness, or extended care setting. This is SOLO's twenty-fifth year offering its workshops in Wilderness First Aid. Designed specifically for groups and their leaders, this 16-hour program covers topics ranging from preparation and prevention to assessment and treatment. All SOLO instructors are experienced rescue personnel with extensive outdoor experience and have been selected not only for their expertise in emergency medicine and rescue, but also for their teaching skills. Classroom lectures and discussions are supplemented by practical work and problem-solving exercises. The emphasis is always on hands-on experience. Scenarios are an important part of this training.*

**Day 1:**

- Patient Assessment System**
- Shock**
- Long-Term Patient Care**
- Soft Tissue Injuries**

**Day 2:**

- Environmental Emergencies**
- Fractures/Dislocations**
- Splint Improvisation**
- Preparedness**

*While much of the material appears to be standard emergency care information, the backcountry emphasis with long-term care and evacuation complications makes this course unique. Course material can be somewhat modified to meet the specific needs of a group, i.e. cycling, kayaking, climbing, etc. Since the principles of first aid are taught, this program is really applicable to any emergency situation. □*

Obtaining this knowledge is a very important element in safety regardless of the activity you participate in. This information could help save your friends and your own life!

**The fee for the course is \$115.00.** This fee includes the course registration fee, mailing, and travel expenses for the instructor(s). Once received, this fee is non-refundable. However, if an emergency arises, a substitute may be found to take your



spot in the class.

**Location:** The course will be held all day Saturday, July 17<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, July 18<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 am until ~6:00 pm and will be held at the Eastman Lodge in Kingsport, TN.

**How To Register:** Please mail the attached registration form along with a check made out to **Rebekah Morrow, 1900 Madison Ave, Kingsport, TN 37665**. The deadline for registration is **May 1, 2004**. An equipment list and other information will be sent out to each confirmed student about a month prior to the course. You are confirmed for the course when your payment has been received.

**If you have any questions**, you may contact Rebekah Morrow by phone at (423)245-8045 (before 10:00 pm, please) or e-mail at .

**REGISTRATION FORM  Wilderness First Aid Course**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

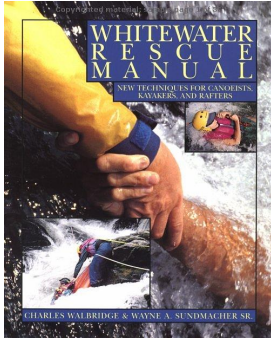
List of Outdoor Activities you participate in::

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

List of Previous First Aid Courses taken and/or First Aid Experience:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**APE's / TEHCC Swiftwater Rescue Course  
July 24-25, 2004**



*Submitted by Mike Morrow*

APE's and TEHCC are offering an ACA Format Swiftwater Rescue Course taught by Mike Morrow. This is a full weekend course and covers a lot of topics in Swiftwater Rescue tailored to recreational paddlers. This course should be a must take for anyone who regularly paddles our streams and rivers. The course is very physically demanding. So, you must be fit enough to participate. I guarantee that you will be tired and winded even if you think you are in shape.

**Location:** Saturday's session will be at Eastman Chemical Company's Lodge at Bay's Mountain. Sunday's river location will be determined Saturday and depends on water level.

**Description:** This is an intensive course involving classroom instruction, dry land practice and in water drills. The topics covered are: Accident Prevention, Rescue Philosophy, Rescue Equipment (ropes, carabineers, pulleys, rescue pfd, etc ), Swimming Skills in rapids (you will learn to ferry, catch eddies and peel out without your boat), Wading Skills, Rope Handling, Foot Entrapment Release Techniques, Mechanical Advantage, Tag Lines, Stabilization Lines, Zip Lines, Releasing Boat Pins, and some Useful Knots.

**Prerequisites:** The course is open to ADULT (18 years old or older) APE and TEHCC members. All paddling skill levels are welcome. Remember, this will not be a paddling weekend. It is a physically strenuous weekend so you must be fit and be able to swim competently. It will also be a very fun weekend! You will be amazed how much fun you can have swimming in rapids.

**How to Register:** Please mail the following registration form and a **check made out to Mike Morrow for the amount of \$65.00 to 1900 Madison Ave., Kingsport, TN 37665.** (Note: course fee has increased due to increased costs from ACA.) The course will be limited to twelve students but a waiting list will be started if needed. If you do not get into the course, your money will be returned. You are registered when the items listed above are received. **Your registration information must be in no later than June 25, 2004.**

Two to three weeks prior to the course, you will receive a packet of information about the course. **If you have any questions about the course, feel free to contact Mike Morrow by phone at (423) 245-8045 (evenings before 10:00pm, please) or by e-mail at .**

### REGISTRATION FORM Swiftwater Rescue Course

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone:

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Experience (check one): Beginner \_\_\_ Novice \_\_\_ Intermediate \_\_\_ Expert \_\_\_

Average number of times paddle per year: \_\_\_\_\_

I paddle (check one): Year Round \_\_\_ Warm Weather Only \_\_\_

List previous SWR courses taken:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

List up to five rivers you have paddled and their Classes (I, II, III, IV, V, if applicable):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any health related conditions the instructor should be aware of during this course? If so, please explain (this info will only be made available to the instructor(s) but if you would feel more comfortable talking with them in private about your condition, please do so):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

**A.T. Hike Notice: Cloudland to Grassy Ridge, June 12, 2004**

*Hike Leader: Vic Hasler (423-239-0388)*

*Rating: B/3/C*

Enjoy the upper ridge of the Roan highlands! This hike will start at the upper parking lot (\$3 fee) for the former Cloudland hotel, head over Roan High Knob to Carvers Gap, and then pick up the Grassy Ridge leg, which is one of the TEHCC favorite hikes. I would like to stage a car in the gap to avoid the return hike up. Refer to A.T. Guide Section 7 (11<sup>th</sup> Ed.) mi. 2.6 to 4.6 and into Section 6 (relocation not described). I would also like to use a GPS to find hidden □geocaches□ (see waypoints GCF20A, GCE515 and GC64D5). E-mail or call 239-0388 if you have any questions. We'll meet at the usual spot by McDonald's in Colonial Heights at 8:00 AM. A meeting location can also be arranged in Johnson City. Timing is an attempt to hit the azaleas, but not the main festival. Wear appropriate clothing for the weather (hike will be postponed in case of heavy rain).

**Backpack/Hikes: Twenty Mile Creek (Smokies 900 miler); June 18-20, 2004**

*Leader: G. S. Luttrell (423-239-9854)*

*Rating: A/3/C*

We'll start at Twenty Mile Ranger Station, backpack 4.1 mi. to walk-in campsite #92, and set up camp for two nights. We'll do short day hikes in the area on Friday and Sunday. On Saturday, we'll hike the Long Hungry Ridge Trail (2,000 ft. climb over 3 1/2 mi.), then on to see the Flame Azalea display on Gregory Bald, to Parson Bald, down Wolf Ridge Trail, and back to the campsite for a 15 mi. day. We'll leave from the usual Colonial Heights / McDonalds parking area early on Friday, June 18. Group size is limited to 8 persons, so you'll need to reserve your spot with the hike leader early. Contact the hike leader by phone or for more information and to reserve your spot.

**Twenty Mile Ranger Station:** In 1921 was the site of Kitchens Lumber Company, who used a 50' steamboat and a crane on a barge to haul logs and equipment on Cheoah Reservoir.

**Long Hungry Ridge Trail:** Named for a spot where a group of hunters got marooned in a heavy snow storm and almost starved to death.

**Wolf Ridge:** On this ridge, Russell Gregory and Andy Greer tracked and killed a wolf who had apparently killed 20 sheep grazing on the bald.

**Overnight Hike: Mount LeConte Lodge (Smoky Mountains); July 10-11, 2004**

*Leader: Steve Falling (423-239-5502)*

*Rating: B/3/B (Moderate)*

The Hiking Club will repeat its annual overnight hike to Mount LeConte Lodge in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. We will hike up on Saturday, spend the night in two cabins (double bunk beds!) and hike back down on Sunday. The distance is 5.5 to 7.8 miles one-way depending on the route. The cost per person is \$91.43. This price covers supper on Saturday, lodging for the night and breakfast on Sunday. We only have reservations for eight people, so call in your request before sending money.

**Overnight Hike: Charit Creek Lodge (Big South Fork); October 23-24, 2004**

*Leader: Steve Falling (423-239-5502)*

*Rating: Easy to Moderate*



The Hiking Club has reservations for 12 overnight visitors to Charit Creek Lodge in the beautiful Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area. This park is on the Kentucky-Tennessee border north of Knoxville. We are timing this trip to enjoy the autumn foliage and cooler temperatures. We will hike in on Saturday, spend the night in two 12-person rooms in the lodge and hike back on Sunday. There are several hiking trails to choose from (0.8 to 11 miles one-way). Last trip, we took the short trail, dropped off our gear at the lodge, and then explored the area. There are many interesting geological formations nearby—for example, the [massive double natural bridge](#) pictured at left.

The cost per person is \$65.00. This price covers supper on Saturday, lodging for the night and breakfast on Sunday. We only have reservations for 12 people, so call in your request before sending money.

## Special Activity and Trip Reports (Past)

### Hike Report: Lakeshore Trail (Smokies); April 22-25, 2004

*Submitted by G. S. Luttrell*

The original plan was for one group to hike together; but with 10 hikers, we were able to split into two groups, simplify the shuttles, and hike in opposite directions. The northbound group included Taylor Pickard, Owen Holbrook, Randall Simpson, and Garry Luttrell. In the southbound group were Dave Dunham, Carol Dunham, Ken Buchanan, Lauren Huffman, Kim Peters, and Larry Miller.

From the Burger King parking lot in Bryson City, the southbound group drove the northbound group's cars to the trailhead at the Tunnel to Nowhere to begin; the northbound group drove the other group's cars to the trailhead at Fontana Dam. Since the southbound group got an early start, they decided to hike past the planned campsite and go on to campsite #98, Chamber's Creek. The northbound group spent their first night at campsite #90, Eagle Creek.

On Friday night [both groups](#) had a great time camping together at campsite #77, Pilkey Creek. Saturday night found each group at the last campsites on each end of the Lakeshore Trail, #90, Eagle Creek, on the Fontana Dam end, and #74, Forney Creek, on the north end. Some of those with gas stoves were giving Dave a little grief about his wood burning Sierra Zip Stove; but, Dave got the last laugh on Saturday night when many of them ran out of fuel and had to ask to use his stove to prepare dinner.

One of the more interesting features of this hike was to see the abandoned homesites (over 600 families had to move) and [1930's era cars](#) left to rust after the lake was filled.

Tires weren't available during the war effort, so cars were left on the side of the road when the tires wore out. Another highlight was the abundance of wildflowers. Taylor helped identify the following: Lousewort, Blood Root (leaves only), May Apple, Foam Flower, Fire Pink, Common Cinquefoil, Star Grass, [Catesby's Trillium](#), Toadshade (red trillium), Yellow Trillium, Dwarf Iris (crested?), Pink Lady Slipper, Flame Azalea, [Little Brown Jug](#), Wild Geranium, Wild Oats, Dog Hobble, Sweet Shrub, Pink Wood Sorrel, False Solomon Seal, Purple Wakerobin, Halberd Leaved Yellow Violet, Bird Foot Violet???, various other violets, Dogwood, Lyre Leaved Sage, and Wild Comfrey. The weather was great for backpacking the 35 mile Lakeshore Trail, with just a few drops of rain on Thursday night.

*Click on the small photo or hyperlink to see larger photo. Photos courtesy of G. S.*

Luttrell.



[Both groups](#) at Campsite #77, Pilkey Creek. Seated from left, Carol, Larry, Lauren, and Kim. Standing from left, Ken, Garry, Dave, Taylor, Randall, and Owen (113 kB).



[Abandoned 1930's era car](#) (213 kB).



[Catesby's Trillium](#) (43 kB).



[Little Brown Jug](#) (121 kB). *Photo courtesy of Randall Simpson.*

### Hike Report: Erwin Indian Creek Linear Park; May 1, 2004

*Submitted by Vic Hasler*

The forecast of thundershowers (occurring later in the day) switched the venue of this hike from Big Baldy (which was my birthday goal) to the stated back-up of the Indian Creek linear park trail in Erwin. This path is like the Kingsport Greenbelt—only nicer, with a clean tread, solid bridges, and many light posts. The end-to-end distance is roughly three miles. My son Clark and I walked it in sections finding several hidden geocache containers — including one guarded by a 1' black snake (yikes!). We saw Eastman retiree Jim Leach out on the trail. Finally, we learned more about Erwin as a city while finding several 1935 U.S. Geological Survey benchmarks by the courthouse and the old Unicoi high school now being torn down.

## Appalachian Trail Section Maintenance and Special Project Reports (*Past*)

**Name:** Bruce Cunningham

**Date:** April 15, 2004

**Purpose:** Finish new relocation

**Section:** 16 - Hughes Gap to Iron Mountain Gap

**Location:** Worked on new trail relocation on both sides of Iron Mountain Gap

**Number:** 2

**Total Hours:** 20

**People:** Bruce Cunningham, Ed Oliver

**Individual Hours:** 10 hours (Ed Oliver) + 10 hours (Bruce Cunningham)

**Summary:** Finished work on relocations both sides of Iron Mountain Gap. Weeds on

north side of gap (especially orchard area) need attention.

**Name:** Kim Peters

**Date:** April 17, 2004

**Purpose:** Paint blazes, lop and clear

**Section:** 12 - Bitter End to U.S. 19E

**Location:** Campbell Hollow Rd to U.S. 19E

**Number:** 3

**Total Hours:** 21

**People:** Terry Oldfield, Larry Miller, Kim Peters

**Individual Hours:** 3 x 7 hours

**Summary:** Larry dropped Terry and me off at Campbell Hollow Road then drove on to 19E to leave his truck and hike up and meet us. We saw one thru-hiker at Campbell Hollow who said the trail was in good shape except for all the trash - he expressed amazement at the amount of trash. Terry and I walked south painting blazes and clipping brush while Larry hiked north clipping weeds and briars. We met somewhere in the middle, had lunch, and then all walked down to 19E together. It was a beautiful, warm, sunny day and we met many thru-hikers and section hikers (I lost count). We only encountered one large tree across the trail at the base of Bishops Hollow and this one looked like it had been deliberately felled, perhaps to discourage motor vehicles. We cleared out some branches to make it easier to walk under and then watched a thru-hiker negotiate it without missing a step. There was an amazing amount of trash at Bear Branch, but we left it for another day (and a large truck to haul it with).

**Name:** Carl Fritz

**Date:** April 19, 2004

**Purpose:** Trail Assessment for Park Service

**Section:** 17 - Iron Mountain Gap to switchback in USFS 230

**Location:** Entire Section 17

**Number:** 3

**Total Hours:** 30

**People:** Matt Davis, Mike Hupko, Ed Oliver

**Individual Hours:** 3x10 hrs (everyone)

**Summary:** This was the second assessment on a TEHCC section.

**Name:** John Arwood for SOFG Sierra Club

**Date:** April 29, 2004

**Purpose:** Removal of reported blowdown.

**Section:** 7 - Big Laurel Branch Wilderness boundary (north) to Watauga Dam Road

**Location:** Entire section from Watagua Dam Road north.

**Number:** 3

**Total Hours:** 29

**People:** John Arwood, Craig Deloach, Richard Foster.

**Individual Hours:** 3x9.6 hours

**Summary:** Did not find reported blowdown. Cut back rhododendrons and briars from trail. Trimmed rhododendrons blocking view at rest stop. Removed trash from Vandeventer Shelter. Left new register at shelter.

**Name:** Steve Perri

**Date:** April 30, 2004

**Purpose:** Annual Maintenance and Trail Assessment

**Section:** 6 - Turkey Pen Gap to Big Laurel Branch Wilderness boundary (north)

**Location:** Section 6

**Number:** 6

**Total Hours:** 72

**People:** Ken Buchanan, Jim Foster, Bruce Cunningham, Ed Oliver, Morgan Sommerville, Steve Perri

**Individual Hours:** 12 hrs each

**Summary:** We drove two 4WD vehicles up Elliott Hollow while the rain threatened as we stopped to remove some fallen trees and brush from the USFS road. We drove about 50 yards from the apple orchard south of Turkey Pen Gap about 0.5 mi. Ed, Morgan and Jim hiked trail north while Morgan conducted a trail survey. They hiked to Turkey Pen Gap, painting blazes, then hiked to Vandeventer Shelter recording trail work needs. Bruce, Ken and I hiked to the wilderness boundary and cleared about a dozen blowdowns with a chain saw, clipped rhododendrons and briars and painted blazes. Morgan and Ed caught up with us as we turned around at the boundary. We removed remaining plastic blazes on the way out. Four of us got back to our vehicles and waited for Ed and Morgan to return from their endpoint at Vandeventer. Jim and Ken didn't work hard enough so they decided to walk down the mountain. When Morgan and Ed arrived we drove down expecting to catch up with Ken and Jim. They were no where to be found at the gates, so I sent Bruce on ahead to see if they walked on further. I think Forest Gump must have been their inspiration since they were waiting on us at TN 91. I was glad we didn't have to go back up the mountain to look for them. The weather cooperated mostly with a little rain around 3:30 for about 20 min. The section is clear and painted both directions, but will need some weed cutting in about 6 weeks.

**Name:** Carl Fritz

**Date:** May 4, 2004

**Purpose:** Clear trail relocation

**Section:** 12 - Bitter End to U.S. 19E

**Location:** Trail North of Walnut Mountain Road

**Number:** 7

**Total Hours:** 62

**People:** Paul Benfield, Bruce Cunningham, Bill Elderbrock, Jim Foster, Carl Fritz, Peter King, Ed Oliver

**Individual Hours:** 8 hrs (Paul) + 6x9 hrs (everyone else)

**Summary:** We cleared by lopping and chain sawing the remaining part of the relocation down to the stream. Two bridges and two culverts will be required for this wet area. We are hoping the Hard Core will help us dig all of this relocation.

**Name:** Carl Fritz

**Date:** May 4, 2004

**Purpose:** Move Privy at Overmountain Barn

**Section:** 14 - Hump Mountain to Carvers Gap

**Location:** Overmountain Shelter



**Number:** 8

**Total Hours:** 62

**People:** Bob Peoples, HIKERS John Ard, Chris Hoffpauir, Kate Kiarsi, Brian Racthiar, Joe Yarmac, Joanne 'The Sampler', Joe Browloski

**Individual Hours:** 6 hours (Joe Browloski) + 7x8 hrs (everyone else)

**Summary:** The privy was reported to be full. Six hikers at Kincora Hostel agreed to convene the Privy Council. As Bob was leaving the hostel with the hikers, one hiker came running after the truck. Can you believe that Bob almost prevented a hiker from doing trail maintenance! He recovered himself and recruited another hiker at Overmountain Shelter. The privy was full to within three inches of the lid. The crew dug a larger hole both in depth and width nearer the shelter. They encountered some small rocks so it took time to dig. They picked up the privy at the four corners and moved it to the new hole. They covered the old hole with leaf litter, several logs and some more leaf litter. Photos by the hikers were taken of the last hiker to use the old location, Bob and "The Sampler" sitting on new throne location, and the first hiker to use new site.

**Name:** Steve Perri

**Date:** May 6, 2004

**Purpose:** Maintenance Trip Report

**Section:** 9 - U.S. 321 to Hampton trailhead

**Location:** Pond Mountain, US 321 to Pond Flats

**Number:** 2

**Total Hours:** 18

**People:** Darrol Nickels, John Thompson

**Individual Hours:** 9 hrs each

**Summary:** Darrol Nickels and John Thompson worked on the adopted section of John and Frank Williams while Frank is recovering from surgery. This 3.2 mi section is in good shape and little maintenance was required. We clipped, touched up about a dozen faded blazes (mostly shaded areas) and removed small blowdowns. One foot path problem worth reporting involved narrow trail width, mostly over several hundred yards about mid-way, due to inside (uphill) dirt bank sloughing. This could be repaired rather easily with rakes by Tuesday or Third Saturday groups.

**Name:** Bruce Cunningham

**Date:** May 11, 2004

**Purpose:** Prepare trail for Hard Core work

**Section:** 12 - Bitter End to U.S. 19E

**Location:** 2 miles south of Bitter End

**Number:** 13

**Total Hours:** 114

**People:** Bruce Cunningham, Bill Elderbrock, Ed Oliver, Ken Buchanan, Hueston Fournier, Jim Foster, Peter King, Paul Benfield, Bob Peoples, Sleep the Arab, Jack Rabbit f, Indigo f, Otto dog Raven

**Individual Hours:** 11 hours (Ed Oliver) + 10 hours (Bruce Cunningham) + 9hrs (Bill Elderbrock, Ken Buchanan, Jim Foster, Peter King) + 6 x 8 hours (everyone else)

**Summary:** Continued preparation for "HARD CORE" □clipped new trail not done last week and carried in and assembled 2 bridges and partly installed one.

**Name:** C. B. Willis for the Old Timers

**Date:** May 14, 2004

**Purpose:** Needed trail maintenance

**Section:** 17 - Iron Mountain Gap to switchback in USFS 230

**Location:** Low Gap area

**Number:** 5

**Total Hours:** 30

**People:** Faye Guinn, Howard Guinn, Dave McMillin, Clyde Taylor, Mike Hupko, Leader.

**Individual Hours:** 6 hours everyone

**Summary:** We cut an 18" tree over the trail which was blocking it fairly well. We also reworked about 400' of trail treadway from the side trail (the old A.T.) toward Low Gap. Dug out and leveled the eroded trail. Installed side logs in places needed. Checked about 1000 feet beyond where we stopped and it looked good. We can check more of the trail treadway when we do the weed cutting. We have 12 long, steel fence posts which Mike Hupko has painted and made ready to install. We will place these on Beauty Spot and the meadow at Beauty Spot Gap, maybe also using one or two on the south side of Unaka where the alders could blind the hikers. One of our members has a pole driver so we are hopeful of getting this done either June 9 or June 14th. We will also finish refreshing the blazes on one or both of these dates. Have only 3 miles left to do.

**Name:** Jeff Siirola

**Date:** May 15, 2004

**Purpose:** Annual Maintenance

**Section:** 12 - Bitter End to U.S. 19E

**Location:** Splashdam Falls - Campbell Hollow Road

**Number:** 5

**Total Hours:** 31

**People:** Richard Colberg, Cinda Foglesong, Paul Scherrer, Jeff and Sharon Siirola

**Individual Hours:** 3 hours (Sharon Siirola) + 4x7 hours (everyone else)

**Summary:** Regular spring maintenance including trimming, stair and waterbar clearing, minor blowdown removal, blazing (in both directions), and weeding especially along the Elk River. An additional weeding trip will be repeated in six weeks.

**Name:** Joe DeLoach

**Date:** May 16, 2004

**Purpose:** Cut blowdowns and weeds, pick up trash

**Section:** 2 - Backbone Rock trail junction to Abingdon Gap Shelter

**Location:** North of Abingdon Gap Shelter

**Number:** 1

**Total Hours:** 7

**People:** Joe DeLoach

**Individual Hours:** 7

**Summary:** Cut a blowdown reported by Richard Colberg. The main trunk remains but is easy to step over. Hauled trash out of the shelter area and cut weeds and briars.

**Name:** Carl Fritz

**Date:** May 16-17, 2004

**Purpose:** Trail Relocation by Damascus Hard-Core

**Section:** 12 - Bitter End to U.S. 19E

**Location:** About one mile trail north of Walnut Mountain Road

**Number:** 99

**Total Hours:** 1581

**People:**

*TEHCC:* Paul Benfield, Hazel Benfield, Ken Buchanan, Bruce Cunningham, Mary Cunningham, Scott Fecher, Hueston Fortner, Jim Foster, Jan Foster, Lauren Huffman, Mike Hupko, Peter King, Ed Oliver, Bob Peoples, Pat Peoples, Steve Perri, Kim Peters, Jeff Siirola;

*HIKERS:* Phil Abruzzese, Carlos Adaines, Baltimore Jack, Hank Baudet, Jennifer Berry, Dave Boettcher, Matt Bowler, Andrew Breecher, Patrick Bridegam, Clint Bunting, Kyle Carter, Charlotte Chatto, Heesoo Chang, Chef Paul, Mike Coffman, Patrick Cortright, Robert Coveney, Crispy Critter, Evan Dameson, Heath Davidson, Patrick Deaner, Barbara Duffy, Ernest Engman, Larry Filion, Taryn Friedman, Jason Friggens, Doug Game2k, Alden Garland, Craig Garland, Marina Garland, Peter Garlin, Brian Gully, Robert Hannon, Chris Hoffpaur, Chris Hoina, Tom Holz, Matt Howard, Mark Huckeba, Jay Hunt, Mark Jernigan, Kevin Jones, John Jowers, Robert Jiudzinski, Sarah Keister, James Klopovic, Jerid Kurtz, Franklin LaFond, Jerimah Laggett, Michael Laude, Jan Lectschoh, Jason Lee, John Lomachinsky, Ryan Lorah, Bill Maroni, Steve Elreath, Thomas Messier, Ty Mickleton., Amber Middleton, Philip Moldenhauer, Simon Morris, Jason Mott, Becky Moyers, Lewis Moyers, Sarah

Myers, Greg Mu, Mark Murphy, Alex Noel, Steve Olson, Otto & Raven, Mike Police, Ian Rees, Jessica Rickelson, Melissa Shaw, Alan Shorb, Rikan Shimnel, Mike Smith, Adam Stanley, Amy Sternhelm, Jen Stewart, Kara Tholen, Kyle Tholen, Rebecca Tomlinson, Allen Tyler, Scott VanDam, Adam Varga, Steve Werts, Dan Winter, Joe Yarmac

**Summary:** The 4<sup>th</sup> annual Damascus Hard-Core work trip was another great event. The two days of work involved 99 individuals and almost 1600 hours. Eighteen were TEHCC members or program affiliates. The remaining 81 were enthusiastic volunteer hikers. They came for work and work they did! There were many rhododendrons and short terrain dips that contained about three feet of duff. Over 2000 feet of sidehill trail was built as a relocation to remove a steep and eroding section.

Also, the hikers helped install two twelve foot bog bridges, a step-over and a culvert pipe to get the new trail over a stream and boggy area. This has been a long time problem area on the A.T. This new section was blazed and opened to hikers. The old trail was brushed in and the blazes removed.

Eastman Chemical Company again graciously supplied two 15-passenger vans for transporting many of the hikers from and back to Damascus as well as to the hostels at night. The vans together with personal vehicles of hikers and club members provided all the transportation needs.

Needless to say, with this many hikers, Sunday and Monday evenings found Kincora Hostel which was built for sixteen hikers a little overbooked. Other hostels, pasture fields and porches filled with hikers quickly.

Sunday evening we traditionally detoured to Shook Branch Recreation Area to feast on

barbecue, baked beans and salad, graciously supplied by Bruce and Mary Cunningham. The strawberry shortcake was delayed until Monday evening because of a sudden downpour. Likewise, Monday evening we retreated to Kincora Hostel for lasagna and all the trimmings. Thanks go to Baltimore Jack and Pat Peoples for preparing this scrumptious meal. Bob capped the evening by distributing the coveted Damascus Hard-Core patches. Those who had worked multiple years received rocker patches. *Click on the small photo or hyperlink to see larger photo. Photos courtesy of Steve Perri.*



[Gathering together](#) on the first day (128 kB).



Ed Oliver [providing training](#) (128 kB).



[Hard-Core crew](#) finishing lunch (118 kB).



Bob Peoples [awarding Hard-Core patches](#) (101 kB).

**Name:** Richard Colberg

**Date:** May 22, 2004

**Purpose:** Annual Spring Maintenance

**Section:** 16 - Hughes Gap to Iron Mountain Gap

**Location:** Greasy Creek Gap to Iron Mountain Gap

**Number:** 5

**Total Hours:** 45

**People:** Richard Colberg, Steve Perri, Jeff Sirola, Kent and Nancy Wilson

**Individual Hours:** 9 hours each

**Summary:** Clipped and lopped annual growth, cut weeds (especially in Weedy Gap and in the Orchard), cleaned waterbars, and painted blazes (southbound). No blowdowns. FYI, parked one car at Greasy Creek "Friendly" Hostel □ last house on the left near the end of Greasy Creek Road. (Approx. 0.7 mi walk from hostel to A.T. at Greasy Creek Gap.) A very friendly couple runs the hostel and they welcome hikers (and maintainers).

**Name:** Steve Banks

**Date:** May 23, 2004

**Purpose:** Cut weeds

**Section:** 3 - Abingdon Gap Shelter to U.S. 421 (Low Gap)

**Location:** Abingdon Gap Shelter to Double Springs Gap

**Number:** 1

**Total Hours:** 8

**People:** Steve Banks

**Individual Hours:** 8

**Summary:** Cut weeds between Abingdon Gap Shelter and the south end of my adopted section. The weeds were higher than expected, and really needed cutting. One of the thru-hikers I spoke with said the weeds around Watauga Lake also need cutting.