

THE TENNESSEE EASTMAN HIKING & PADDLING NEWS

June 2005

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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<u>NEXT TWO MONTHS</u>				
			<u>Contact</u>	
Jun 2,4,5	Introductory Whitewater School		Rebekah Morrow	423-245-8045
Jun 9-13	Konnarock Crew	Maintenance	Ed Oliver	423-349-6668
Jun 11	Bay's Mountain Park (F/B)	C/3/D	Neil Dotson	423-323-3493
Jun 18	Sugarland Mountain Trail (S900M)	A/3/C	Garry Luttrell	423-239-9854
Jul 2-8	Biennial Meeting of the ATC		Collins Chew	423-239-6237
Jul 9-10	Mount LeConte Lodge, Smokies	B/3/B	Steve Falling	423-239-5502

For an explanation of the hike ratings, see [Hiking Schedule](#).

Reminder to Potential Eastman Chemical Company Retirees

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.

2005 ATC Southern Region Multi-Club Conference Hosted by the Natural Bridge Appalachian Trail Club

The September ATC Multi-Club Conference for the Southern Region will be held at Sherando Lake USFS Recreation Area over the Labor Day weekend, September 2-5, 2005. Sherando is located on the west side of the Blue Ridge and has easy access from Interstate 81 near Staunton, Virginia, and the Blue Ridge Parkway.

The Sherando Recreation Area offers rustic camping with many trails for hiking coupled with all the conveniences of a State Park (2 lakes for fishing, hand powered boating, swimming beach with bathhouse and concessions pavilion). In addition, there is direct access to the Appalachian Trail and the scenic Blue Ridge Parkway via hiking trails or paved roads. There are many back roads (and the Blue Ridge Parkway) for bicycle riders. The area around Sherando abounds with interesting sites from Rocky's Antique Mall (largest discount jewelry store) in Harrisonburg to a Frontier Culture Museum or the Woodrow Wilson Historic Home in Staunton. The Rockbridge Vineyards, Buffalo Spring Herb Farm, Cyrus McCormick Farm, P. Buckley Moss Art Museum and Wintergreen Resort are all located within a 20 mile radius of Sherando. And, of course, there are many Civil War historic battlefields and sites in the local Shenandoah Valley area.

For those serious hikers, there are many hikes planned for Saturday and Sunday both on the AT and side trail areas. They will range from all day hikes to ½ day easy hikes with NBATC members as guides. There are many easy scenic hike areas on the Blue Ridge Parkway (Humpback Rocks, etc.) that are available for small children.

The Natural Bridge Appalachian Trail Club will be hosting the Multi-Club conference and intends to make it an enjoyable weekend for everyone. Dinners, entertainment hikes and tours are planned for participants on Saturday & Sunday. To obtain a printable registration form, click [here](#). For more detailed information click [here](#) or contact Laurie Foot at, .

Volunteers Needed for Appalachian Trail Conference July 1 - 8, 2005



Submitted by Steve Perri

TEHCC is one of the host clubs for the 35th meeting of the Appalachian Trail Conference (ATC) to be held Friday, July 1, through Friday, July 8, at East Tennessee State University. The theme of this conference is "Remembering Our Past, Preserving Our Future". We expect nearly 1,200 hikers, volunteer trail maintainers, ATC staff, and others interested in outdoor recreation, conservation, and the A.T. to attend this year's meeting. Many exciting activities are planned including daily hikes, excursions to nearby historical and recreational attractions, and a special

children's program.

The planning committee, staffed by volunteers from TEHCC, Smoky Mountains Hiking Club, Carolina Mountain Club, Nantahala Hiking Club, and Georgia Appalachian Trail Club has been hard at work to ensure that this is a successful conference. As many of you know

from working or attending past conferences, there is ample need for additional volunteers. Please consider volunteering for a day or part of a day to help make this a successful and memorable meeting.

Volunteer opportunities:

- Lead hikes (experienced hikers especially welcome!)
- Staff booths
- Staff registration tables
- Help with hike parking and logistics

Many of our volunteers will receive a special token of appreciation. We are most appreciative of any and all volunteers - it is only through such assistance that we can offer the many activities for this conference.

For questions or to volunteer, please contact the following individuals:

Hikes: Collins Chew;

Booths and logistics: Kim Peters;

Registration: Van Hill;

Call for Hikes: July - September 2005

Submitted by Neil Dotson

It is time to get the hiking schedule together for the third quarter of the year. To schedule a hike, send me a note or call me, to let me know:

- what hike you'd like to lead (where)
- what day you'd like to lead it (when)
- the difficulty rating (see current calendar for the rating system, but if this is confusing, I will try to help)

I'd like responses by Friday, June 10. Calling might be preferable, especially as that date approaches, so that I can tell you what Saturdays are without hikes.

As for where to hike, even for Saturday hikes people have gone to places as near as Bays Mt. or Warrior's Path, and as distant as the Smokies, Cumberland Gap, the Mt. Rogers area, Grandfather Mt., and Linville Gorge. Indeed, some past hikes on the calendar for week-long trips to the Rockies, etc. So if you would like to gather a group for that sort of trip, that can go on the calendar too. Thanks for considering leading a hike!

Neil Dotson, Quarterly Schedule Coordinator

423-224-0557 (days)

e-mail:

TEHCC New Rental Equipment: Hammock-Tent!

Submitted by Vic Hasler, Rental Equipment Coordinator ()

Since one of the club benefits is the opportunity to try out new equipment through our rental program, this month TEHCC would like to announce a new tent option - a Hennessy Expedition hammock-tent (ID number HT-1). No need to worry about hard ground (unless you don't get it strung up right!). The 3 lb, 5 oz hammock with a separate canopy can fit up to a 6 ft, 250 lb person. Once set up, you just walk into the middle.....turn around, sit down.....lay back..... lift feet and the entrance snaps closed. Refer to website

www.hennessyhammock.com for more details and better instructions. The steering committee has decided to offer this tent at the □A□ rental rate of \$8 for 1-4 days, \$10 for 5-10 days. So try it out this summer



Wilderness First Aid Course

August 6 and 7, 2005

Registration Deadline: June 1!



Submitted by Rebekah Morrow

The Appalachian Paddling Enthusiasts (APEs) and 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):

"Accidents can and do happen on ropes courses, along country roads, or in the backcountry, and all too often members of a group are not capable of dealing with the emergency. Not only does this lead to improper care of the patient, but it also endangers the entire group. Studies have shown that many recreational accidents are preventable, and that improper care of trauma can compound even the simplest of injuries. Through our involvement in emergency medicine and rescue efforts, we at SOLO feel there is a need for training for all outdoors people - training which stresses preparedness and prevention; training which encompasses all phases of off-road emergencies; training which focuses on extended care issues on prolonged transport situations. 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 includes the course registration, and 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 place in the class.

Location: The course will be held all day Saturday, August 6th and Sunday August 7th from 8:00 am until ~6:00 pm at the Eastman Lodge in Kingsport, TN.

How To Register: (Click [here](#) for a printable form.) Please mail the registration form along with a check made out to **Rebekah Morrow to 1900 Madison Ave, Kingsport, TN 37665**. The deadline for registration is **June 1st 2005**. 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 (423)245-8045 (before 10:00 pm, please), Or e-mail: .

Third Annual Big Dig, Cumberland Trail Conference May 22 - June 25, 2005

Submitted by Nora Beck, Cumberland Trail Conference

The Cumberland Trail Conference's third annual Big Dig trail construction program will start May 22, headquartered at the Dogwood Lodge Camp near Soddy- Daisy, Tennessee.

This year's goal is to complete the Rock, Possum, and Soddy Creek Gorge segments of the trail in northern Hamilton County, and we're recruiting all hands and the cook(s). The CTC is providing food and lodging free of charge to all volunteers who come to work on the trail during the five weeks from May 22 through June 25. Those who spend the night at the camp will have the opportunity to enjoy evening educational and entertainment presentations that include local history, bluegrass music, and programs on the folklore, flora and fauna of the region.

Volunteer opportunities include trail building using mattocks, fire rakes, pruners and loppers; tool cleaning and sharpening; and cooking for a crowd with the guidance of our volunteer kitchen manager. A seasonal staff will guide the volunteer crews, and round-trip transportation from the camp to the work site will be provided.

Work in the Gorgeous Gorges will take place seven days a week, and volunteers can join us for a single day or the entire 35 days. For complete information on how to register for the Big Dig, please visit our web site at www.cumberlandtrail.org or call the Cumberland Trail Conference office at 931-456-6259. We do need to know you're coming so we can tell the cooks!

TEHCC Welcomes New Members

Ray Griffin David Sims
Bill Taber Andrew Wallace

New members are eligible for a free dinner at the next Dinner Meeting.

Scheduled Hiking, Paddling and Trail Maintenance Opportunities (Future)

For an explanation of the hike ratings, see [Hiking Schedule](#).

Konnarock Crew; June 9-13, July 28 - August 1, and August 11-15, 2005

Leaders: Ed Oliver (423-349-6668) and Joe DeLoach (423-753-7263)

Generally, our club requests and receives 4-5 weeks of Konnarock Crew time each year to help with major Appalachian Trail projects. In 2005, with our host responsibilities for the ATC biennial conference, we reduced our request to three weeks but we have plenty of work to do. This summer we'll continue work on a series of trail relocations on White Rocks Mt. in Carter County, between Roan Mt. and Dennis Cove. This section is characterized by innumerable short, steep climbs in and out of wet areas which are prone to erosion. With much help from hikers, other groups, Konnarock, and Club volunteers, we have made great progress on these relocations which were begun in 2003. This summer we'll be working near Moreland Gap Shelter and we'll need some help. The Crew arrives on Thursdays around lunch and works until Monday around lunch. We typically have volunteers every day but the largest outings are Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. On those days we assemble at our normal location near McDonald's in Colonial Heights at 8:00 AM. Please let us know in advance if you're coming and bring lunch, work gloves, and plenty of water. Volunteers who work at least five days with the Konnarock Crew earn the coveted Konnarock T-shirt. We've historically had among the best support for Konnarock of any club and let's keep that up even with a shorter schedule this summer. Please contact Ed or Joe for more information.

Bays Mountain Park; June 11, 2005

Leader: Neil Dotson (423-323-3493)

Rating: C/3/D (Family/Beginner)

The Azalea trail on Bays Mountain was the first trail I ever hiked in this part of the country ☐ however, that bit of nostalgia is not as likely to convince your child ☐ or you - that this would be a good hike, as would the possibility of seeing the bobcats, wolves, deer, river otter and their companions in the zoo! We will take, however, a rather long route to the pens: by hiking to the easternmost point of Bays Mt. from the Nature Center via the Azalea trail, and then returning to the Nature Center by way of the Bays Mountain Road and the Cliffside Trail. We ☐ end up at the observatory and then head to the animals after this 4-mile loop. In route we can enjoy several overlooks to the east and to the south, the tree canopy observation tower, and then some fine views from the cliffs near the observatory. We will meet in front of the Nature Center at the park at 9:30 a.m. Please call so I will have an idea of how many and who. We should be back at the Nature Center around noon ☐ so no need to carry lunches, but snacks and water are recommended.

900 Miler, Sugarland Mtn. Trail Hike, Sat, June 18, 2005

Leader: Garry S. Luttrell, 239-9854

Rating: A/3/C

In the *Hiking Trails of the Smokies* book, the Sugarland Mountain Trail is described as "a long, leisurely delight ..exceptional vistas from several points ..splendid diversity of forest types a wonderful way to spend a whole day outdoors in the Smokies". So, what more can you ask for in a hike? We'll plan on leaving from McDonald's parking lot in Colonial Heights at 7:30 am on Sat. morning. We'll start hiking at Clingman's Dome Road at the Fork Ridge Trailhead and end at Fighting Creek Gap, covering 11.9 mi and descending 5900 to 2300 ft. We'll pass Mt. Collins Shelter, Rough Creek, and Huskey Gap during the day. Bring lunch, snacks, water, and gear for possible showers and windy conditions.

Contact the hike leader by phone or if you plan to go, because I'll need to let you know of any last minute changes in plans, if necessary.

Rough Creek: Previously called Ugly Creek, and possibly named for the ruggedness of the terrain.

Sugar Mountain: Named for the Sugar Maple.

Huskey Gap: Named for the James Wesley Huskey family, one of the original families in the Smokies in the 1800s.

Mount LeConte Lodge (Smoky Mountains); July 9-10, 2005

Leader: Steve Falling (423-239-5502)

Rating: B/3/B(Moderate)

For the past 25+ years TEHCC has organized a summer weekend trip to Mount LeConte Lodge in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The hiking distance to the lodge is 5.5 to 7.8 miles one-way, depending on the route. The price this year is \$94.17 per person which covers supper on Saturday, lodging for the night (double bunk beds!) and breakfast on Sunday. We still have a few openings so if you are interested in taking this trip please contact the hike leader for availability.

Special Activity and Trip Reports (Past)

None reported this month

Appalachian Trail Section Maintenance and Special Project

Reports (*Past*)

Name: Michael Watts

Date: April 9, 2005

Purpose: Annual spring maintenance

Location: Backbone Rock trail junction to Abingdon Gap Shelter

People: Ken Chamness, Susan Rook, Missy Wright, Michael Watts

Summary: Clipped, weeded, painted blazes, and removed blowdowns (until saw blade broke). Section in good shape. Nice weather and a number of hikers out.

Name: John Arwood

Date: April 16, 2005

Purpose: Clear blowdowns, check shelter, check water trail at Vandeventer Shelter.

Location: Big Laurel Branch Wilderness boundary (north) to Watauga Dam Road

People: Catherine Batts, John Arwood

Summary: Starting at Watauga Dam Road we cut & removed 3 medium blowdowns, drug numerous smaller blowdowns from the trail, & cut back lots of Rhododendron, before reaching Vandeventer shelter. The shelter had a small amount of trash, which we removed. The blue blazed trail from the shelter to the water source had many blowdowns & several thickets blocking the trail. We cut approximately 10 trees & drug many smaller trees from the trail. The spring was running well, we dug out three trenches to aid in water collection.

Name: Carl Fritz

Date: April 26, 2005

Purpose: Dig trail relocation

Location: 1.5 to 2 miles north of Bitter End

People: Ken Buchanan, Bruce Cunningham, Bill Elderbrock, Carl Fritz, Peter King, Ed Oliver, Bob Peoples, ETSU Cindy Bruce, HIKERS Juke Box f, B Money f, Sam Gilmore, Sowega, August

Summary: With some great help, we dug about 225 feet of trail and rough dug another 125 feet. Three people also cleared several hundred more feet of new trail.

Name: Carl Fritz

Date: April 30, 2005

Purpose: Check trail condition and potential Eagle Scout project

Location: Bitter End to Moreland Gap Shelter

People: Carl Fritz and David Wise

Summary: We selected the next to last stream before shelter as eagle scout project. This will require 20 feet of bog bridge and will need to be transported in about 2.8 miles. David will be preparing his proposed plan for this eagle scout project. We found this section clear of obstructions. However, with all the recent rain, we found several other wet areas that need to be improved. We will work on these next week.

Name: Jim Mann

Date: May 1, 2005

Purpose: Mow grass in section going thru fields on Osborn tract

Location: Mowed old farm road and field to area where trail enters woods

People: Jim Mann

Summary: Went up to mow grass on the AT on my adopted section before grass got too

high. Grass was already around 10" high. Completed work with use of lawn mower. I saw around a dozen thru hikers who thought it was a "hoot" to see a lawn mower on the AT. Very beautiful day to be out.

Name: Jim Foster

Date: May 2, 2005

Purpose: Repaint blazes and police up around shelter

Location: Greasy Creek Gap to Clyde Smith Shelter

People: Bruce Darby, Jim Foster

Summary: We accessed the trail from the North Carolina side of Greasy Creek. We repainted all the blazes, checked the water sources, and cleaned up around Clyde Smith. Everything looks good. I'll try and get the other end painted Monday if possible.

Name: Carl Fritz

Date: May 3, 2005

Purpose: Repair trail and dig relocation

Location: 1 to 3 miles north of Bitter End

People: Bruce Cunningham, David Dunham, Bill Elderbrock, Carl Fritz, Peter King, Ed Oliver, Bob Peoples, HIKERS Gypsy LuLu f, Snow Bunny f, Tape Worm, Sleeveless f, Aviator, Eagle, Hair Ball, Thunder, Stilts, Touk

Summary: With the help of a great group of hikers, we dug another 600 feet of trail on a relocation. Three other crews of three people each worked on repairing trail. Many stream crossings and wet weather springs were problem areas after the recent heavy rains. Even two stream crossings from 2.5 to 3 miles in were repaired with rock steps and turnpiking.

Name: Carl Fritz

Date: May 5, 2005

Purpose: Pick up donated mowers

Location: Piney Flats

People: Carl Fritz and Witt Langstaff

Summary: Witt Langstaff has kindly donated two used sickle bar mowers for our club to use for AT maintenance. One working mower will be built from these.

Name: Darrol Nickels

Date: May 5, 2005

Purpose: Inspect and fertilize young apple trees in orchard near Weedy Gap

Location: About 1.5 miles north of Iron Mt. Gap

People: Darrol Nickels, Greg Nickels

Summary: Eleven of the trees were found to be in good condition. Each was given a heaping tablespoon of cottonseed meal and annual growth was pulled from around each tree. One tree had been run over and we had to turn its cage upside down to get it back over the tree. More bright tape is needed on the cage to warn the bush-hog driver.

Name: Steve Wilson

Date: May 7, 2005

Purpose: Second clearing of blowdowns on AT

Location: Started at Iron Mountain Gap and Ended at Hughes Gap

People: Carl Fritz & Steve Wilson

Summary: We lopped branches and cleared 7 blow downs with a chainsaw on this 8-mile section. One downed tree was 18 inches in diameter and provided a good sense of

accomplishment when removed. It was an enjoyable hike on a pleasant spring day with various wild flowers blooming. Trillium and Trout Lilly flowers were the highlights, but many others were seen.

Note that the sign at Greasy Creek Gap has been torn down and needs to be replaced. It is a key landmark for hikers to know when to come off the trail to visit the Greasy Creek

☐Friendly☐ Hostel (828-688-9948). We understand that ☐Pack Rat☐ will replace it. Thanks to ☐CeeCee☐ for the shuttle from Hughes Gap to Iron Mountain Gap.

Name: Richard Colberg

Date: May 7, 2005

Purpose: Annual spring maintenance

Location: Campbell Hollow Road to U.S. 19E

People: Richard Colberg, Pete Raynolds, Jeff Siirola

Summary: Painted blazes (both directions), lopped and clipped weeds, and cut a few small blowdowns and overhanging vines. One 9-inch diameter blowdown (about knee-high) remains at the north edge of Isaac's cemetery.

Name: Kim Peters

Date: May 7, 2005

Purpose: Paint blazes, clear blowdowns

Location: Campbell Hollow Road to Sugar Hollow Creek

People: Ken Buchannan, Terry Oldfield, Kim Peters

Summary: This trip was originally scheduled for April 30, but was cancelled due to rain. Oh what a difference a week makes! It was a gorgeous spring day to be out in the woods.

Bruce Cuninghame and Ed Oliver provided us a shuttle to Campbell Hollow road after leaving a car at Elk River Recreation area. We painted blazes, clipped brush and cleared a few small blowdowns on the way back to the river. We saw quite a few thru-hikers who all thanked us for our efforts. We lunched at Jones Falls which was spectacular in the sunlight and were joined by Debi Berry and JG Campbell who were scouting the trail for a hike Debi is leading at the upcoming AT Conference. When we reached the Elk River, we saw tracks from a bulldozer and evidence that either the Forest Service or TVA had come in to clean up and burn the flood debris. There were patches of bare earth with some burned material which had been bulldozed over and seeded. The section along the river looks much better than when I viewed it last on a club hike in February. On our hike out to the car we stopped and admired the Elk River Falls as neither Terry or Ken had previously seen them. All in all, a great day. This section of trail is in good shape. One comment though, the section from Campbell Hollow Road to the start of the relo is severely over-blazed. At one point I could see at least three blazes looking in each direction. We scraped out several and chose not to paint several (initially I was afraid I would run out of paint!) but this is a very over-blazed area.

(click on image to enlarge)



Terry and Ken clearing the trail.



Ken prepares a tree for painting.



Terry paints blazes along the Elk River



Trail along the Elk River showing newly bulldozed area.



Bulldozer tracks at the ford on Elk River. The AT turns to the right here.

Name: Old Timers Hiking Club

Date: May 9, 2005

Purpose: To do necessary maintenance work to keep trail open

Location: Between Indian Grave Gap and Cherry Gap

People: Michael Dexter, Tina Dexter, Dave McMillin, Bob Spencer, Howard Guinn, Faye Guinn, Mike Hupko, Leader, Gil Derouen, Sandra Perry, CB Willis

Summary: Fixed the treadway at Low Gap where we had previously removed several large blowdowns and had to leave the treadway in a depression (root holes) due to the wet ground. Removed two large blowdowns on the ridge north of Low Gap. Many of the water bars on the north side of Low Gap going down toward the shelter have been destroyed by recent horse traffic. We had reported horse traffic earlier this year. We installed a water bar and step just south of AT crossing of F/S 230. Installed a double ditch to drain water at Deep Gap. This ditch was lined with two locust posts. We also drained a bog south of Beauty Spot Gap and lined the bog with rocks to provide a smooth and dry treadway.

Name: Jim Foster

Date: May 9, 2005

Purpose: Repaint blazes from Hughes Gap to Clyde Smith Shelter

Location: Hughes Gap to Greasy Creek Gap

People: Jim Foster

Summary: I repainted all the blazes from Hughes Gap to Clyde Smith Shelter. The trail was clear thanks to Carl and Steve who cut the blowdowns on Saturday.

Name: Carl Fritz

Date: May 10, 2005

Purpose: Prepare for Hard Core

Location: north of Bitter End

People: Ken Buchanan, Bruce Cunningham, Carl Fritz, Peter King, Ed Oliver

Summary: We inventoried bridge parts from old trail around Osborne property for installation by Hard Core about 3 miles north of Bitter End. We did some digging. Also, we cleared another small relocation. Flags were installed to mark new trail so Hard Core hikers can start digging immediately. A couple of us too far from vehicle got soaked with a

heavy thundershower.

Name: Carl Fritz

Date: May 15 & 16, 2005

Purpose: Damascus Hard Core project to relocate trail

Location: Trail north of Bitter End

People: 97 participants

Summary: We completed two trail relocations and got about 70% of a third relocation. One rock bridge was constructed. A 12 foot bridge was installed in last stream crossing before Moreland Gap shelter. A detailed report of this special event will appear in next month's newsletter.

Name: Garry S. Luttrell

Date: May 16 & 17, 2005

Purpose: Annual section maintenance

Location: Bitter End to Walnut Mtn. Road

People: Garry S. Luttrell

Summary: After delivering Hardcore to Bitter End, I left the Eastman van I drove there and Kim Peters dropped me off at the Walnut Mtn. Road / AT crossing. I cut and removed two, less than 6 in. diameter blowdowns, and one 8 - 10 in. diameter blowdown; repainted several blazes; and clipped and removed limbs encroaching the trail. All bridges checked out OK. I returned on May 17 to install the only green and white Foot Travel Welcome sign I had available on the Walnut Mtn. Road end of this section. The same sign still needs to be installed on the Bitter End side.

Name: Jeff Siirola

Date: May 21, 2005

Purpose: Annual maintenance

Location: Section 12, Walnut Mountain Road to Sugar Hollow Creek

People: Richard Colberg, Charles Kelchner, Lola Kelchner, Steve Perri, Jeff Siirola, Sharon Siirola

Summary: Completed annual maintenance in the second of the four parts of Section 12 including blazing (south to north), extensive clipping, and spring blowdown removal. This newly-constructed section is in good shape.