



The Tennessee Eastman Hiking and Paddling News

March 2010

tehcc.org

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To submit an article for the Newsletter, send an email to: news@tehcc.org. Articles should be submitted by the 15th of the month.

From the Chair

(Steering Committee Chair Tim Schaefer)

Where should we hike? How will we get there? Where's the parking? Will it be good for kids? These are a lot of questions I find myself asking and I imagine several of you do as well. This is why the Steering Committee's third Key Initiative for the year is to lay the groundwork for a local trail database and to begin populating it. Over time we will populate a database of information that will at first likely be just a static list of pages on our website. Hopefully we will eventually turn it into a database searchable on things like distance, elevation gain, location, etc... Some early thoughts of things to collect, beyond the standard general driving directions and trail descriptions, would be links to the trail head on Google Maps for easy driving directions, trail elevation profiles, Google Earth waypoint/trail files, topos with the trails laid out, GPS waypoint/trail files, waypoint/route files for various trail mapping software, and maybe even links to pictures from that trail as well. If you have any ideas of information that you would find

useful as you plan trips please let me know for consideration as we start designing a template for this initiative. Once the groundwork is established, I would really like to see everyone help us populate it to share with others. If you happen to take a GPS with you hiking, or map a trip in Google Earth or other trail software we would love for you to share that information with us. Send trail information to tschaefer@eastman.com.

The TN AT plate has had fantastic success with the reduced introductory price of \$15 for plate signup. We have had our best week to date with 58 sign ups in a single week! This puts us within striking distance of the required 1,000 signups with 667 as of February 8th. Only 333 to go! This is some great momentum; thanks to not only the lower price but also the hard work of people like Stuart Everett who sent out emails and hand delivered applications to friends and family pointing out the new low price. He is a great example for all of us. If you know of good places to advertise the TN AT plate, please let [Jake Mitchell](#) know and he'll get you the appropriate material. We have table tents, applications, and flyers with tear-offs ready for distribution at any public place like message boards in coffee shops, grocery stores, etc... anywhere somebody might see it.

The Winter/Spring Dinner is right around the corner and I hope everyone will try to make it this year. We have a famed local author and storyteller, Charles Maynard, giving a talk on the "Spirit of Adventure." For those who haven't attended a dinner meeting in a few years, I think you will be pleasantly surprised. We've been having some great presentations along with the fact that we have found some lower-cost caterers. This time it will be Phil's Dream Pit offering up some great BBQ pork and chicken. We'll also have a local outfitter, Mountain Sports Limited, with gear displays. So come this year and you'll have a great opportunity to have some great drinks, be able to check out some great gear, have some great BBQ, hear a great story, and meet some great people for great conversation. Trust me, it'll be great!!! See the notice in this newsletter to make your reservations today.

Spring Dinner Meeting - Friday March 19th, 2010

Spring time is almost here. Spring fever is in the air and it is time for our annual TEHCC Spring Dinner Meeting. We would like to extend an invitation for you to join us for good drinks, good food and good times. Once again, the meal will be catered by Phil's Dream Pit. The dinner meeting will be at the [Eastman Lodge](#).

Our special program for the evening will be given by Charles Maynard, with the subject "In the Spirit of Adventure -- Early Hikes in North East Tennessee." Charles, an author and storyteller who resides in Jonesborough, is a member of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy Board of Directors, was the founding Director of Friends of the Smokies, and is Development Officer for Holston Conference Camp and Retreat Ministries in the Holston Conference of the United Methodist Church.

Event	Time	Details
Spring Dinner Meeting	5:30pm	Location: Eastman Lodge, Main Dining Hall 404 Bays Mountain Road, Kingsport, TN
Happy "Trails" Hour	5:30pm-6:30pm	Beer and wine for sale, or BYOB
Dinner	6:30pm-7:15pm	Catered by Phil's Dream Pit (\$10 per adult, \$5 per child)
Club Updates	7:15pm-8:00pm	Update of club activities - 2010 Key Initiatives - Awards
Special Program	8:00pm-9:00pm	Charles Maynard

There is no charge for attending the program only; but if you would like to eat, please submit your reservation by **3/15/10**. The reservation form can be found on the last page of this newsletter.



Workshop Presenters Needed



Share your knowledge and skills as a workshop presenter at the upcoming Virginia Journeys 2011 which will celebrate the Appalachian National Scenic Trail and the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia. This gathering, to be held at Emory & Henry College in southwest Virginia July 1 – 8, 2011, will be the 38th Biennial Conference of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy. A main feature of the conference is a wide variety of workshops that will be held Saturday through Monday, July 2 – 4, 2011. Conference organizers are inviting speakers to present sessions in the following areas of interest:

- Hiking and Backpacking Skills
- Trail Management
- Natural Wonders
- Engaging Youth on the Trail
- Community Partners: Sustainable Tourism & the Trail
- A.T. MEGA-Transect: Environmental Monitoring of the A.T. Corridor
- Cultural History along the A.T.
- Celebrating Benton MacKaye

If you would like to present a workshop related to any of the conference tracts, or would like to suggest a topic to be considered, we want to hear from you. The deadline for speaker registration is June 30, 2010. Please contact Laura Belleville at lbelleville@appalachiantrail.org, 540-953-3564 / 3571, Ned Kuhns at nedkuhns@cox.net, 757-552-0292, or Mark Wenger at markwenger@cox.net, 757-253-0056.



TEHCC Welcomes New Members

Please welcome the following new members for January:

- Ann T. Roberts
- Mark R. Moody
- Ranette R. Tyner

Event Schedule – Next Two Months

For the latest, up-to-date information, see tehcc.org/schedule

Date	Description	Leader	Contact
Mar 6	Family/Beginner Hike at Bays Mountain	Stuart Everett	423-367-0648
Mar 19	Spring Dinner Meeting	Tim Schaefer	423-302-0846
Mar 20	Channels Natural Area Preserve	Vic Hasler	hvhasler@eastman.com
Mar 26-28	AT Backpack: Fox Creek to Atkins	Jake Mitchell	jacobmmitchell@gmail.com
Mar 27	Buffalo Mountain	Josh Henri	jhenri@eastman
Apr 1	Rental Equipment Checkout	Vic Hasler	rentals@tehcc.org
Apr 10	Camera Club and Hiking Club Combo Event	Richard Siggins	423-416-1258
Apr 17	AT Trail Run	Tim Schaefer	423-302-0846
Apr 17	Rocky Fork	Dave Ramsey	daramsey@earthlink.net
Apr 24	Family/Beginner Hike at Bays Mountain	Tim Schaefer	423-302-0846
Apr 30- May1	AT Backpack: Davenport Gap to Hot Springs	Jake Mitchell and Kevin Barham	jacobmmitchell@gmail.com , kbarham@eastman.com

Description of Upcoming Events

Recurring Events

Fridays: Friday Hikers

Join members of the TEHCC and other hiking enthusiasts for Friday hikes in the northeast Tennessee, western North Carolina and southwest Virginia area. Trips typically leave from the parking lot between McDonald's and State of Franklin Bank in Colonial Heights at 8 am. Trips to places further away leave at 7:30am. Contact [Collins Chew](#) to be added to the distribution list.

Tuesdays: Johnson City Roll Practice

Come join the Jackson Action Wagon (J.A.W.), APEs, and other paddlers from around our region at the Freedom Hall Pool in Johnson City, TN from 7:10 to 9:10 pm every Tuesday for tips and tricks about basic kayaking skills and learning how to roll. Have you already mastered the basics and have a bomb proof roll? There is still a lot of fun to be had at our pool session by practicing your flat-water freestyle moves and fellowshiping with other paddlers in a nice warm water environment. Admission to the pool is \$2, rolling advice is free! Contact the pool office (423- 461-4872) for session confirmation or questions regarding the facility. Please note: The J.A.W. does provide the current fleet of boats for demo at the pool session, but neither the pool nor the J.A.W. provides paddling equipment (paddle, spray skirt, etc...) for these sessions. If you are just starting out in the sport and do not have your own equipment, please post a message on the APEs yahoo group site or send [Wesley](#) an e-mail asking other members to bring extra equipment if possible. We will try our best to get you outfitted for the night!

Weekly AT Trail Maintenance, Most Tuesdays

Join a group of maintainers who work somewhere on our 135-mile section each week, usually on Tuesdays. Contact Carl Fritz (atvolunteer@tehcc.org) for dates and meeting places.

Scheduled Events

Family/Beginner Hike at Bays Mountain, Saturday March 6, 2010

Leader: Stuart Everett, 423-367-0648

This will be a family-friendly paced hike with several options to allow for varied participation. The entire hike will be an approximately 5 ½ mile loop from the Eastman picnic shelters (1300' elevation) up to the Bays Mountain Fire Tower (2405' elevation) and back. The climb from the picnic area to the Bays Mt. Nature center is a steady uphill walk alongside Dolan Branch with what was an impressively large Tulip Poplar tree (now fallen) as an interesting stop along the way. This is approximately 0.75 miles and should

take 30 – 60 minutes depending on the group's pace. Families with small children can make arrangements with the hike leader in advance to leave a car at the Bays Mt. Nature Center and call it a day from there (or hike back down to the picnic shelters for a nice 1.5 mile out-and-back hike). If seeing/climbing the Fire Tower is your thing, you can coordinate with the hike leader to meet the group at the Nature Center at 10:30 and join up for the 3.8-mile loop. The route will be around the east end of the lake on the Lakeshore trail and up the Fire Tower Trail. After a lunch break, we'll come down the River Mt. Road to Feagins Gap and back to the Nature Center by way of the Cherry Knobs Trail. For those parked at the picnic shelter, a final ¾ mile descent wraps up the adventure.

For a few of us, this hike will serve as an equipment check for an upcoming AT section hike in Georgia. So feel free to bring along a loaded backpack and join in the fun if you're so inclined. Otherwise – sturdy shoes, snacks/lunch, and plenty of water should suffice. Given the time of year, you may want to dress in layers to remain comfortable as the day warms.

Meet at Eastman Picnic Shelter #6 (above/behind the metal hut) at 9:30 a.m. Please contact the hike leader, Stuart Everett, at 423-367-0648 to confirm your participation and/or to coordinate shuttling arrangements for folks not hiking the full loop.

Couples Hike: Pinnacle Nature Preserve, March 20, 2010 (rescheduled from February 13, 2010)

Leader: [Ed Montgomery](#)

This will be a pleasant, easy 3-4 mile hike complete with swinging bridge, two waterfalls and the PINNACLE. The hike will include a big post-Valentine's Day lunch stop (1/2 mile down the trail) at a designated picnic area, complete with picnic tables and bathrooms. This is a perfect hike for couples and could be considered a belated Valentine's Day gift for some. Note: Hike will be cancelled for extreme cold. Contact [Ed Montgomery](#) if interested.

Channels Natural Area Preserve, March 20, 2010

Leader: [Vic Hasler](#)

Rating: B/3/C

Per the club newsletters, this hike was last led in October 1994. It is to a rock outcropping called "Wind Tunnels" by the locals, but known as the "Crevices" by the Eastman Hiking Club. In 2008, the State of Virginia purchased the land to create The Channels Natural Area Preserve. We will meet at the usual Colonial Heights at 8 AM for the 75 minute drive up I-81 to Meadowview Exit 24, then VA80 to Hayter's Gap on Clinch Mountain. The hike is about 4 miles on gravel/dirt roads to fire tower, then a few hundred feet through some thickets to the rock formation. Bring a lunch, water, and be prepared for rain. The total trip time will be about 7 to 8 hours. Contact Vic Hasler if interested (hvhasler@eastman.com).

AT Backpack: Fox Creek to Atkins, March 26 – 28 2010

Leaders: [Jake Mitchel](#) and [Kevin Barham](#)

Hike led by Jake Mitchell and Kevin Barham. Distance is 34.6 miles. Contact Jake Mitchell or Kevin Barham if interested (jacobmmitchell@gmail.com or kbarham@eastman.com).

Buffalo Mountain March 27, 2010

Leader: [Josh Henri](#)

We will meet at the alternate trail head and leave by 12:40pm. (This is at the top of the dirt road by the gate, not the paved picnic area.) The hike is a 5.2-mile loop with an 1100-ft elevation gain. The trail map is located [here](#). Leashed dogs are welcome and we will be bringing ours. Dress for the weather, but if there is heavy snow, we will not hike the whole loop. Please contact Josh Henri, at jhenri@eastman.com to let me know you're coming or with questions.

Rental Equipment Checkout, April 1, 2010 (11:00 am to 1:00 pm) at Eastman Employee Center (Building 310)

Leader: [Vic Hasler](#)

No April Fools! This event will be held at lunchtime and a pizza lunch will be provided to those helping out. We will only check items that have been used in the past year. I would like a pair of folks to check out the packs and pads, and the rest will check out the tents. We need to make a list of needed repairs, and see what next items should be considered for purchase (in case a good sale is found). Please feel free to forward this meeting notice to others who might be interested in seeing the Club's rental equipment – and would like to see it set up. Contact Vic Hasler (rentals@tehcc.org) if you are interested in helping and to give your preference for pizza and beverage.

Camera Club and Hiking Club Combo Event, Laurel Run Park, April 10, 2010

Leader: [Richard Siggins](#), 423-416-1258

This spring two of Eastman Recreation's clubs are joining together to sponsor an outing for outdoor photography, hiking and enjoying our local natural beauty. If you enjoy bringing your camera along on hikes, then this is for you! Members of the Camera Club will be there to help beginning photographers learn how to take better photos of flowers, streams and waterfalls. Everyone will enjoy what

this park has to offer. Around the same date in 2009, we were treated to a wide variety of wild flowers, including Poppies, Trillium, Lilies, Phlox, Dutchman's Britches, and ferns. The park is loaded with flowers in the spring. There is also a creek, two small waterfalls and an old barn that was used in the filming of The River.

Don't let spring rains keep you away from this trip. Seasoned photographers know cloudy and even rainy days are best for shooting flowers, streams and waterfalls. Just bring something to keep you and your camera dry. Rainy days leading up to the hike will result in more water and better photos of the falls.

We will meet at Laurel Run Park near Church Hill, TN at 8:30am. After spending some time with the wildflowers, we will take a short hike (about 2 miles out and back) up the trail along Laurel Run Creek to Laurel Run Falls and Kiner Creek Falls. Depending on the water level you may have to ford the creek a couple times. Rumor has it that a bridge has been added since last year. This is a very easy hike with rewards for the photographer or anyone who appreciates nature. Anyone who is up for a longer hike can continue up the trail, which eventually ends at Bays Mountain Park. More information on the park and trail can be found on these websites: appalachiantreks.blogspot.com, waterfall-picture-guide.com

AT Trail Run, April 17, 2010

Leader: [Tim Schaefer](#), 423-302-0846

Rating: AA/1/B

I'm looking to start doing trail runs starting in April. I'm willing to work on distances, locations, dates and times; so if you're interested contact me. Ideally we would have two drivers and do a key-swap run (park at opposite ends and swap keys when we pass each other). Another option is to do a car shuffle and run together. For this first run I'm eyeing closer to Damascus since it is a little flatter and lower in elevation, something in the 10-20 mile range. We could even change it up and do the Creeper Trail instead. Departure time would be early, 6am to 7am, to try to get back by early afternoon at the latest. If you are interested, contact me and we can start working out the details.

Rocky Fork, April 17, 2010

Leader: [Dave Ramsey](#)

A late April trek into the beautiful and unspoiled Rocky Fork Watershed will reward hikers with a fine wildflower show and the possible sighting of a certain big, black, furry creature known to roam the area's densely forested ridges and valleys. The hike will venture into the Rocky Fork backcountry on a moderate-to-strenuous route, covering approximately 10 to 12 miles, and chosen according to stream levels at the time of the hike. Hikers should be prepared for stream crossings. Contact Dave Ramsey if you are interested. Carpooling will be coordinated from Colonial Heights and Johnson City if necessary.

Hike at Bays Mountain, April 24th, 2010

Leader: [Tim Schaefer](#), 423-302-0846

Rating: C/4/C, Family/Beginner

We'll hike somewhere around Bays Mountain. Depending on desires and abilities, we can do the Lakeshore Loop and possibly a trip up to the fire tower or other trail(s) in the park. Dogs are welcome on the trails of Bays Mountain and I will likely bring a friendly one. Contact hike leader for details.

AT Backpack: Davenport Gap to Hot Springs, April 30 – May 1, 2010

Leaders: [Jake Mitchell](#) and [Kevin Barham](#).

Distance is 35.8 miles. Contact Jake Mitchell or Kevin Barham if interested (jacobmmitchell@gmail.com or kbarham@eastman.com).

Mount LeConte Lodge (Smoky Mountains), Saturday-Sunday, July 10-11, 2010

Leader: [Steve Falling](#), 423-239-5502

Rating: B/3/B

For the past 30+ years the Hiking Club has organized a summer weekend trip to Mount LeConte Lodge in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. This lodge (elevation 6593 ft) can only be reached by hiking trail. Supplies are brought in by llama train once a week. The hiking distance to the lodge is 5.5 to 7.8 miles one-way depending on the route. The package price this year is \$128 per person which includes supper on Saturday, lodging for the night, and breakfast on Sunday. We have eight reservations in two five-person cabins (double bunk beds and a single). Please contact Steve Falling, 423-239-5502, if you are interested. You must be a TEHCC member to participate in this outing. You can find out more about Mount LeConte Lodge at www.leconte-lodge.com/about.html.

For the Record



Sinking Waters, Warriors Path State Park, January 23, 2010

Stuart Everett reporting



The Sinking Waters hike was well attended with 3 adults, 5 children, and one Great Dane. The group set off from the Sinking Waters trailhead (off of Cedar Branch Road) just after 2:00 p.m. and hiked steadily downhill to the wetlands boardwalk at the far end of this loop trail. On the way back, the group chose the ridgeline route and paused on the way up for several folks to test their balance on a tree trunk that had fallen across a small creek next to the trail. The weather was cool and breezy, but the group maintained high spirits throughout the trip. Hikers: Stuart Everett (hike leader), Tim Schaefer, Tonya Everett, Josh, Caleb, John, Charlie, & Jamie and the dog Zoinks!

Friday Hikers, Bays Mountain, January 29, 2010

Chuck Mather reporting

We had a very nice hike at Bays Mt. today with 13 hikers. We started at 9am and finished up about 1pm with great weather – no sun, but no snow either. The trails we took were all cleared and you could see lots of work had gone into clearing the trails and bridges since our last snow storm. We saw many signs of beavers at work, I guess they excel when no one comes around to disturb them – they have been very, very busy building new dams and felling huge trees right next to the trails. A thin layer of ice was on some of the lake as we walked across the wooden bridges, very thin ice crystals really.

Hikers were: Judith Foster, Ann Cosby., Carol and Charles Idol, Jan and Chuck Mather, Olin, Lee Bockman, Cathy and Jerry Case, Bob Harvey, Dick Orr, Susan Erdeky

Friday Hikers, Rattlesnake Ridge, February 12, 2010

Collins Chew reporting

We indeed had a winter wonderland for our hike today. Considering the recent hundred-mile-an-hour winds, there weren't as many blowdowns as I expected. However, a massive set stopped us about a third of a mile from our stated goal at the road on Unaka Mountain. Nevertheless we had a good hike (probably 6 or 7 miles with a 2,100 foot climb) from Rock Creek Picnic Area through snow which was deeper toward the top. I took poles for a change which really helped, particularly for knocking snow off the low hanging rhododendron which filled the trail, particularly toward the top. The views were beautiful. There was some rime in addition to snow. There was no wind, which really helped as the snow on the bushes got us pretty damp and it was quite cool. Hikers were: Dick Orr, Larry Miller, Kim Peters, and Collins Chew

Friday Hikers, Virginia Creeper Trail, February 19, 2010

Cathy Case reporting

Eleven Friday Hikers walked 10 miles on the lower part of the Virginia Creeper Trail starting at Abingdon. The trail was covered with snow ranging in depth from ½" to 4". We welcomed the pleasant day, especially as we enjoyed lunch on a hillside overlooking the Middle Fork of the Holston River. Hikers were: Dick Orr, Patty Jo Nachman, Alison Hewson, Jerry Jones, Ann Yungmeyer, Anne Cosby, Carol Idol, Larry Miller, Olin Babb, Jerry and Kathy Case.

F/B Hike to (Hopefully) Frozen Waterfalls, February 20, 2010

Tim Schaeffer reporting



Due to a threat of snow/ice/rain for the original date I pushed this back two weeks and attempted the trip to Margarette Falls near Greeneville on the 20th. Who knew a short hike, 1.4 miles from the parking lot, 0.7 miles after leaving the Forest Service road, could take so long and be so difficult? After several stream crossings, wet kid's feet and pants, muddy trails, and an impressive drop in temperature, we decided to cut our losses and turn back. After getting back, I looked up the GPS coordinates of the falls and saw that we were ~700 feet short of the destination. Determined, I returned the next day with a backpack to carry Jamie and warmer clothes. Sunday was worse since the warm Saturday melted a lot of the snow only to refreeze overnight and then beginning to thaw again. The trails were quite a bit more slippery, but we made it, took in the sights, and quickly headed back down trail to the warmer weather. Overall it was barely frozen and compared to pictures I have seen of these falls completely frozen as recent as this past January, I will have to move up my frozen waterfall hikes next year. Attending Saturday were Chris Garrett and son Paul, my daughter Jamie and dog Zoinks! Sunday was me and Jamie and our other dog Scooba.



AT Maintenance Reports

Reporting: Dave McMillin, Maintenance Coordinator, Mid-Appalachian Highlands Club (MAHC)

Date: January 23, 2010

Purpose: Remove blowdowns from section

Location: Section 19, Indian Grave Gap to Nolichucky River

People: Ernest Hartford, David McMillin, James Price (MAHC)

Summary: In conjunction with a MAHC hike on AT Section 19, we first cleared the lower end of the trail from Chestoa upstream to the point at which Eastman had stopped; but we had no digging tools to deal with the crater left by a large tree that had fallen away from the trail (downhill) just above the furthest downstream USA Raft cabins. Then we carried a 17" saw from Indian Grave Gap to USA Raft headquarters, leaving one leaner, too large for our saw about 1/2 mile below Curly Maple Shelter. (It's across the trail but not blocking it.) The stub of a large oak that we removed, perhaps 1/2 mile above the shelter could also use another cut with a larger saw.

Reporting: Randall Simpson

Date: January 24, 2010

Purpose: Check condition of trail, shelter and spring

Location: Section 19, Chestoa to Curly Maple Gap shelter

People: Randall and Lisa Simpson

Summary: It was a nice day to be on the trail. The wife and I enjoyed a very good day checking out the trail. Hats off to the men with the chain saws! What a great job those fellows did, and to you that did it, thanks again. We cut some scrub brush from the trail, but other than one large tree that had fallen closer to the shelter, the trail looked great.

Reporting: Paul Benfield

Date: January 27, 2010

Purpose: Maintain Trail

Location: Section 20b, Can Lot to No Business Knob

People: Paul Benfield, Ken Buchanan, Kim Peters, Ted Mowery

Summary: We cut all blowdowns and breakdowns from Can Lot to No Business Knob, and re-built 20 feet of Trail. Some rehabbing is needed in this section.

Reporting: Carl Fritz

Date: January 27, 2010

Purpose: Scout trail relocations

Location: Section 11a, primarily north end of White Rocks

People: Richard Carter, Jim Foster, Carl Fritz, Bob Peoples, Tim Stewart

Summary: We basically started at the last relocation trail north on White Rocks and scouted a new path almost to Coon Den Falls Trail. We did not flag it. It could eliminate some very steep trail sections, but is probably more than a mile of new trail.

Reporting: Michael Ray

Date: January 28, 2010

Purpose: Check Trail condition; cut and remove blowdowns

Location: Section 12d, Campbell Hollow Road to US 19E

People: Sam Robinette, Dale Douthat, Michael Ray

Summary: The three of us cleared 8 blowdowns from our section using a chainsaw. Most were minor and one just south of Isaacs Cemetery was a leftover from earlier in the year. This section is completely open and free of blowdowns as of this date.

Reporting: Joe DeLoach

Date: January 31, 2010

Purpose: Inspect Trail and clear blowdowns

Location: Section 1, from Damascus 1.5 miles south

People: Craig DeLoach and Joe DeLoach

Summary: We cut four blowdowns, two of which were considerable obstructions, on the old road that the Trail gains after it climbs out of Damascus (none below). We walked about 1.5 miles from where the Trail enters the woods to a sag, about halfway to the state line. We met a hiker who had been to the state line; he reported a few blowdowns beyond where we stopped but nothing out of the ordinary and no serious obstructions. Neither he nor we noticed anything else unusual.

Reporting: Joe DeLoach

Date: February 7, 2010

Purpose: Clear blowdowns

Location: Section 20a, first two miles south of Nolichucky River

People: Joe DeLoach

Summary: After reading about 100-mph wind gusts, which caused lots of downed trees and damage in Erwin last week, I wanted to see if the AT looked like a war zone. I had planned to go north of Chestoa, but it was quickly obvious someone had already been there and found plenty of work to do; so I went south up Cliff Ridge. A hanging tree that we had noticed after the December snow had cooperated and fallen. I walked past the fifth of the ten, long switchbacks we installed in the 1990s and cut probably 20 blowdowns, some of which were significant obstructions. A couple of places where trees had uprooted could use some digging, but not urgently, quite passable now. I met a hiker who I believe had been to Temple Hill Gap, and while he did not seem sure, he said there were no bad obstructing blowdowns that would force hikers off the Trail between where I stopped and there.

Reporting: Larry Miller

Date: February 9, 2010

Purpose: Cut blowdowns

Location: Section 4a, from US Hwy 421 to Double Springs shelter

People: Larry Miller, Tim Stewart

Summary: We started cutting blowdowns trail south at US 421. Three inches of snow was on the ground and it was drizzling. We decided the rest of blowdowns could wait for a better day.

Reporting: Bill Berry

Date: February 13, 2010

Purpose: Clear blowdowns

Location: Section 20b, Spivey Gap to Flat Top Mountain Road

People: Bill Berry

Summary: Lots of snow and ice.

Reporting: Bill Berry

Date: February 20, 2010

Purpose: Clear blowdowns

Location: Section 20b, Spivey Gap to Flat Top Mountain Road

People: Bill Berry

Summary: Still lots of snow.

Tennessee Eastman Hiking and Canoeing Club
Spring Dinner Meeting
March 19th, 2010

Reservation Form

Fill out the form below and send it with a check made out to **Tim Schaefer**, Building 231 or to:

Tim Schaefer
4423 Fieldstone Dr
Kingsport TN 37664-5031

There is no charge for attending the program only

IMPORTANT NOTE:

The check and reservation form must be received by **3/15/10**

TEHCC Dinner Meeting: Names of all attending (*please print*)

Name(s): _____

Number of Adult's Meals: _____ x \$10.00 = \$ _____

Number of Children's Meals (12 and under) _____ x \$5.00 = \$ _____

Attending Meeting Only (indicate number): _____