



# The Tennessee Eastman Hiking and Paddling News

February 2011

[tehcc.org](http://tehcc.org)

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To submit an article for the Newsletter, send an email to: [news@tehcc.org](mailto:news@tehcc.org). Articles should be submitted by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.

## From the Chair

*Ian Powell, Steering Committee Chair*

### **Opportunity Knocking**

It's a new year which lends itself to new opportunities to be active in the club. There are many ways to be an active member of the club. Many choose to maintain the trail as it is a primary purpose of the club. Others plan and lead trips, finding fulfillment in that. Still others are content in attending those hikes and trips. No matter what your interests are, there is a place for you to explore those interests in the Tennessee Eastman Hiking and Canoeing Club. One of the great things about the club is that it is what you want to make of it. Think about what you want to do this year in the club and set some goals. If you have an idea for a trip or are interested in learning about maintenance opportunities, feel free to contact me. If you can't stop by my desk in B-54D, please feel free to call me. My cell number is 423-217-8193. I look forward to making this year a great one.

## Reminders for our Members!

**Eastman Retirees:** If you plan to retire from Eastman and would like to continue receiving the TEHCC newsletter, please send an e-mail note to [membership@tehcc.org](mailto:membership@tehcc.org) with your home e-mail address as well as your

home street address. We prefer to send the newsletter via e-mail to save us time and money. However, if you wish to receive a hard copy of the newsletter, we will need your street address (also so we can still reach you if your e-mail address changes). Any retiree who wishes to be removed from the membership can send a note to [membership@tehcc.org](mailto:membership@tehcc.org). Membership cards are also available upon request, membership cards are necessary in order to receive discounts at participating area sporting goods stores.

**Program Affiliates:** Renewal forms and membership dues need to be received by mid-February or your name will be removed from our membership list. If you wish to receive a membership card in order to receive discounts at participating area sporting goods stores, they are available upon request. Just send a note to [membership@tehcc.org](mailto:membership@tehcc.org) requesting one.

## Events Coordinator Position Opening

*Ian Powell reporting*

Currently a position is open for an Events Coordinator. The position entails the upkeep of the TEHCC calendar as well as soliciting hike and trip leaders to lead outings each month. The coordinator works hand in hand with the Steering Committee on the clubs bigger events as well. If you are interested in learning more about the position, please contact Ian Powell at [ipowell@eastman.com](mailto:ipowell@eastman.com). If you've been looking for some way to be more active in the club and see how things work, this is your opportunity.

## Tennessee Eastman Hiking and Canoeing Club

### Spring Dinner Meeting

### Friday, March 11th, 2011

Spring time is almost here. Spring fever is in the air and our annual TEHCC Spring Dinner Meeting is fast approaching. We would like to extend an invitation for you to join us for good drinks, good food and good times at the Eastman Lodge. As is becoming a spring time tradition, the meal will be catered by Phil's Dream Pit and include BBQ and chicken and all the sides.

Our special program for the evening, "Tramping through New Zealand" will be given by Mary Ellen Virost. She will speak and show photos from her recent adventure hiking or, as the Kiwis call it, "tramping" throughout New Zealand. She will discuss the four weeks that she and her husband Rick spent in the national and regional parks on the north and south islands of the country. Mary Ellen is an avid local hiker and a member of the TEHCC. She has hiked trails on three continents, including the Coast to Coast Trail in England.

Event	Time	Details
Spring Dinner Meeting	5:30pm	Location: Eastman Lodge, Main Dining Hall - <a href="#">404 Bays Mountain Road, Kingsport, TN</a>
Happy "Trails" Hour	5:30pm-6:30pm	Beer and wine for sale, or BYOB
Dinner – BBQ and Chicken with sides and drinks	6:30pm-7:15pm	Catered by Phil's Dream Pit (\$12 per adult, \$6 per child)
Club Updates	7:15pm-8:00pm	Update of club activities - 2010 Key Initiatives - Awards
<b>Special Program: Tramping in New Zealand</b>	<b>8:00pm-9:00pm</b>	<b>Mary Ellen Virost</b>

There is no charge for attending the program only; but if you would like to eat, **please submit your reservation by March 4, 2011.** The reservation form is located at the end of this newsletter.

## Save the Date - Virginia Journeys 2011 Biennial July 1- 8, 2011

*Steve Perri reporting*



The Appalachian Trail Conservancy will be holding its 38th biennial meeting on July 1-8, 2011 at Emory and Henry College, Emory, Virginia. The seven maintaining clubs from Central and Southwest Virginia will be hosting this event along with ATC's membership meeting. Virginia Journeys 2011 is also an opportunity for A.T. enthusiasts to take a Trail related workshop, hike on the A.T. (and other trails) in Virginia and Tennessee, and participate in excursions, evening entertainment and educational programs. While TEHCC is not a host member club, we will likely be asked to help lead hikes, since we know most of the locations for trailheads, and perhaps lead or participate in workshops. So if you have an interest in hiking or have knowledge that might be of interest to other outdoor enthusiasts, feel free to volunteer to join in. For more information or to sign up to volunteer, go to [www.virginia2011.org](http://www.virginia2011.org).

## AT License Plates



AT license plates are now available in the county clerk's office. If you didn't get around to purchasing one last year, now's your chance. Remember a portion of the proceeds from the plate go toward maintaining the Appalachian Trail in Tennessee. Help maintain the trail while showing your support at the same time.

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## 2011 Gear Swap

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*Ian Powell reporting*

An outdoor gear swap will be held on Saturday, March 26th, 2011 from 8:00 AM till noon in the parking lot of the Eastman Employee Center located at 400 South Wilcox Drive in Kingsport. We are sponsoring the event to give folks a chance to trade surplus equipment. This event is open to anyone, in the club or not, who wishes to participate. Though registration is not required to attend, if you have multiple items or large single items, it is strongly encouraged that you reserve a space. Reservations and more information can be found at: <http://www.tehcc.org/news/gearswap>.

The club is also looking for members that are interested in helping staff the event. Please contact Ian Powell at [chair@tehcc.org](mailto:chair@tehcc.org) if you would like to help out.



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## TEHCC Welcomes New Members

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Wesley McConnell  
Jeffrey Weatherford  
Mark Ewing  
David Johnston

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## Event Schedule – Next Two Months

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For the latest, up-to-date information, see [tehcc.org/schedule](http://tehcc.org/schedule)

Date	Description	Leader	Contact
Feb 15	Lunch and Learn – Sleeping Bag Anatomy	<a href="#">Ian Powell</a>	<a href="mailto:chair@tehcc.org">chair@tehcc.org</a>
Feb 19-20	Virgin Falls Backpacking Trip	<a href="#">Ian Powell</a>	<a href="mailto:chair@tehcc.org">chair@tehcc.org</a>
Feb 21	Maintainers Dinner Meeting	<a href="#">Kim Peters</a>	<a href="mailto:atmaint@tehcc.org">atmaint@tehcc.org</a>
Feb 25	APes/TEHCC Winter Gathering	<a href="#">Jerry Weatherford</a>	<a href="mailto:riverapestricities@yahoo.com">riverapestricities@yahoo.com</a>
Mar 3	Rental Equipment Checkout	<a href="#">Vic Hasler</a>	<a href="mailto:rental@tehcc.org">rental@tehcc.org</a>
Mar 11	TEHCC Spring Dinner Meeting	<a href="#">Ian Powell</a>	<a href="mailto:chair@tehcc.org">chair@tehcc.org</a>
Mar 26	2011 Gear Swap	<a href="#">Ian Powell</a>	<a href="mailto:chair@tehcc.org">chair@tehcc.org</a>

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## Description of Upcoming Events

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### Recurring Events

#### **Most Tuesdays: Weekly AT Trail Maintenance**

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

#### **Tuesday Evenings: 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 and for 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. provides 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...). If you 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. We will try our best to get you outfitted for the night!

#### **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 areas. Trips typically leave from the parking lot between McDonald's and State of Franklin Bank in Colonial Heights at 8 am. Trips to places farther away leave at 7:30 am. Contact [Collins Chew](#) to be added to the distribution list.

## Scheduled Events

### February Lunch and Learn – Sleeping Bag Anatomy, February 15, 2011

Eastman Employee Center, 11:30-12:30, room 223

Contact: [Ian Powell](#)

Down vs Synthetic? Stitch-through, Box-wall or V-tube? What's the deal with the rating system? Do I really need a pad too? What does the down fill rating mean? Bring your lunch and learn about the differences in sleeping bags. Find out what questions you need to ask before you buy a bag. Learn how to care for your bag.

### Virgin Falls Backpacking Trip, February 19-20, 2011

Leader: [Ian Powell](#)

Spectacular falls and rugged terrain await just outside Sparta, TN. Mileage will not be the focus on this trip, at least as far as backpacking is concerned. We will leave Kingsport early Saturday morning and hike to all the falls that day. We will spend the night on the sandy banks of the Caney Fork. Sunday we will hike out and head for home. Please contact [Ian Powell](#) for more information.

### Annual Maintainers Dinner, February 21, 2011

Eastman Lodge, Banquet Room, 5:30-8:00pm

Contact: [Kim Peters](#), 423-538-7665

We will have our annual dinner to kick off the primary maintenance season on Monday, February 21 at the Eastman Lodge.

5:30 Social Time

6:00 Dinner

6:30 Meeting and Open Discussion

Mary Cunningham and Ed Oliver have graciously volunteered to provide dinner. If you have been before, you know you can't beat the quality for the few dollars in cost. Please contact [Kim Peters](#) to let me know how many people may come for dinner, so we can plan accordingly for the meals.

### APes/TEHCC Winter Gathering, Eastman Lodge, February 25, 2011, 6:30pm

Contact: [Jerry Weatherford](#)



The annual APes/TEHCC winter gathering will be held at the Eastman Lodge on February 25 starting at 6:30pm. This will be a potluck dinner so break out those favorite recipes and get to cooking something good! The club will provide the meat and bread. Attendees will be responsible for their own beverage and ice. We will be discussing 2011 events and will have a good paddling movie to watch as well.

### Rental Equipment Checkout, March 3, 2011, 11:30 to 1:30, Eastman Employee Center (B-310, Rm 115)

Leader: [Vic Hasler](#)

Yes, it's a month earlier this year due to the gear swap. Interested in what tents, backpacks, and sleeping pads the TEHCC has available? Then come help check out the club equipment so that it's ready for another year of use. (Particularly, the most rented tents HT-6, 15, 20, and 21.) Ideas on what to replace/purchase will be discussed. As usual, pizza, vegi tray, cookies, and beverages will be provided to helpers, so let me know your preferences.



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## For the Record

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### Friday Hikers: Chimney Top, December 31, 2010

Collins Chew reporting

We had a beautiful warm day for our climb of Chimney Top today. We (I) missed a turn and actually had an easier route to the top by going around the firetower peak and reaching the ridge crest from the back side near the old firetower. After a snack at the old beacon, we descended by the regular route. The hike was about 3.5 miles with a climb of about 1,400 feet. We had nice views of the valley. Hikers were: Barry Griggs, Carol and Charles Idol, Allison Hewson, Chuck, David, and John Mather, JoAnn and James Medlin, Patty Jo Nachman, Debbie Stern, Marilyn Young, and Collins Chew.



## AT Maintenance Reports

**Reporting:** Craig Haire

**Date:** December 18, 2010

**Purpose:** Chainsaw clearing and lopping

**Location:** Nolichucky to Temple Hill

**People:** Craig Haire, Helga Mitchell, James Price, Dave McMillin

**Summary:** We cleared obstructions and trimmed back rhododendrons. Bear tracks were seen.

**Reporting:** Gether Irick

**Date:** January 2, 2011

**Purpose:** Inspect trail condition

**Location:** Section 13a, US 19E to Doll Flats

**People:** Gether Irick

**Summary:** We inspected the trail conditions from 19E to Doll Flats. A large blowdown is across trail just north of shelter, but it's easy to walk around (chain saw required). The shelter in great shape - no trash and the broom is okay. There's lots of tree trash on trail from recent storms, but nothing major. Some of the blazing is in poor condition. Overall, the trail is in good shape.

**Reporting:** Carl Fritz

**Date:** January 4, 2011

**Purpose:** Dig Trail relocation

**Location:** Section 8, North of 2nd campsite between Wilbur Dam Road and US 321

**People:** Daryel Anderson, John Beaudet, Paul Benfield, Richard Carter, Carl Fritz, Ted Mowery, Kim Peters, Bob Peoples, Tim Stewart, George Thorpe, Lone Wolf

**Summary:** We got a break in our cabin fever and tested our stamina. We dug 400 feet of side hill trail just north of the second campsite. One or two more days will complete all the relos around Watauga Lake.

**Reporting:** Steve Perri

**Date:** January 12, 2011

**Purpose:** Discuss ATC Capital Project List with Andrew Downs

**Location:** Eastman Employee Center

**People:** Andrew Downs, Joe DeLoach, Carl Fritz, Steve Perri

**Summary:** We reviewed and updated the ATC capital project list out to year 2016. We discussed this year's gravel project for Round Bald with a request for the last week of Konnarock to haul the gravel and the use of AUS students to disperse the gravel by buckets. We proposed using a grant from the NC License Program to cover the cost of rental equipment and purchase of gravel from NC. We will need to rely on ATC to cover insurance for the gravel hauling vehicles. We will also need to find a way to transport the vehicles to and from the rental company.

**Tennessee Eastman Hiking and Canoeing Club**  
**Spring Dinner Meeting**  
**March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

**Reservation Form**

Fill out the form below and send it with a check payable to **Kevin Barham**.

Within Eastman send to:  
Kevin Barham, Building 469

Outside Eastman send to:  
Kevin Barham  
511 Windsor Forest Dr  
Kingsport, TN 37663

There is no charge for those attending the program and NOT joining us for the meal.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** The check and reservation form must be received by **March 4, 2011**.

Names of all attending (*please print*)

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Number of Adult's Meals: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$12.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Children's Meals (12 and under): \_\_\_\_\_ x \$6.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Number attending without meal reservation: \_\_\_\_\_