



The Tennessee Eastman Hiking and Paddling News

October 2012

tehcc.org

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From the Chair

Vic Hasler, Steering Committee Chair

Our region is blessed with many places to enjoy the fall colors of changing deciduous trees. The show starts in the highest elevations (above 4000') by the start of October and continues down the mountains peaking around the second or third weekends. So where to go for a "leaf peeper" hike? Just opened last year, the [Pinnacle Mountain Tower Trail](#) (9 miles round trip) has wonderful 360 degree views in mid-October. A shorter couple-mile hike up [White Rock Trail](#) in Buffalo Mountain Park offers views along the I-26 valley. A five-mile hike out and back on the AT to [Little Rock Knob](#) is a forested walk to a scenic overview. Joe DeLoach is fond of [Rattlesnake Ridge Trail](#) up Unaka Mountain to Pleasant Gardens Overlook (6-8 miles round trip). This month is also the final push of the Mission Possible wellness program; so consider one of the Sunday afternoon hikes being offered. Enjoy the color before it falls.

2012 Work with the Konnarock Crew

Joe DeLoach reporting

This summer we took full advantage of our three weeks with the Konnarock Crew to complete some needed projects on the Appalachian Trail. In June, we returned to relocations of some Trail sections between Beartown Mountain and Hughes Gap begun in 2011. Unchanged since the originally routing in 1954, these steep sections were badly eroded and unpleasant to hike. In July, we completed a rehabilitation of the gravel section between Carvers Gap and Round Bald which Club volunteers had started earlier that month; see the August newsletter for an in-depth description of that project. We were also able to complete a rehab of a short, rocky section just below Cloudland. In August we moved back to Beartown Mountain where we finished the relocation we worked on in June and made very good progress on a tough relo closer to Beartown Mountain. Altogether, 16 Club volunteers worked a total of 62 person-days or 596 hours with the Konnarock Crew this summer. This is good, but we've done better; in 2000 with three weeks, we put in the original Round Bald Relocation with 42 volunteers working 115 person-days and 1017 hours. The feeling of accomplishment when completing a project always lifts the spirits of volunteers. We'd love to have more people come out on these weekend outings to experience that - and to get more done! Volunteers who worked at least 40 hours with the Crew and earned their 30th anniversary T-shirt include Frank Klein, Bob Peoples, Paul Benfield, Tim Stewart, Joe DeLoach, and Ed Oliver. Other volunteers include Donna Ashby, Richard Carter, Dave Clark, Jim Foster, Carl Fritz, Joe Morris, Ted Mowery, Bill Murdoch, Steve Perri, and Gerald Scott. Thanks to all!

TEHCC Fall Dinner Meeting - Friday, October 19th

For our Fall Dinner meeting, TEHCC would like to invite you to a meet and greet with the new ATC Executive Director, Mark Wenger, who stepped up to this position in 2012. Previously, Mark was very active in the Tidewater AT Club and Chair of the Central/Southwest Virginia Regional Partnership Committee, while working for the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. He has also thru-hiked the Appalachian Trail as an "Animal".

Event	Time	Details
Fall Dinner Meeting	5:30pm	Location: Eastman Lodge, Main Banquet Hall 404 Bays Mountain Road, Kingsport, TN
Happy "Trails" Hour	5:30pm-6:30pm	Beer and wine for sale, or BYOB. Thanks again to Marc Schurger.
Dinner - Spiral Ham, Grilled Caribbean Jerk Chicken, Russet Potatoes, Grilled Vegetables (squash, zucchini, peppers & onions), Tossed salad, Rolls, Various cakes for dessert, Tea/Coffee	6:30pm-7:15pm	Catered by Sugar & Spice Catering (\$15 per person)
Club Activities and Awards	7:15pm-7:45pm	
Special Program, Informally titled - The Appalachian Trail Conservancy: Where We Are and Where We Are Going	7:45pm-8:30pm	Mark Wenger

There is no charge for attending the program only, but if you would like to eat, please submit your reservation by end of the day Friday, October 12th. [A reservation form is located at the end of this newsletter.](#)

A Biennial Celebration at ATC Cullowhee 2013



Plans have been underway for over a year for the biennial celebration at ATC Cullowhee 2013. It will be held at Western Carolina University (WCU) July 19-26, 2013, in Cullowhee N.C. The five AT trail maintaining clubs in North Carolina, Georgia and Tennessee have been working on all aspects of this event. TEHCC is responsible for organizing the workshops while other clubs are handling volunteers, hike selection, excursions, entertainment, housing, etc. We expect near 1000 people to attend this week long event.

Volunteering is fun. It is a great way to meet people, to learn something new, to really be a part of this event. You can volunteer to lead a hike or an excursion, moderate a workshop, or help at the information desk or registration to name just a few possibilities. Volunteering is easy, just complete the convenient online form at appalachiantrail.org/2013biennial and someone will contact you with more information.

On the same ATC web page, there is a list of all activities in the planning stages. As hikes, excursions, workshops and entertainment are finalized, this page will be updated with the latest info, so check back often.

Cullowhee is surrounded by beautiful mountains, with access to many hiking trails. There are opportunities for tent and RV camping, or you may stay in the air-conditioned dorms at WCU. There are also hotel and motel options nearby. Come for the whole week or the weekend or any number of days. Start planning a 2013 vacation at the biennial and plan to volunteer one of the days you are there.

And while you are thinking about the biennial, do you know a company that sells a product or service outdoor lovers use? Do you have a personal contact at a major corporation that is a potential sponsor for the biennial? If you have answered "yes" to both or either of those questions, you know a potential sponsor. Several sponsorship levels are available, each with different benefits. Let us know the future sponsor's name by sending an email to Cullowhee2013sponsorship@gmail.com.

For more information, contact Joe DeLoach, joedelo@eastman.com or Steve Perri, sperry@eastman.com.

2012 ATC Leadership Conference

Vic Hasler reporting

The 2012 ATC Leadership Conference was a two day gathering of around ninety leaders from most of the trail maintaining clubs - the first held in ten years. Vic Hasler and Kim Peters participated in the meeting, which took place August 10-12 at the National Conservation Training Center in Shepherdstown, WV thanks to \$20K funding supplied by REI. The main sessions on Saturday were facilitated by two leaders from The Intergenerational Center at Temple University. Their work has been with non-profit agencies to help expand the volunteer base. For this brief report, I would to relay just one of their topics.

Pyramid of Engagement

Volunteers move from “outside” the organization to “inside” through a series of steps:

- Observing – you exist to them, but only from a distance
- Following – they read the newsletter or website
- Endorsing – they tell others about the club
- Contributing – they take action, such as purchase AT plate or go on a hike/maintenance trip
- Owning – reference the club as “we” – are hike leaders, section maintainers, Steering Committee
- Leading – take on a guiding role – even if short-term

I would like to thank the many folks who help TEHCC in various ways. If you have helped the Appalachian Trail with improving its route or keeping it open, then you have made the world a better place to enjoy getting outdoors. The personal fulfillment of leadership is rewarded by the smiles and wows of your family and friends seeing a wonderful sight – reached by walking the Trail.



TEHCC Welcomes New Members

Sarah King

John Huff

Event Schedule

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

Date	Description	Leader	Contact
Oct 7	F/B: Natural Tunnel SP - Purchase Ridge Trail	Vic Hasler	423-239-0388
Oct 13	Appalachian Trail - Unaka Mountain Traverse	Joe DeLoach	423-753-7263
Oct 19	Fall Dinner Meeting	Vic Hasler	423-239-0388
Oct 20	Third Saturday Maintenance – Hiking with Tools!	Kim Peters	423-538-7665
Oct 27	ASU Trail Crew at Cloudland	Carl Fritz	423-477-4669

Details on Upcoming Events

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) for dates and meeting places.

Tuesdays 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 to learn 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 email asking other members to bring extra equipment. We will try our best to get you outfitted for the night!

3rd Saturday Maintenance – Hiking with Tools!

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

Come out for a day hike somewhere on our beautiful section of trail on the 3rd Saturday of each month and help out on some routine maintenance needs, such as cutting annual growth, cleaning out waterbars and painting blazes. All tools will be furnished and no prior experience is required! Contact [Kim](#) for details and meeting time and place.

Scheduled Events

F/B: Natural Tunnel SP - Purchase Ridge Trail, Sunday October 7, 2012

Leader: [Vic Hasler](#) (423-239-0388)

While Natural Tunnel State Park is famous for the railroad tunnel, it also has several trails. The longest is Purchase Ridge Trail, which is a couple miles hike from the campground to an overlook for the valley. The path wanders through a hardwood forest and up 200 ft to and around the summit. Hikers can either meet at 1PM in the parking lot below McDonalds in Colonial Heights to carpool – or in the park by 1:45PM. Bring water, snack, and comfortable footwear. We should be back in Kingsport by late afternoon. Please call or e-mail the hike leader to coordinate carpooling.

Appalachian Trail - Unaka Mountain Traverse, October 13, 2012

Leader: [Joe DeLoach](#) (423-753-7263)

Rating: *Strenuous*

At 5180', Unaka Mountain offers many features generally found only on the higher mountains, from the dark spruce woods that cloak its summit to grassy balds such as Beauty Spot to tumbling waterfalls on its flanks. We'll hike across it on an 11 mile stretch of the Appalachian Trail from Iron Mt. Gap to Indian Grave Gap. The first part of the hike has benefitted greatly from a series of relocations TEHCC did with help from all our groups a few years ago, eliminating many sharp ascents and descents without views with a sidehill grade. On the way up Unaka, we'll walk through a rockfield that those of us who worked on it will not soon forget, but it is likely to be barely evident to most hikers after a few years. The red spruce forest on top of Unaka offers no views but is a peaceful, dark place. On the descent we'll begin to get glimpses of the balds which lie ahead, culminating in Beauty Spot. While there we'll check out the work to prevent vehicle ingress that the Cherokee National Forest has undertaken, then complete our hike by descending to Indian Grave Gap. Though the route is considerably easier than it was 10 years ago, there is still enough climbing and distance to merit a strenuous rating. There will be two meeting locations and times. One is the parking lot between McDonald's and State Of Franklin Bank, near Ingle's in Colonial Heights, at 8:00. The other is at Parkway Discount Wine & Liquor on South Roan Street in Johnson City at 8:30. Please contact Joe by Thursday, October 11 if you'd like to go.



For the Record

Little Stony Creek Falls, July 29, 2012

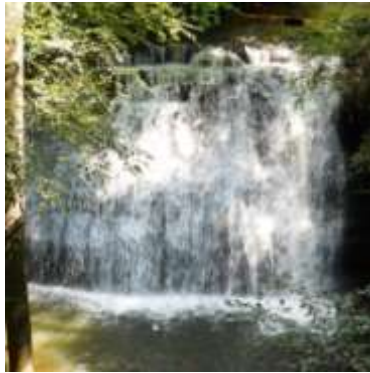
Vic Hasler reporting

From the Hanging Rock Recreation Area, this trail winds up the deep rock-strewn gorge carved by the cascading Little Stony Creek. Due to the wettest month ever on record for the region, the full creek flow provided magnificent views waterfalls and cascades. Enjoying this roughly six mile hike were Barry Griggs, Carol and Waylon Jenkins, Yong Li, and Vic Hasler.

Damage from the December 2009 winter storm has been cleared. The few recent blowdowns were readily passed. However, the significant issue for this trail is severe erosion resulting in the narrow path caving away in a few spots, thus difficult crossings of the gaps. Conversation with Jorge Hersel (Clinch District Ranger) concluded that the 4" downpour during the week prior likely caused the observed damage. Immediate action will be to send a couple of forest service employees over to assess the situation. Existing plans were to potentially partner with [The Clinch Coalition](#) to reroute the trail – especially above the first bridge from the recreation area. Check the TEHCC [trail wiki](#) for further information and pictures.



At the trailhead in Hanging Rock Recreation Area
(L/R Yong Li, Barry Griggs, Carol and Waylon Jenkins)



Middle Curtain Falls



Upper Plunge Falls

Steele Creek Park, Bristol, TN - August 5, 2012

Barry Griggs reporting

The hike started under partly cloudy skies at the Nature Center at Steele Creek Park. The threat of thunderstorms later in the afternoon may have kept some potential hikers at home, but with rain gear in hand I decided I was going rain or shine, as long as there were no imminent storms. This was a hike I have been wanting to do so it became a solo hike. The route started with the Hemlock Hollow Trail and connected with the Slagle Hollow Trail. After about ½ mile on the Slagle Hollow Trail, the route became impassable due to blowdowns and overgrowth. It had obviously been a long time since any maintenance had been done. I decided to leave the rest of this route to whatever snakes and other critters called it home. I backtracked and turned onto the Cross Ridge Trail. From there I used the High Ridge Trail and Lake Ridge Trail to get back to the Hemlock Hollow Trail and my starting point. The total route was about four miles. All trails were in good shape except for the Slagle Hollow Trail which was in dire need of work. I was able to get back to Kingsport by about 4:00, long before any thunderstorms hit.

F/B: Bays Mountain Park (Kingsport, TN) - Lake Road Loop and Fire Tower, August 12, 2012

Waylon Jenkins reporting

An August cool front and sunny skies created a great Sunday afternoon for hiking. We left the Employee Center at 1:45 and found a crowded parking lot on Bays Mountain. However, as usual, the crowds diminished quickly after getting away from the Nature Center. We followed Fern Trail to Lake Road, noting a beautiful stand of young tulip poplars along the way. Taking Lake Road to the Fire Tower Trail gave us a chance to stretch our legs before beginning the climb to the tower. The observation tower is open, but it is "climb at your own risk". Descending the River Mountain Road, we noted that is not much of a road anymore. However, the washing has revealed some beautiful red stone formations. The trail over Cherry Knobs provided another workout and the Lake Road back to the Nature Center provided another opportunity for some pleasant easy walking as we passed by the ecology pond and the views of the lily pad-covered Ecology Pond. We were back to the Employee Center before 5:00. This would make a great fall Sunday afternoon hike that is convenient to Kingsport. Enjoying this five mile hike were Waylon and Carol Jenkins.

Warriors Path Devil's Backbone, September 2, 2012

Deb Reynolds reporting

Following a large Sunday dinner, the 1.6 miles of Warriors Path Devil's Backbone was a welcome relief and perfect for what it is - a quick but intense hike, good for the heart. Although short but heavy showers had come to my neighborhood just prior, there had not been any rain here yet and the trail was dry. With temps of 86 deg C (felt like 93), UV index of 6 (high) and 56% humidity, the breeze from the lake was welcome relief as well. Vic Hasler and I completed the walk to the bridge and back in 70 minutes with several stops for me to breathe as we returned. Vic trimmed along the trail and picked up less than a plastic store bag of trash. We saw a few golfers, one kayaker resting in the shade by the falls, and a single blue heron perched on a rock in the lake by the trail. The 1/2 price Sonic limeade (diet) was my reward for the sweat. Attending: Vic Hasler and Deb Reynolds

F/B: Persimmon Ridge Park, September 9, 2012

Vic Hasler reporting

The return of autumn temperatures provided a very comfortable afternoon for a hike. The group took the Luke Carter (0.70 mi), Walter Hopkins (0.43 mi), and John Tomko (0.65 mi) trails finishing up on a well packed gravel road. The city appears to have actually performed some trail maintenance as the paths were in great shape. All of the geocaches sought were found with several trades. On this afternoon hike were Chris, Paul, and Lydia Garrett, Barry, Beverly, and Ellie (schnauzer) Griggs and Vic Hasler.

Steele Creek Park, Bristol, TN – Trinkle Hollow Trails, September 23, 2012

Barry Griggs reporting

What a beautiful day for a hike! The air was crisp and the sky was a bright blue almost making it sinful to stay inside. On Sunday afternoon our group of five toured several trails in the Trinkle Hollow area of Steele Creek Park in Bristol. Starting on Quarry Cave Trail we turned right onto Rock Cut Trail then to Powerline, Fox Ridge and finally back to our starting point using Lakeside Trail for a total of about 4.5 miles. This is a route that others may want to consider doing on their own in the future. It should be considered an intermediate level hike. We spotted several trees in the process of changing colors and one that was already a beautiful bright red that really stood out when the sun hit it. It was a very enjoyable afternoon with good company. Hikers included Beverly Griggs, Denise Spears, Denise Hardin, Scott Thomsen and Barry Griggs.



AT Maintenance Reports

Reporting: Waylon Jenkins

Date: 8/11/2012

Purpose: Cut weeds and general maintenance

Location: Section 5, TN91 to Iron Mountain Shelter

People: Waylon Jenkins, Carol Jenkins

Summary: We took advantage of a refreshing August cold (or at least cooler...) front to do some maintenance. The primary purpose was to cut weeds, and there were quite a few to cut. There were numerous briars and extensive sections with knee-high weeds, but fortunately they were not stinging nettle and the trail was still very passable even though it looked somewhat overgrown in places. We took a scythe rather than a powered weeder, and one of us got quite a workout. A second scythe would have been helpful. We also did some pruning, cleared several partial obstructions, and checked the blazes (which were in good condition). We met about eight hikers, including two from the Piedmont Appalachian Trail Hikers.

Reporting: Carl Fritz

Date: 8/16/2012

Purpose: Cut weeds

Location: Section 11a, Mostly the northern end, near Dennis Cove Road

People: Bob Peoples

Summary: Bob used a swing blade to knock down many weeds starting at Dennis Cove and heading trail south

Reporting: Michael Ray

Date: 8/17/2012

Purpose: Check trail condition and do maintenance

Location: Section 19b, From the outfitter to within a mile of Curley Maple Gap Shelter

People: Dale Douthat, Samantha Lipsey, Michael Ray

Summary: We cut brush and weeds from the River Outfitter to within about a mile of the shelter. The Trail is in good shape with no blowdowns or other problems. We will get back soon to check and maintain the rest of this section.

Reporting: Carl Fritz

Date: 8/18/2012

Purpose: Clean and repair tools and manufacture sheaths

People: Carl Fritz, Ed Oliver

Summary: We prepared and repaired digging tools, plus we manufactured safety sheaths for pulaskis.

Reporting: Tim Stewart

Date: 8/18/2012

Purpose: Maintain section

Location: Section 11b, Moreland Gap Shelter to Canute Place

People: Tim Stewart

Summary: I cleared weeds and a few other obstructions from Moreland Gap Shelter to the Canute Place. I also cleared the grass and weeds at the Canute Place and the water source. The water source was flowing. Moreland Gap Shelter looked good; rake, shovel and broom were in place. I emptied fire pit of the ashes. The shelter register was full, so I removed it (will need new one). The shelter water source was flowing, but just barely.

Reporting: Carl Fritz

Date: 8/21/2012

Purpose: Dig relocation

Location: Section 15b, Beartown Mountain

People: Paul Benfield, Frank Klein, Pat Loven, Ken Murray, Bob Peoples, Tim Stewart, "Roman Wall;" Wright State: Nathan Mitchell, Ben Clause, Alyssa Weyant, Tasha Fox, Patrick McCarthy, Molly Hertenstein, Jenna Kolb, Connor Moorman, Kimberly Honious, Francisco Caronin

Summary: Wright State University students joined us for a day of maintenance after several days of hiking. They have been doing this annually since 1999. On this day, they made a major impact on digging a relocation at Beartown Mountain. One good day with club folks may finish the work at Beartown Mountain.

Reporting: Joe DeLoach

Date: 8/26/2012

Purpose: Routine maintenance and replace shelter register

Location: Section 15a, Cloudland to Roan High Knob Shelter

People: Craig DeLoach and Joe DeLoach

Summary: The main purpose of this trip was to retrieve and replace the shelter register. We arrived at the shelter to find that there wasn't one. We left one and picked up trash in and around the shelter, which wasn't too bad. On the way we cut briars and lopped some encroaching tree branches.

Reporting: Michael Ray

Date: 8/29/2012

Purpose: Routine maintenance

Location: Section 19b, From the outfitter to the Nolichucky River

People: Dale Douthat, Michael Ray

Summary: We made a return trip to work on the southern part of our section. We started at the outfitter and went to the river crossing, clipping back the brush growth. Dale did all of the weed trimming again. Many thanks Dale! We cut and removed three single-log blowdowns and shored up one eroded downhill edge of trail with logs and fill rock. We met one hiker; a young lad who had started at the river. He said he was starting out on a month-long journey. Best of luck to him.

Reporting: Richard Carter

Date: 8/31/2012

Purpose: Cut weeds

Location: Section 14b, Just north of Grassy Ridge Trail junction

People: Richard Carter

Summary: I trimmed weeds and briars with a swing blade for about a quarter-mile north of the Grassy Ridge Trail junction.

Reporting: Carl Fritz

Date: 9/1/2012

Purpose: Cut weeds

Location: Section 12c, Elk River

People: Carl Fritz, Ed Oliver

Summary: We cut weeds along Elk River. They needed cutting, but were not bad. Cutting now will prevent the taller weeds from falling onto the trail. We also cut the weeds north and south of 19E. We cut to Buck Mountain Road on the north side and then cut the field just south of 19E. All these areas should be good for the rest of this year.

Reporting: Steve Perri

Date: 9/2/2012

Purpose: Clear blowdown

Location: Section 13a, US19E to Doll Flats

People: Steve Wilson, Steve Perri

Summary: We drove in from Doll Flats Road and walked the short distance from the USFS gate to Doll Flats. We encountered the reported blowdown about one mile south of Doll Flats. We removed it and another one about 30 feet away. It began to rain hard, so we turned around after this cut and hiked to the cliff to wait for the rain to subside. We also removed a widow maker in the camping area at Doll Flats where we encountered several hikers from GATC who watched us. We used a chain saw with several cuts until it was easy enough to handle manually to bring it to the ground. We cut it up in several pieces, which the campers used for seating around a fire pit. We brought a scythe to cut the weeds at 19E, but when we stopped there, we saw they had already been cut.

Reporting: Carl Fritz

Date: 9/5/2012

Purpose: Biological surveys

Location: Section 5, South of TN 91

People: Carl Fritz, Ed Oliver

Summary: Ed and Carl went with Joe McGuinness and Chris Stoeihel to do a biological survey on the trail relocations. We started to do Turkeypen Gap, but the weather was looking bad with steady rain in Stoney Creek. We opted to go south of TN 91. Light rain stayed with us until we were almost done, then we had a gully washer. Those relos are checked out and we will attempt Turkeypen Gap next week.

Reporting: Carl Fritz

Date: 9/6/2012

Purpose: Dig relocation

Location: Section 15b: Just south of Cloudland

People: Jim Foster, Carl Fritz, Joe Morris, Bob Peoples, Tim Stewart

Summary: While in the clouds all day, we worked on another tough but small relocation. Duff is about a foot thick and major tree roots are on the surface. We are having to basically refill with rock. One more day should allow us to open this relocation.

Reporting: Mike Hupko

Date: 9/7/2012

Purpose: Fall maintenance

Location: Section 18, Deep Gap to Beauty Spot

People: Marsha Hupko, Mike Hupko

Summary: We mowed the AT at Deep Gap and the trail to the spring. We also mowed the trail at Beauty Spot Gap and the north trail section of Beauty Spot. We sprayed a white-faced hornet's nest at Beauty Spot Gap. There was also an active yellow jacket nest, but it appeared something had dug it out.

Reporting: Bill Fuller

Date: 9/9/2012

Purpose: Paint blazes

Location: Section 9a, US321 to Pond Flats

People: Bill Fuller

Summary: I finished painting all the south-bound blazes to Pond Flats. I also removed four small-to-medium blowdowns and cut some brush along the way. There was an abandoned campsite at Pond Flats, so I packed the majority of that trash out on my way back down the mountain.

Reporting: Carl Fritz

Date: 9/12/2012

Purpose: Dig relocation

Location: Section 15b, Just south of Cloudland

People: Daryl Anderson, Ken Buchanan, Jim Chambers, Jim Foster, Carl Fritz, Pat Loven, Ted Mowery, Bill Murdoch, Ed Oliver, Brian Paley, Bob Peoples, Kim Peters, Tim Stewart

Summary: It was a beautiful day for digging trail. Near Cloudland it is entirely large rocks, large roots and deep duff; but we persevered with picks, rock bars, sledges and wedges. We opened another relocation and will finish another one in next outing.

Reporting: Carl Fritz

Date: 9/13/2012

Purpose: Clean hard hats

People: Carl Fritz

Summary: I cleaned about 130 hard hats so we are ready for the next large group of volunteers.

Reporting: Kim Peters

Date: 9/15/2012

Purpose: 3rd Saturday Maintenance - Hiking with Tools!

Location: Section 7, Vandeventer Shelter to Wilbur Dam Road

People: Monika Wiedmann, Gayle Riddervold, Becky Kinder, Rolla Wade, Phyllis Cairnes, Kat Johnson, Kim Peters

Summary: Another fine 3rd Saturday outing! With so many participants, the workload was light and this turned out to be fine day for a hike. The entire section was clipped and a few obstructions removed. We painted the blazes to the water source and left a new log book at the shelter which was surprisingly free of trash. There were two conditions we couldn't correct however. The first was a 20" dead tree across the trail just north of the road after the first switchback. Hikers are having to leave the trail on the downhill side to cross this tree and causing treadway damage. The second thing we found that we could not do anything about, was a large tree limb that had fallen onto the shelter roof. I don't think the roof is damaged yet, but this limb has that potential along with the potential of falling further and possibly injuring a hiker.

Reporting: Kim Peters

Date: 9/19/2012

Purpose: Clear blowdown, remove limb from shelter roof

Location: Section 7, Vandeventer Shelter

People: Bob Peoples, Carl Fritz, Jim Foster, Kim Peters

Summary: The recent "3rd Saturday Hiking with Tools" trip found a 20" blowdown across the trail that we were not equipped to handle, as well as a limb down on the shelter roof that posed a hazard both for the shelter as well as hikers staying there. This trip fixed both those conditions. A cross-cut saw, hand saw and an ax were used to clear the blowdown in this wilderness area. A few ropes, some trimming of branches and a little tugging and pulling safely removed the limb from the shelter roof. It was a perfect day weatherwise to be out in the woods.

Reporting: Carl Fritz

Date: 9/20/2012

Purpose: Dig Relocation

Location: Section 15b, Just trail south of Cloudland

People: Paul Benfield, Jim Chambers, Ted Mowery, Ken Murray, Bob Peoples, Kaj Smith

Summary: Tuesday Crew added more rock and steps to the relocation closest to Cloudland and opened it officially.

Reporting: Carl Fritz

Date: 9/21/2012

Purpose: Relocation survey

Location: Section 6, Turkeypen Gap

People: Jim Foster, Carl Fritz

Summary: We assisted Joe McGuinness and Chris Stoehrel in conducting a biological survey of the relocation trail north of Turkeypen Gap. We moved the trail slightly in a couple of places to avoid some rare plants. Otherwise the relocation looked good. To access the trail we had to walk up the mountain from pavement. The dirt road is washed out.

Reporting: Carl Fritz

Date: 9/23/2012

Purpose: Cut blowdowns

Location: Section 11a: Dennis Cove Road to Canute Place

People: Bob Peoples

Summary: Bob Peoples removed five of seven minor blowdowns on this section with a hand saw. The other two are step-overs. He encountered nine hikers; so fall hiking season is picking up. Canute Place had been mowed recently; probably by TWRA, based on appearance.

Reporting: Mike Hupko

Date: 9/24/2012

Purpose: Fall maintenance

Location: Section 18, FS230 switchback to Indian Grave Gap

People: Faye Guinn, Howard Guinn, Ernie Hartford, Jerry Jones, Dave McMillin, Lou Haase, Andrew Cleland, Sandie Burns, Marsha Hupko, Mike Hupko

Summary: We painted blazes from the FS230 switchback to Beauty Spot (north and south bound). We pruned overhanging branches and removed several small trees along the complete distance, and cleaned water bars from Beauty Spot to Indian Grave Gap.

Tennessee Eastman Hiking and Canoeing Club
Fall Dinner Meeting
Friday, October 19th, 2012

Reservation Form

Fill out the form below and send it with a check payable to **Vic Hasler**.

Within Eastman send to:
Vic Hasler, Building 231

Outside Eastman send to:
Vic Hasler
106 Sandpiper Circle
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 **Friday 10/12/2012**

Names of all attending (*please print*)

Name(s): _____

Number of Meals: _____ x \$15 = \$ _____

Number attending without meal reservation: _____