



# The Tennessee Eastman Hiking and Paddling News

November 2012

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

## In this Issue

[From the Chair](#)

[2013 Steering Committee Elections](#)

[TEHCC Fall Dinner Meeting](#)

[A Biennial Celebration at ATC Cullowhee 2013](#)

[TEHCC Welcomes New Members](#)

[Event Schedule](#)

[Details on Upcoming Events](#)

[For the Record](#)

[AT Maintenance Reports](#)

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## From the Chair

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*Vic Hasler, Steering Committee Chair*

Where have you seen them? There are 2,257 Tennessee AT plates currently on the road – up 27% from the start of the year. I recently spotted three in a row at a local store parking lot. This program will make \$10,000 available for grants in 2013.

November also brings yet another election (see the notice later in this newsletter). Leadership for TN Eastman Hiking and Canoeing Club is provided by two committees. The “AT Committee” manages our responsibilities as a maintaining club of the Appalachian Trail, while the “Steering Committee” guides the club activities as being part of the Eastman Recreation program. The informal meetings for both groups are open to everyone. Check the [club calendar](#) for dates.

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## 2013 Steering Committee Elections

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Elections occur at all levels of society. While also considering the leadership of our country, please take some time to vote for the TEHCC Steering Committee members who informally guide the general club functions. This year’s ballot has four candidates, of which, three are elected to a two year term for 2013-2014. Their biographies are provided below for your reference. Eastman employees can vote online [HERE](#), while retirees can vote by sending Tim Schaefer an email at [tschaefer@eastman.com](mailto:tschaefer@eastman.com) or by calling him at 423-229-6244 to leave a voice mail. Per club constitution, non-Eastman employees/retirees are not eligible to vote. **The deadline for voting is November 23rd.** Results will be announced in the December newsletter.

### Terry Dougherty

Terry spent 38 years in the Research and Environmental Labs before retirement. He was active on the AT maintenance team and served two terms on the steering committee. Terry started and led the Canoe School for about 15 years for what was then the Eastman Canoe Club (now part of the TN Eastman Hiking and Canoeing Club). This coming year will mark the 34<sup>th</sup> consecutive year that Terry has led the Blue Stone River, WV trip.

### Brien Lewis

Brien is a new-hire mechanical engineer in Project Engineering, Technology Support Services and has been with Eastman for nine months. When not at home with his wife of four years, Katie, and his 5 month old daughter, Olivia, he enjoys doing many activities outdoors throughout the seasons. He is an avid hiker and rock climber, and loves the Southeastern United States. He has traveled all over the Southeast hiking, climbing and exploring and has plans to summit a few of Colorado’s 14,000-foot peaks this upcoming summer.

## Garry Luttrell

Garry retired from Eastman Chemical back in 1999 after working in Plant Protection, Specialty Plastics, Tenite Plastics, Baler Twine, Polymers, and Kodel. In 2001, he returned to Eastman as an LSE in Plant Protection. But, his major “employment” has been grandfather to 11 grandkids, which will soon require travelling to NC, Italy, and Bahamas. During the 1980s into mid-2000s, Garry was an active hike leader, including completing the Appalachian Trail, the SB6000 Peaks (currently serving on the ascent review committee with Kent Wilson), and leading hikes such as “The Great Moose Expedition” in New England, Isle Royale, Washington State (North Cascades, Mt. Rainier, Olympia, etc.). He was awarded “Hiker of the Year” eight times. He has been on the steering committee several times previously, thus can provide a long-term viewpoint.

## Tim McClain

Tim, now Director of Acetate Processing Department, has been with Eastman for 33 years. He has been an active member of the Hiking and Canoeing Club for over 30 years. Tim enjoys backpacking, day-hiking, canoeing, and kayaking. He is also an active trail maintainer and has adopted a section of the AT for regular maintenance.

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## TEHCC Fall Dinner Meeting

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### *Vic Hasler reporting*

The Fall dinner meeting, held on October 19<sup>th</sup>, featured a visit by Mark Wenger, the new ATC Executive Director. The evening started with an opportunity for informal greetings during the Happy Trails hour. (Thanks again to Marc Schurger for hosting – and obtaining the formal permission now required.) A delicious dinner for the 50 in attendance was again provided by Sugar & Spice Catering out of Nickelsville, VA.

The evening program started with a few words of inspiration by Bob Miller, who turned 94 in October. He spoke about some of the experiences he would have never had over the years, except through the hikes offered by the TN Eastman Hiking and Canoeing Club. These trips included hikes in Colorado, California, and Europe. A promotional video was viewed for the 2013 Biennial Meeting at Western Carolina University (July 19-26 – mark your calendars!). Announcements were made for club initiatives and upcoming activities, along with a few pauses to draw for door prizes.

Volunteers, who work at least 40 hours in 2012 with the Konnarock Crew, were recognized with the 30<sup>th</sup> year shirts presented by Mark Wenger. Thanks again to Bob Peoples, Paul Benfield, Tim Stewart, Joe DeLoach, and Ed Oliver for putting in at least a full work week on trail construction. Awards continued into ATC cumulative volunteer service hours. Patches for 100-500 hours were given to Jim Chambers, Terry Oldfield, Jerry Jones, Charlie Kinney, Lynn DiFiore, Pat Loven, Bill Fuller, Wayne Krevatski, Mike Tuttle, Jill Wilson, and David Huntley. Caps for 500-1000 hours were awarded to George Thorpe, John Beaudet, and Tim McClain. Great job!



The club then formally presented Carl Fritz with the 2012 Southern Region Volunteer of the Year plaque in recognition of his 7,700 hours over 846 events during his more than 25 years spent maintaining and improving the Appalachian Trail. Carl joins Bob Peoples as TEHCC club members to have received this prestigious award.

The evening culminated with Mark Wenger sharing his views on the current and future challenges for the ATC organization and national trail. The opportunity for questions and answers was appreciated as the club learned of the possible priorities from the new director.

*Photo: Steve Perri presents the 2012 Southern Region Volunteer of the Year Award to Carl Fritz.*

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## A Biennial Celebration at ATC Cullowhee 2013

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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, NC. 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 nearly 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](http://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 can 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](mailto:Cullowhee2013sponsorship@gmail.com).

For more information, contact Joe DeLoach, [joedelo@eastman.com](mailto:joedelo@eastman.com) or Steve Perri, [sperry@eastman.com](mailto:sperry@eastman.com).



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## TEHCC Welcomes New Members

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Leslie Gray  
Joseph Zewe

Carla Sentell  
Ryan Turgeon

John Caviness  
Brien Lewis

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## Event Schedule

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

| Date   | Description  | Leader                     | Contact      |
|--------|--|----------------------------|--------------|
| Nov 4  | F/B: BMP Bays Ridge/Lake Road Loop                       | <a href="#">Vic Hasler</a> | 423-239-0388 |
| Nov 17 | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday Maintenance – Hiking with Tools | <a href="#">Kim Peters</a> | 423-366-0128 |
| Nov 24 | Lake Keokee Loop   | <a href="#">Vic Hasler</a> | 423-239-0388 |

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## Details on 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.

#### 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!

#### 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday Maintenance – Hiking with Tools!

Contact: [Kim Peters](#) (423-366-0128)

Come out for a day hike somewhere on our beautiful section of trail on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month and help with 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: BMP Bays Ridge/Lake Road Loop, Sunday November 4, 2012

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

Daylight Savings Time expires for the year earlier on this day, thus an hour less of evening sunshine. Therefore, let's enjoy a nearby hike with high views across the valley towards the Appalachian Mountains. Depending on group choice, it can be either 2.5 or 3.1 miles from the Bays Mountain Park dam following Bays Ridge Road/Trail to have easterly outlooks and then back Front Hollow/Lake Road to the starting point. Hikers can either meet at 1 pm in Colonial Heights to carpool – or at the park dam by 1:30 pm. Bring water, snack, comfortable footwear, and layered clothing for the changing seasons. Dogs are allowed on leash. Please call or e-mail the hike leader to coordinate arrangements.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday Maintenance, November 17 – Hiking with Tools!

Contact: [Kim Peters](#) (423-366-0128)

This month we will work on Section 1 of our maintenance section, starting in Damascus and hiking south to the Backbone Rock Trail, a distance of 4.8 miles plus the Backbone Rock Trail. Our tasks will be cleaning waterbars, clipping woody growth and clearing small blowdowns. We will meet in Colonial Heights at 8 am. Please contact Kim for more information and to let her know you are coming to ensure there are enough tools.

### Lake Keokee Loop, Saturday, November 24, 2012

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

Here is a chance to walk off the turkey feast. On Saturday, I would like to take the 3.7 mile loop trail around Lake Keokee located west of Appalachia, VA – with a side out-and-back on 1.1 mile Olinger Gap Trail. Lake Keokee is a 92 acre secluded lake surrounded by marsh grasses and hardwood forests. With the leaves down, we should have better views around the area. Let's meet at 8:30 am in Colonial Heights to carpool. Bring water, lunch, and layered clothing for the changing seasons. Dogs are allowed on leash. Please call or e-mail the hike leader to coordinate arrangements.



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## For the Record

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### AT: Hughes Gap to Little Rock Knob, August 26, 2012

*Vic Hasler reporting*



A nice afternoon hike suitable for families! Travel time from Colonial Heights was 70 minutes. Upon arriving at the trailhead, we discovered that the Mid-Appalachian Highlands Club had also chosen this hike and date, thus both groups started out together. The trail was in great condition, so the 2.2 mile hike to the Little Rock Knob overlook was completed in just over an hour. The expansive views and snacks were enjoyed. An unsuccessful attempt was made for a nearby geocache in a rhododendron thicket. The group easily returned to the trailhead. On the afternoon trek were Chris, Patti, Paul (age 8), and Lydia (age 6) Garrett along with Vic Hasler.

### Unaka Mountain Traverse, October 13, 2012

*Joe DeLoach reporting*

We had beautiful crisp October weather for our October 13<sup>th</sup> hike of a little over 11 miles of the AT from Iron Mt. Gap to Indian Grave Gap. The relocations Trail north of Unaka Mountain have made for much more pleasant hiking than the former route which went over almost every summit. We were pleased not to see any evidence of horse or ATV use. It was a bit hazy at Beauty Spot, but sunny and warm, making for a nice respite while we viewed the barricades the Cherokee National Forest built to keep vehicles off the bald. Too bad we didn't have more hikers in addition to Monika Wiedmann, Kim Peters, and Joe DeLoach.



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## AT Maintenance Reports

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**Reporting:** Dan Firth

**Dates:** 4/2, 4/7, 4/8, 4/27, 4/28, 4/29, 5/19, and 5/20/2012

**Purpose:** Invasive Species Monitoring

**Location:** Sections 1, 2a, 3b, 8, and 9b

**People:** Dan Firth

**Summary:** I surveyed for garlic mustard.

**Reporting:** Dan Firth

**Date:** 5/25/2012

**Purpose:** Phenology and Rare Plant Monitoring Workshop

**Location:** Section 1: Damascus to Backbone Rock Trail

**People:** Dan Firth

**Summary:** I attended the ATC Phenology and Rare Plant Monitoring Workshop.

**Reporting:** Dan Firth

**Dates:** 6/9, 7/22, 7/28, and 8/14/2012

**Purpose:** Rare Plant Monitoring

**Location:** Sections 5, 13a, and 15b

**People:** Dan Firth

**Summary:** I monitored along the trail for rare plants.

**Reporting:** Dave McMillin

**Date:** 9/22/2012

**Purpose:** Cut blowdowns

**Location:** Sections 20a and 20b, Nolichucky to Spivey Gap

**People:** Wes Byrd, Roy Holcomb, Dave McMillin

**Summary:** We used a pruning saw to cut everything less than 4 inches. We also threw off many other limbs. The trail is easily passable. There remains some larger limbs and trees that will require a chainsaw.

**Reporting:** Kim Peters

**Date:** 9/25/2012

**Purpose:** Clear blowdowns

**Location:** Section 4a, US421 to Double Springs Shelter

**People:** Ken Buchanan, Kim Peters

**Summary:** We received a report of a large blowdown north of Double Springs Shelter. Ed dropped us off at TN421 and we hiked out to TN91 where he picked us up. We found a 13" blowdown about 0.1 mile south of TN421 and cleared it, but did not find any other blowdowns between TN421 and TN91. This section has lots of waterbars which all need cleaning, as well as lots of greenbriar and blackberry which could use trimming. Another trip on this section would be useful.

**Reporting:** Ed Oliver

**Date:** 9/25/2012

**Purpose:** Reflag relocation

**Location:** Section 5, South of TN91

**People:** Ed Oliver

**Summary:** Ed used paint to mark the relocations south of TN91 where the original flagging has disappeared. One blowdown was also removed.

**Reporting:** Carl Fritz

**Date:** 9/25/2012

**Purpose:** Cut blowdowns

**Location:** Section 12d, Base of Bishop Hollow

**People:** Carl Fritz, Sue Lockett, Bill Murdoch

**Summary:** We cut a couple of blowdowns just south of Bishop Hollow.

**Reporting:** Carl Fritz

**Date:** 9/25/2012

**Purpose:** Dig relocation

**Location:** Section 15b, South of Cloudland

**People:** Paul Benfield, Jim Foster, Carl Fritz, Becky Kinder, Sue Lockett, Bill Murdoch, Bob Peoples, Gayle Riddervold, "Roman Wall"

**Summary:** We continued to work our way down the mountain and started another short relocation on the North Carolina side. Progress is slow and steady. Another couple of weeks will put us down to the large boulder we eliminated last year.

**Reporting:** Lynn DiFiore

**Date:** 9/26/2012

**Purpose:** Refresh blazes

**Location:** Section 9b, Pond Flats to Hampton Trailhead

**People:** Lynn DiFiore

**Summary:** The purpose of this trip was to complete the blazing done on the 3rd Saturday workhike of August 18<sup>th</sup>. Due to time constraints I was not able to take paint back from the relo towards Hampton. This area is heavily blazed, so only minor refreshing was needed. There are several blowdowns, but all can be stepped over with varying degrees of difficulty. Very little lopping was required, although I did trim back a few briars that were renewing their assault on the trail. There wasn't much trash at the campsites, with the exception of two military-grade sleeping bags that I was able to carry out for proper disposal.

**Reporting:** Richard Carter

**Date:** 9/26/2012

**Purpose:** Cut weeds

**Location:** Section 14b, North side of Grassy Ridge

**People:** Richard Carter

**Summary:** I cut weeds just above the first switchback for about 30 minutes; then my swing blade broke. I did some lopping and quit early.

**Reporting:** Scott VanDam

**Date:** 9/30/2012

**Purpose:** Normal Maintenance

**Location:** Section 12a, Bitter End to Walnut Mountain Road

**People:** Scott VanDam

**Summary:** I took advantage of nice clear weather to get out and check the section. I carried loppers and a small chainsaw, trimmed back laurels, removed one large and several smaller blowdowns, and cleared trail headroom up to about 7 feet. I passed a number of southbound thru hikers.

**Reporting:** Joe DeLoach

**Date:** 9/30/2012

**Purpose:** Section Maintenance

**Location:** Section 14a, Yellow Mountain Gap to Bradley Gap

**People:** Lynn DiFiore, Joe DeLoach

**Summary:** We cleaned some trash (not too bad) from the shelter and swept off the sleeping platforms. We then cut briars and annual growth to Bradley Gap. One downed tree did not require cutting to be removed. The springs between Little Hump and Bradley Gap were flowing well; the one coming down from Yellow Mountain Gap to the Barn was dry. Fall colors were beautiful.

**Reporting:** Kim Peters

**Date:** 10/3/2012

**Purpose:** Dig relocation

**Location:** Section 15b, South of Cloudland

**People:** Bob Peoples, Ted Mowery, Tim Stewart, Ken Buchanan, Kim Peters, Charles Winstead

**Summary:** We continued working on the short relocation on the North Carolina side. Progress was slow, but we made some. Another trip or two should finish this section.

**Reporting:** Mike Hupko

**Date:** 10/5/2012

**Purpose:** Fall Maintenance

**Location:** Section 16b, Rock Outcrop to Iron Mountain Gap (2.3 Miles)

**People:** Faye Guinn, Howard Guinn, Ernie Hartford, Marsha Hupko, Mike Hupko

**Summary:** We painted blazes in both directions from the rock outcrop to Iron Mountain Gap (IMG), mowed the trails in the orchard, cleaned water bars from Weedy Gap to IMG, and removed four trees from the trail, the largest being about 30 inches in diameter.

**Reporting:** Joe DeLoach

**Date:** 10/6/2012

**Purpose:** AT Regional Partnership Committee Meeting

**Location:** ATC Asheville office

**People:** Joe DeLoach and Steve Perri

**Summary:** Steve and Joe represent TEHCC on the Appalachian Trail Deep South Regional Partnership Committee. The RPC also includes ATC staff and members of the other four southern Trail clubs. This body serves as a regional advisory group to the ATC Regional Director and other ATC structures. Current threats to the Trail are highest in Pennsylvania and Maine. Restoration of funding for open areas management, although not certain, looks encouraging for 2013 and 2014. The recent Volunteer Leadership Meeting is likely to be repeated in 2014, with some presentations given as workshops at the 2013 Biennial meeting. There are now 28 Trail communities. The RPC discussed measures of the program's effectiveness beyond just the number of communities. A policy on limiting stay at shelters and campsites within National Forests was discussed, with the RPC endorsing a reduction from the current 14-day limit.

**Reporting:** Carl Fritz

**Date:** 10/9/2012

**Purpose:** Dig relocation

**Location:** Section 15b, South of Cloudland

**People:** Ken Buchanan, Jim Foster, Carl Fritz, Ken Murray, Ed Oliver, Bob Peoples, Kim Peters, Tim Stewart, David Miller "AWOL"

**Summary:** We had a great day to work on a relocation that we have worked on for part of the last two weeks. We had to install some locust log steps on this one. But we were able to finish and open it. We have now completed 9 of probably 20 relos between Cloudland and Ash Gap.

**Reporting:** Phyllis Cairnes

**Date:** 10/10/2012

**Purpose:** Maintain shelter

**Location:** Section 2b, Abingdon Gap Shelter

**People:** Kim Peters, Mary Ellen Virost, Rick Virost, Phyllis Cairnes

**Summary:** We did the usual shelter maintenance including cleaning out the gutter, sweeping the floor, shoveling out the fire ring, and picking up trash. The roof of the shelter is possibly leaking, evidenced by duct tape on the ceiling and a wet area on the floor. We checked the water source, which appeared adequate, on the way to McQueen's Gap and took pictures of a blowdown. We also carried out trash from along the trail from Low Gap, including a full-sized bath towel and pair of trousers (both sopping wet) hanging from low branches, with empty food packets strewn beside them. If we only knew the stories!

**Reporting:** Mike Hupko

**Date:** 10/12/2012

**Purpose:** Fall Maintenance

**Location:** Section 18, Beauty Spot Gap to Indian Grave Gap

**People:** Marsha Hupko, Mike Hupko

**Summary:** We cleaned dips and cut several small trees on the Trail from Beauty Spot Gap to Beauty Spot spring. We painted blue blazes to Beauty Spot Spring, cleaned out the spring, and picked up trash near the spring. From Indian Grave Gap to the power lines, we cut three trees from the trail and removed several overhanging branches.

**Reporting:** Carl Fritz

**Date:** 10/15/2012

**Purpose:** Dig relocation

**Location:** Section 15b, Half-mile south of Cloudland

**People:** Ken Buchanan, Mary Cunningham, Carl Fritz, Becky Kinder, Joe Morris, Ted Mowery, Ed Oliver, Brian Paley, Bob Peoples, Kim Peters, Gayle Riddervold, Tim Stewart, George Thorpe, OH hiker 1, OH hiker 2

**Summary:** On a cool, clear day we were able to open another relocation and get a good start on another. The progress is slow with all the roots, duff and rocks, plus having to add steps and cribbing. Fortunately, two hikers were willing to stop in the afternoon and lever a huge rock out of the center of the new trail.

**Reporting:** Mike Hupko

**Date:** 10/16/2012

**Purpose:** Fall Maintenance

**Location:** Section 17, Low Gap to Cherry Gap

**People:** Elizabeth Dukes, Marsha Hupko, Mike Hupko

**Summary:** We painted blazes in both directions (north and south), cleaned water bars, removed several trees and many limbs from the trail from Low Gap to Cherry Gap.

**Reporting:** Richard Carter

**Date:** 10/17/2012

**Purpose:** Cut weeds

**Location:** Section 14b, Upper switchbacks north side of Grassy Ridge

**People:** Richard Carter

**Summary:** I cut the weeds along the upper part of the switchbacks on the north side of the ridge.

**Reporting:** Terry Oldfield

**Date:** 10/18/2012

**Purpose:** Maintain Mountaineer Falls Shelter

**Location:** Section 12b, Walnut Mountain Road to campsites just beyond Mountaineer Falls

**People:** Kim Peters, Terry Oldfield

**Summary:** On a beautiful day, Kim and I hiked from Walnut Mountain Road to the shelter and just beyond the falls to the campsites. Along the way, we cut a few rhododendron branches and picked foil out of the fire rings. At the shelter, we swept, picked up trash, replaced the log book, and checked the water source. The trail we covered is clear except for a 12-14" blowdown across the AT just beyond the trail to the shelter. Removal is not urgent since it can be stepped over.

**Reporting:** Kim Peters

**Date:** 10/20/2012

**Purpose:** Clean waterbars

**Location:** Section 4a, US421 to Double Springs Shelter

**People:** Terry Oldfield, Steve Perri, John Beaudet, Becky Kinder, Gayle Riddervold, Kim Peters

**Summary:** It was a cool and cloudy day for this Hiking-with-Tools trip, but the fall leaves were colorful and there were fine views of South Holston Lake and down into Shady Valley. Many hands make light work and with six people on this trip, no one had to work very hard. We cleaned many water bars, trimmed back briars and cleared a few blowdowns on the way to Double Springs Shelter where we had lunch and chatted with a southbound hiker from Austria who expressed gratitude for our efforts.

**Reporting:** Kim Peters

**Date:** 10/20/2012

**Purpose:** Maintain shelter, check trail condition

**Location:** Section 4b, Double Springs Shelter to TN91

**People:** Terry Oldfield, Steve Perri, John Beaudet, Becky Kinder, Gayle Riddervold, Kim Peters

**Summary:** After lunching at Double Springs Shelter, the Hiking-with-Tools crew picked up some trash, left a new log book and a new shovel at the shelter, then hiked out to TN 91. Along the way, we cleared a few more waterbars and a couple of small blowdowns. Another fine Hiking-with-Tools trip.

**Reporting:** Lynn DiFiore

**Date:** 10/21/2012

**Purpose:** Section Maintenance

**Location:** Section 14a, Stan Murray Shelter to Little Hump

**People:** Lynn DiFiore

**Summary:** I took advantage of the beautiful weather to do some routine maintenance. I cleared waterbars and cut out roots - the most obvious 'toe grabbers', anyway! I picked up a little trash - surprisingly there was more at Stan Murray than the barn, including a pool float. The springs were flowing at both shelters, but with very low flows. Most of the leaves are now gone, which is a shame because the new "starter castle" being built on Yellow Mountain is readily visible going trail south from the gap.

**Reporting:** Mike Hupko

**Date:** 10/22/2012

**Purpose:** Fall maintenance

**Location:** Section 17, Iron Mountain Gap to Cherry Gap

**People:** Marsha Hupko, Mike Hupko

**Summary:** We painted blazes and cleaned water bars from Iron Mountain Gap to Cherry Gap. We removed trees in two locations, which were blocking the trail. We also removed small branches along the section of trail.

**Reporting:** Carl Fritz

**Date:** 10/23/2012

**Purpose:** Dig relocation

**Location:** Section 15b, Trail South of Cloudland

**People:** John Beaudet, Richard Carter, Jim Chambers, Carl Fritz, Joe Morris, Ted Mowery, Bill Murdoch, Ed Oliver, Brian Paley, Bob Peoples, Tim Stewart, "Sherpa"

**Summary:** It was a warm day even on Cloudland. We finished and opened another 150-foot relocation.



**Reporting:** Carl Fritz

**Date:** 10/24/2012

**Purpose:** Cut blowdowns

**Location:** Section 10, Laurel Fork Gorge

**People:** Bob Peoples, "Rock Dancer"

**Summary:** Bob and Rock Dancer removed two large blowdowns in the gorge that were difficult for hikers to get around.

**Reporting:** Carl Fritz

**Date:** 10/27/2012

**Purpose:** Dig relocation

**Location:** Section 15b, Beartown Mountain

**People:** John Beaudet, Joe Bucki, Jim Chambers, Carl Fritz, Becky Kinder, Ted Mowery, Bob Peoples, Gayle Riddervold, Tim Stewart, George Thorpe; ASU TRAIL CREW: Dana Passman, Isabel Swingle, Kate Miller, Kelly Perkins, David Taylor, Will Rogers, MJ O'Neal, Abby Latmer

**Summary:** ASU Trail Crew joined us in a fall outing. With strong support from club members we completed all the relocations left on Beartown Mountain. We finished the two tough ends of the relocation we worked on with the Konnarock Crew and the Wright State students. And we dug the two relocations on either side of this larger relocation. We installed two dozen rock steps and hauled many long distances. All three relocations were blazed by the students and opened. All the relocations are complete from Hughes Gap to Ash Gap!