



# The Tennessee Eastman Hiking and Paddling News

March 2014

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

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## TEHCC Spring Dinner Meeting, Friday, April 25, 2014

Time to enjoy fellowship as the outdoor season begins...

Our evening program is on "Amazing Places in The Tennessee Blue Ridge" by David Ramsey. The Appalachian Trail closely follows the North Carolina–Tennessee border along the main Appalachian crest. Although the wild and scenic qualities of the lands that lie on each side of this boundary are virtually equal, those of the Tennessee region have often been overshadowed by their North Carolina counterparts. This program will explore the Tennessee Blue Ridge ending with an update about Rocky Fork.

Speaker's bio:

- Native and resident of Unicoi County, TN
- Outdoor writer and photographer with a focus on Appalachian conservation
- Field & Stream Magazine / Toyota 2011 National Hero of Conservation
- Budweiser / U.S. Fish and Wildlife Foundation Conservationist of the Year Finalist
- 10 (or more) year A.T. maintainer
- 18 year manager at Mahoney's Outfitters

Event	Time	Details
Spring Dinner Meeting	5:30 pm	Location: Eastman Lodge, Main Banquet Hall 404 Bays Mountain Road, Kingsport, TN
Happy "Trails" Hour	5:30 pm - 6:30 pm	Beer and wine (donations accepted), or BYOB
Dinner: BBQ with sides Dessert Tea/Coffee	6:30 pm - 7:15 pm	Catered by <a href="#">Phil's Dream Pit</a> (\$12 per person)
Club Business	7:15 pm - 8:00 pm	- Update of club activities - Awards
<b>Amazing Places in the Tennessee Blue Ridge</b>	<b>8:00 pm-9:00 pm</b>	<b>David Ramsey</b>

There is no charge for attending the program only, but if you would like to eat, please submit your reservation by end of Monday, April 21<sup>st</sup>. A reservation form is located at the [end of this newsletter](#).

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## Wilderness First Aid Course - Saturday-Sunday, March 22-23

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The Appalachian Paddling Enthusiasts and Tennessee Eastman Hiking and Canoeing Club are sponsoring a Wilderness First Aid course taught by [Landmark Learning](#) on Saturday-Sunday, March 22-23, 8 am – 5:30 pm at the Eastman Lodge. There is a great need for this training in our local paddling, hiking, and outdoor community. Red Cross First Aid is not enough for the situations we encounter during our recreational pursuits.

*If you plan to spend time in the backcountry, you need to be prepared. Fast paced and hands-on, this two day course covers a wide range of wilderness medicine topics for people who travel and work in the outdoors.*

Obtaining this knowledge is a very important element in safety regardless of your recreational activity. This information could help save your own or a friend's life!

Contact: Scott Fisher, [tfisher1@its.jnj.com](mailto:tfisher1@its.jnj.com) or 276-698-4644

Course fee is \$137. For current TEHCC members, a limited number of \$50 scholarships are available (rebate upon successful completion). Contact a [Steering Committee member](#) to apply. The official registration form is obtained [here](#). Check for the course fee is payable to Landmark Learning, but being collected by Scott Fisher.

Alternatively this training is offered as part of the two-week [Wilderness Skills Institute](#) (May 19th-30th) in Brevard, NC. It is a bigger time commitment, but at no cost to ATC members. Other skills are covered, such as cross-cut saw certification and trail construction techniques.

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## CPR Class - Friday, March 21, 6-9:30pm

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Landmark Learning will also offer an optional CPR class on Friday evening before the Wilderness First Aid course for those wanting to become CPR certified/re-certified. This is a separate class and participation in one is not required to take the other. Cost is \$45. To encourage the training, current TEHCC members can apply for \$20 rebate scholarships to knock the price down to same as Red Cross. The same info packet is obtained [here](#). Contact: Scott Fisher, [tfisher1@its.jnj.com](mailto:tfisher1@its.jnj.com) or 276-698-4644

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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
March 5	Rental Equipment Checkout	<a href="#">Terry Dougherty</a>	rental@tehcc.org
March 15	3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday Maintenance – Hiking with Tools	<a href="#">Kim Peters</a>	423-366-0128
March 18	TEHCC Steering Committee	<a href="#">Brien Lewis</a>	chair@tehcc.org
March 21	CPR Class	<a href="#">Scott Fisher</a>	276-698-4644
March 22, 23	Wilderness First Aid Course	<a href="#">Scott Fisher</a>	276-698-4644
March 29	A.T. Maintenance with ASU Trail Crew	<a href="#">Carl Fritz</a>	423-477-4669
April 25	Spring Dinner Meeting	<a href="#">Brien Lewis</a>	chair@tehcc.org
April 26	Outdoor Gear Swap	<a href="#">Brien Lewis</a>	chair@tehcc.org

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## Details of Upcoming Events

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### Recurring Events

#### Most Tuesdays: Weekly A.T. Trail Maintenance

Join a group of maintainers who work somewhere on our 135-mile section each week, usually on Tuesdays. Contact Carl Fritz, 423-477-4669 ([atvolunteer@tehcc.org](mailto:atvolunteer@tehcc.org)), for dates and meeting places.

## **Tuesday Evenings: Johnson City Roll Practice**

Come join the [J.A.W.](#), [Mahoney's Outfitters](#), some [APEs](#), and other paddlers from around our region at the Freedom Hall Pool for tips & 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.

Click [here](#) for more information.

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 yet have your own equipment, please post a message on the [APE's yahoo group site](#) or contact me with this link:

<http://worldkayakblogs.com/wildwildwes/contact-me/>

We will try our best to get you outfitted for the night! Also feel free to contact me for any other questions or comments you may have with the above link.

## **Thursday Evenings: Kayak Session, Kingsport Aquatic Center, 7 – 9 pm**

For event details, go to <http://regions.worldkayak.com/tri-cities/2013/06/27/kingsport-aquatic-center-kayak-session/>

## **3rd Saturday Maintenance – Hiking with Tools!**

Contact: [Kim Peters](#), [atmaint@tehcc.org](mailto:atmaint@tehcc.org), 423-366-0128

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 water bars and painting blazes. All tools will be furnished and no prior experience required! Contact [Kim](#) for details and meeting time and place.

## **Scheduled Events**

### **Rental Equipment Checkout, March 5, 2014, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm**

Contact: [Terry Dougherty](#), [rental@tehcc.org](mailto:rental@tehcc.org)

Location: Eastman Employee Center, Rm 112 and Lobby

It's time to ensure the Club's rental gear is ready for another year. We will evaluate all the equipment and propose necessary repairs or replacements. A light lunch of pizza, veggie tray, cookies, soft drinks and bottled water will be provide.

Come and go as your time permits. Many hands make light work. Please help if you can...

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday Maintenance – Hiking with Tools, March 15, 2014**

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

For the first 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday – Hiking with Tools trip this year we will be hiking from Bitter End north towards Moreland Gap Shelter, 4.3 miles away. The main task will be to lop overhanging rhododendrons off the trail and clear a few blowdowns. We will be using loppers and hand saws. All tools will be provided and no experience is necessary, participants just need to bring work gloves and food and water for the day. The meeting place will be the Blountville Food City parking lot at 8:30 am. Other meeting places can be arranged if given notice ahead of time. Please let me know if you if you are interested in coming, so that I will have enough tools and also know where you would like to meet.

### **TEHCC Steering Committee Meeting, March 18, 11:30 am – 1:00 pm**

Contact: [Brien Lewis](#), [chair@tehcc.org](mailto:chair@tehcc.org)

Location: Eastman Chemical Company, Kingsport, TN, Bldg 75 - Room 407

The Steering Committee guides the general program for the club. Meetings are held monthly at lunchtime and are open to all TEHCC members. Members who are not current Eastman employees need to contact a member of the [Steering Committee](#) at least the day prior to arrange for a temporary pass.

### **A.T. Maintenance with ASU Trail Crew, March 29, 2014**

Contact: [Carl Fritz](#), 423-477-4669, [atvolunteer@tehcc.org](mailto:atvolunteer@tehcc.org)

Depending upon weather we will dig relocations near Ash Gap or south of TN 91 with the help of Appalachian State University Trail Crew. Contact Carl if you are interested in participating and for meeting times and places.

### **Outdoor Gear Swap, Eastman Employee Center, April 26, 8:00 am - Noon**

Contact: [Brien Lewis](#), [chair@tehcc.org](mailto:chair@tehcc.org)

Mark your calendars. TEHCC will sponsor an outdoor gear swap again this year. The event will be held on Saturday, April 26th, 2014 from 8 am to noon in the parking lot of the Eastman Employee Center, 400 South Wilcox Drive, Kingsport. Think backpacking, biking, camping, canoeing, climbing, fishing, hiking, kayaking, paddling, skiing, and snowboarding. Whether you have equipment that you no longer need or you need a piece of outdoor equipment to add to your collection, this gear swap is for you! Come join in the fun; swap, sell, or buy outdoor equipment or just come swap some good stories!

Everything at this equipment swap needs to be directly related to outdoor activities. (Sorry, no ammo, arrows, guns, or long knives due to site regulations.) There is no cost to display, browse, trade, talk about gear, and swap stories.

## For the Record

### Annual Maintainer's Dinner, February 21, 2014

*Kim Peters reporting*



The kickoff meeting for 2014 AT maintenance season was held February 21, 2014 and was attended by 45 maintainers and individuals interested in maintaining trail.

We enjoyed Phil's Dream Pit barbecue, coleslaw, pasta salad, baked beans and brownies for dessert along with tea, lemonade and coffee. The dinner was once again graciously prepared by Ed Oliver with help from Daryel Anderson. What a bargain for \$5!

After the meal, we reviewed our 2013 accomplishments, our 2014 major project plans, handed out awards, and discussed various safety issues related to trail maintaining activities.

### Summary of 2013 Major TEHCC Maintenance Accomplishments

- Maintained 133 miles of AT and 2 miles of Blue Blaze
- Rehabbed AT- 0.7 miles
- Relocated AT - 1.9 miles
- Scheduled and coordinated 70 workshops at ATC Biennial Meeting
- Performed minor renovations on Overmountain Shelter
- Milestone in Outreach Programs: 3000th Hiker-Trail Volunteer Patch Issued (first-time, non club member)

### Cumulative Hour Award Recipients 2013

<u>50 Career Hours</u>		<u>100 Career Hours</u>	
Kendall Abruzzese	Judy Middlemas	Curtis Baird	Bruce Darby
Smith Edwards	Reuben Potter	Dean Baird	Bill Fuller
Richard Evans	Lyndsey Smith	Don Baird	Vic Hasler
Brenna Irrer	Will Rogers	Scotty Bowman	James Lautzenheiser
		Andrew Cleland	Eric Middlemas
<u>250 Career Hours</u>		<u>500 Career Hours</u>	
Phil Abruzzese	Greg Kramer	Jim Chambers	
Pat Buchanan	Pat Loven	Carol Dunham	
Phyllis Cairnes	Joe Morris	Tim McClain	
Lynn DiFiore	Gayle Riddervold	Brian Paley	
Becky Kinder	Mike Watts	L. A. Tarlin	
<u>1000 Career Hours:</u>		Richard Carter	
<u>2000 Career Hours:</u>		Tim Stewart	
<u>5000 Career Hours:</u>		Joe DeLoach	
<u>10000 Career Hours:</u>		Carl Fritz	
<u>12000 Career Hours:</u>		Ed Oliver	



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## A.T. Maintenance Reports

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**Reporting:** Joe DeLoach

**Date:** 2/1/2014

**Purpose:** Clear blowdowns

**Location:** Section 19b, Nolichucky River to 3rd bridge up Jones Branch

**People:** Craig DeLoach, Joe DeLoach

**Summary:** We enjoyed a pretty day and cut eight blowdowns between the Nolichucky outfitter site and the third bridge up Jones Branch. There are many large dead trees in the upper reaches, but we got all the ones out that were in the Trail.

**Reporting:** Jim Foster

**Date:** 2/7/2014

**Purpose:** Scout old road for future materials transport for shelter rehab

**Location:** Section 20b, Unaka Springs to No Business Knob Shelter

**People:** Burce Darby, Jim Foster

**Summary:** Bruce and I walked an old USFS road from Unaka Springs to just below the shelter. The road would be okay to transport supplies if a high clearance vehicle is used. It's about 1/4 mile from the road to the shelter.

**Reporting:** Joe DeLoach

**Date:** 2/9/2014

**Purpose:** Clip brush

**Location:** Section 10, A.T. to Laurel Fork Falls then back past shelter on blue-blazed trail to Dennis Cove

**People:** Joe DeLoach

**Summary:** I walked from Dennis Cove down to the falls, onward to the junction of the blue-blazed high water trail, and back past the shelter to Dennis Cove. I clipped and cut mostly rhododendron branches, and a couple of small trees on the blue-blazed trail and the trail to the water source. A couple larger trees along the blue-blazed trail could stand to be cut but are not significant obstructions. I picked up some trash at the falls and the shelter.

**Reporting:** Richard Carter

**Date:** 2/18/2014

**Purpose:** Remove winter blowdowns

**Location:** Section 14c, Stan Murray Shelter to Carvers Gap

**People:** Richard Carter

**Summary:** I walked the section, amazingly found only one small blowdown, which I cut.

**Reporting:** Phyllis Cairnes

**Date:** 2/20/2014

**Purpose:** Maintain shelter

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

**People:** Alan Gamble, Rolla Wade, Phyllis Cairnes

**Summary:** We picked up trash around the shelter, shoveled out the fire ring, and checked the guttering. We noted a small roof leak, indicated by wet area on shelter floor, and also that the journal needs to be replaced on our next trip.

**Reporting:** Carl Fritz

**Date:** 2/20/2014

**Purpose:** Rehab trail

**Location:** Section 8, Wilbur Dam Road to US321 Watauga Lake

**People:** John Beaudet, Paul Benfield, Ken Buchanan, Jim Chambers, Carl Fritz, Pat Loven, Joe Morris, Ted Mowery, Matthew Newman, Kim Peters, Tim Stewart, George Thorpe

**Summary:** We installed large rock stepping stones in three streams near shelter to allow easier crossing when heavy rains are recent. Also, we cut out a crude trail to divert around lake water when water is high near the second campsite. Likewise, we started installing a minor relocation that was not put in a couple of years ago at first campsite. This will also avoid high lake water problems. This year, the trail here was under four feet of water. Jim and Matthew hiked across Pond Mountain in the morning and cleared minor

blowdowns and brushed. Matthew is a Wounded Warrior and hiked almost all of the A.T. in 2013. By hiking across Pond Mountain with Jim, he completed his thru hike today! Then Matthew and Jim helped us set rocks in a stream in the afternoon.

**Reporting:** Tim McClain

**Date:** 2/22/2014

**Purpose:** Regular maintenance

**Location:** Section 3b, Spring to US421

**People:** Tim McClain, Peggy McClain

**Summary:** We repainted blazes, north and southbound, cleared water bars, and removed several small blowdowns. There is one 8-10" blowdown hanging over the trail (about 5 feet clearance under it ) that needs to be removed with a chainsaw. It is located about 1/3 mile north of US421. I have a picture if anyone needs it. We picked up three bags of trash around the parking area at US 421. It appears there was a car burned at this parking area. Some car parts were still laying around plus four patches of rubber with steel belts were laying on the ground where the scorched area is still visible.

**Reporting:** Gayle Riddervold

**Date:** 2/22/2014

**Purpose:** Routine maintenance

**Location:** Section 13, US19E to Doll Flats

**People:** Gayle Riddervold, Becky Kinder

**Summary:** We hiked up two miles to check the condition of the trail. Along the way we cleaned the water bars, picked up numerous empty bullet casings, picked up small branches and cut one overhanging limb. A day hiker reported the last mile up to Doll Flats looked good with no blow downs or obstructions. Upon returning to the trailhead, we picked up trash and aluminum cans.

**Reporting:** Kim Peters

**Date:** 2/22/2014

**Purpose:** Check trail and shelter

**Location:** Section 7, Vandeventer Shelter to Wilbur Dam Rd

**People:** Phyllis Cairnes, Kim Peters

**Summary:** Phyllis and I hiked out to check Vandeventer Shelter on this beautiful Saturday. On the way out, we found and dismantled three fire pits, cut several blowdowns and dragged many more off the trail. At the shelter we picked up two bags of trash including one boot, one flipflop, a mason jar, silverware, a shirt, a pair of pants and a tarp. We also cleaned out the gutters on the shelter. We met several hikers out enjoying this beautiful day. This section of trail is in good shape,

**Reporting:** Jim Chambers

**Date:** 2/24/2014

**Purpose:** Special Project

**Location:** Section 13, US19E Road Crossing

**People:** Jim Chambers

**Summary:** Carl asked me if I would remove the extraneous business signs at the 19E road crossing that were lag bolted high up in the trees. Mission complete!

**Reporting:** Jim Foster

**Date:** 2/24/2014

**Purpose:** Clean and cut obstructions from the trail

**Location:** Section 16a, Greasy Creek Gap to Little Rock Knob

**People:** Bruce Darby, Jim Foster

**Summary:** Bruce and I walked the trail from Greasy Creek Gap to Little Rock Knob removing limbs and small blowdowns from the trail. We only had to leave one that needs to be cut with a chain saw, and it's a stepover. The trail on the south end is open and in good shape.

**Tennessee Eastman Hiking and Canoeing Club  
Spring Dinner Meeting  
Friday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2014**

**Reservation Form**

Fill out the form below and send it with a check payable to **Tim McClain**.

Within Eastman send to:  
Tim McClain, Building 448

Outside Eastman send to:  
Tim McClain  
448 Chesterfield Drive  
Kingsport, TN 37663

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

**IMPORTANT NOTE:**

Check and reservation form must be received by **Monday 4/21/2014**.

Names of all attending (*please print*)

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

Number of Meals: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$12.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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