



# The Tennessee Eastman Hiking and Paddling News

February 2016

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

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## 2016 Membership Drive

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*Submitted by Tim Schaefer*

2016 is here and that means reminding everyone to renew membership to the Tennessee Eastman Hiking and Canoeing Club. Most everyone should fall into one of three categories.

- Eastman employees – Dues are automatically deducted from your first paycheck, no further action needed
- Retirees – email me at [tim@tehcc.org](mailto:tim@tehcc.org) to confirm your contact information
- Affiliates – Complete the form, include the required payment, and mail to the provided address

That's it! Still debating? My easy response is that your membership fee is a cheap trail-head fee. That's 7.5¢/mi for the miles of trail our club maintains on the A.T. I just ran the preliminary numbers for 2015 A.T. maintenance. People volunteered over 10,000 hours on over 347 outings to maintain our 134 miles of trail. Large portions of our club revenue, well over half, goes to trail maintenance activities. This is mostly for tools and materials needed to maintain one of the most popular sections of the A.T. Your little bit of dues does help.

The bulk of the remainder of our dues revenue is for our web hosting. Our Trail Wiki continues to grow. 2015 brought a renewed focus, along with exploring and adding new capabilities. Early next year I hope to have a customized searchable list so you can find the trails near you that match your desires.

2016 is looking to be a good year. We have commitment to continue to focus on our event calendar. I personally hope to lead at least one hike a month. If there are five to ten more people with that level of commitment, we would have a really full calendar. That would be 1% of our membership leading hikes; not that many. I also have some ideas for weekend camping and hiking trips that I would explore if there is enough interest.

So please renew today! Still not convinced? Contact us at [chair@tehcc.org](mailto:chair@tehcc.org) or [tim@tehcc.org](mailto:tim@tehcc.org) and let us know what you think.

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## Hiking through Israel with Bob Peoples

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*Excerpt from longer article by Rebekah Price originally appearing in Elizabethton Star on January 11, 2016*

Rebekah's quote regarding the interview was: *"Wish I could have spent the day hearing more of Bob's stories. When Bob Peoples tells a story, books write themselves."*

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Hampton resident and hiking legend Bob Peoples, 72, returned this Fall from a venture of Biblical proportions. Hiking through Israel, he followed the Yam el Yam (Sea to Sea) trail and then took a bus to Nazareth and hiked the Jesus Trail, each of which ended at the Sea of Galilee. He covered about 100 miles by foot and visited over 25 churches and numerous historical sites. The high temperature was below 100 degrees Fahrenheit on only one day of his three-week journey.

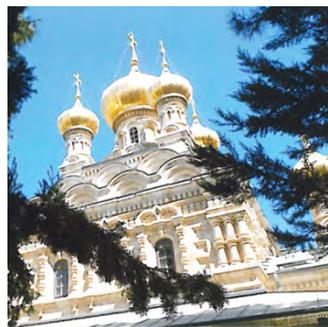
Of all the sites and experiences along his route, he said the most outstanding element was the friendliness of the people. "The thing that amazed me the most was the kindness and generosity of Arabs. They couldn't give enough to you; they were absolutely super to me," said Peoples. In a number of circumstances he was aided and made welcome by locals helping him with directions or accommodations.

More than once, Peoples had to overcome confusion with the varying colors of trail blazes, and at one time, even descended a mountain on the wrong side. He was hiking along the Yam el Yam and at the top of Mount Meron, the trail blaze switched, his trail turned right and he continued straight down the National Scenic Trail. When he realized his blunder, he confronted a couple loading grapes onto their truck to go to market. He showed them his map and pointed to where he was supposed to be, and they showed him where he was. In the heat, and even though he consistently carried five liters of water, he could not make the trek back over the mountain. Because their truck was small and loaded down with grapes, they could not give both him and his backpack a ride, but they did allow him to stand on the back of the truck to ride to town. "They were tremendous people," said Peoples.

In another instance, he was planning to stay at the Arbel Guesthouse, but because of a holiday, it was completely booked. The woman managing the hostel invited him to tent camp for free by their swimming pool where he obliged, enjoying the flowers growing in plenty all around. On one day hiking, he said four men in their early twenties stopped and shared their lunches with him, which he said were much more delicious than what he had packed.

One park ranger attempted to assist him with directions, but did not know that a trailhead had been moved. After Peoples walked for six hours into a reserve, where camping is not allowed, he realized he would have to camp there and would not have time to hike out. "I put my pack against a rock and my hat on my head, but when I woke, my hat was gone," he recalled. "Whatever creature it was — I have no idea — but I believe it was going after the salt in the sweatband."

This was not his only encounter with wildlife. One of his maps showed a short route off the Jesus trail where he planned to camp along the Sea of Galilee. "Stealth camping" is permitted all around the freshwater sea, but some of the land is privately owned. In this case, the black trail blaze indicated private land, on which the farmer had moved his livestock to graze the greener area during the drought. So Peoples bushwhacked his way to the waterfront and made camp. Two hyenas came for a drink of water and surprised Peoples with their size. "They're big critters, much bigger than I thought they were," he said.



Another thing that was unexpected was the number of churches devoted to Mary Magdalene. He did not realize how important of a figurehead she was in other branches of Christianity and said he found one of the churches devoted to her the most beautiful. The church of Saint Mary Magdalene, on the slopes of the Mount of Olives in the Garden of Gethsemane was built by the Russian Czar Alexander III and his brothers in memory of their mother in 1888.

He visited numerous sites of religious and historical import including the site in Cana of Jesus' first miracle, the conversion of water into wine. He was impressed to see that the jugs stood about five feet tall, and the wedding party must have enjoyed around 50 gallons of wine. Towards the end of his journey, he continued along the Sea of Galilee past the end of the Jesus Trail and camped where the Jordan meets the sea, near the birthplace of the Biblical figures Peter, Phillip and Andrew. He also visited Old Jerusalem and the Tower of David. He was astounded to find that an archeological dig was underway at David's tomb by the University of North Carolina Charlotte.

"I would definitely recommend this trip," said Peoples, who made the venture including airfare and gifts for under \$4,000. If the hiking is too difficult, he said many of the destinations along the way are accessible by bus or car. Part of the Jesus Trail coincides with the ancient Silk Road and the entire trail, as well as the Yam el Yam, is estimated to take four days. During the hotter summer months, they may take up to eight days, as was the case for Peoples. "It's a learning experience; we are taught stuff that we accept, but to see and realize how many players there really are — it's good for people to see what it really looks like."



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## Trail Wiki Update

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*Submitted by Tim Schaefer*

The holidays and getting the new year started slowed progress a bit, but we were able to complete tagging every page with its current short comings. Now, if there are improvement needs, the trail page has a banner highlighting the potential improvements, and anyone reading the page can see how they can help. Needs include everything from more pictures, trail description detail, to GPS logs. With that complete, I will now turn my attention to trail searching. I've played with it a bit and have a basic working version, but the aesthetics need some improvement before it's ready for the non-engineer. Beyond that, others have added details about [Hampton Creek Cove State Natural Area](#) and its trails. There have also been updates to the [Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail](#) and [Mountains-to-Sea Trail](#), and several GPS track file updates to trails throughout our area. Progress continues and we hope you find it useful and will one day help out as well.

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## The Appalachian Paddling Enthusiasts Upcoming Events

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*Submitted by Andrea Gass*

### **Winter Meeting**

The Appalachian Paddling Enthusiasts (APEs) will be hosting their 2016 Annual Winter Meeting and Office Elections on **Friday, February 5<sup>th</sup>**, at the Eastman Lodge from 7pm-9pm. This year we are going to host a Chili Cook-Off for the meal. So break out your favorite chili recipe and bring a pot to this meeting to WIN prizes! First place will win a great pro-deal prize sponsored by WORLDKAYAK; 2nd and 3rd prizes will get a free APE annual membership or APE swag. If you plan to bring a pot of chili for the meal, please contact Andrea Gass at Tel: 270-816-2576 or [andreamsey@eastman.com](mailto:andreamsey@eastman.com). You will be responsible for your own beverage. We will be discussing 2016 events and conducting officer elections during the meeting. Only present members will be allowed to vote in officer elections. If you are interested in being nominated for an office, please contact Wesley Bradley at [dangerousraftingman@hotmail.com](mailto:dangerousraftingman@hotmail.com). Visit the APE's website at [www.riverapes.org/officers.html](http://www.riverapes.org/officers.html) for information about the current officer positions.

### **Racing Clinic**

Appalachian Paddling Enthusiasts (APEs) is pleased to announce its first kayak racing clinic with Chris Hipgrave from the [Nantahala Outdoor Center](#) (NOC). This one-day course is designed for the intermediate/advanced boater and will focus on river running in modern whitewater racing kayaks in the context of a river trip. It will be held on the Nolichucky Gorge in Erwin, TN. We will meet at USA Raft at 11am and should be done by late afternoon. Participants should be comfortable on Class III water and have a reliable roll. The course will be limited to 14 students and will fill up fast, so be sure to register to reserve your spot. The event will be held on the Nolichucky Gorge on **Saturday, February 13, at 11am**. The clinic is **FREE** for APEs or TEHCC members, but participants will split the cost of the shuttle from USA Raft. Attendees must be proficient in class III whitewater and be at least 14 years old to register. Register online at <http://www.riverapes.org/registration.html>. After submitting your registration you will be directed to our APE's PayPal website.

### **Wilderness First Aid**

The APEs and TEHCC will host a Wilderness First Aid (WFA) course taught by NOC/SOLO (Stonehearth Open Learning Opportunities) on **March 19-20**. The class will be hosted at the Eastman Lodge and will run from 8:30am – 5:00pm on both Saturday and Sunday. The cost is \$115 for WFA and \$35 for CPR.

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. If you plan to spend time in the backcountry, this training will provide you with the tools to provide patient care in remote settings where assistance may not be readily available. Training will include both classroom instruction and structured scenarios. All levels of training and experience are welcome. Minimum age is 18 years old, or 12 years old if accompanied by a chaperone. This class can be used to recertify WFR for an additional \$15.

Class size is limited and registration is on a first-come, first-serve basis. TEHCC has limited positions available for sponsorship in the form of partial course fee reimbursement (~\$50). You must be a TEHCC member to apply. Contact William Werner at [wwerner@eastman.com](mailto:wwerner@eastman.com) for additional information. Register online at <http://www.riverapes.org/registration.html>. After submitting your registration you will be directed to <http://www.riverapes.org/paypal-1.html> to pay for the course using PayPal. APEs (or TEHCC) membership is required to participate and can also be purchased online at <http://www.riverapes.org/paypal-1.html> for \$10. No need to fill out and send in a separate membership form. Your online registration will double for that purpose.

Please Contact Scott Fisher at [TFisher1@its.inj.com](mailto:TFisher1@its.inj.com) for additional information.

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## Trail Value Assessment Completed for TEHCC Section

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### *Vic Hasler and Carl Fritz reporting*

ATC worked collaboratively with the APPA NPS office to develop a system for assessing the value of the A.T. and its associated facilities. The results are to help the APPA (Appalachian National Scenic Trail) better compete for funding relative to other National Parks in our region by accurately accounting for the true worth of the extensive work provided by the volunteer corps. The monies help support A.T. relocations, trail rehab, and facility improvements.

The full 134 miles of TEHCC's A.T. section and side trails were inventoried **within three months**. The project was split with ATC, with Trail Specialist Chris Binder plus seasonal employees Eric Giebelstein and David Underwood recording GPS information and taking photographs of the Trail and major structures, such as shelters and bridges. Meanwhile, the club completed a tally count and measurements for 56 categories of man-made features. Some inventory highlights include roughly:

- 190 signs
- 3700 rock, wood and concrete steps
- 500 waterbars (which need to be cleaned every year!)
- 34,000 sq ft rock and wood retaining/crib walls
- 1000 sq ft turnpikes
- 8000 sq ft riprap/scree
- 900 ft fencing

For TEHCC, this effort required at least 500 hours of planning and execution. Sincere thanks is expressed to these folks who completed our portion of the assessment: Ken Buchanan, Phyllis Cairnes, Kayla Carter, Jim Chambers, Wes Ford, Carl Fritz, Bill Fuller, Craig Haire, Vic Hasler, Mike Hupko, Kat Johnson, Becky Kinder, Greg Kramer, Karen Loven, Pat Loven, Helga Mitchell, Joe Morris, Bill Murdoch, Ken Murray, Brian Paley, Bob Peoples, Kim Peters, Bekah Price, Gayle Riddervold, and Tim Stewart. Carl Fritz also created a spreadsheet to summarize the information for transfer to the ATC and APPA offices.

At a later date, we will learn the replacement valuation assigned to this section of the Trail and its structures. Other useful information and photographs are anticipated to be another benefit available from this project.

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## NPS Hike 100 Challenges

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### *Submitted by Vic Hasler*

The National Park Service turns 100 on August 25, 2016. In celebration of its Centennial, several of the national parks are hosting 100-mile challenges. For the Appalachian Trail, everyone who hikes 100 miles or more — with at least one hike on the A.T. — during 2016 is eligible to receive a limited-edition Hike100 pin or decal. Register by sending your name and email address to [AT\\_Hike100@nps.gov](mailto:AT_Hike100@nps.gov) to receive a simple official hiking log. Enter dates, where, and miles to reach the 100-mile goal, and then send it back when you're done. Other national parks in the region announcing similar challenges include [GSMNP](#) and [New River Gorge](#).

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## New Members

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Adam Altmann	Jacob Bubalo	Jared Pratt	Andreia Fenley	Brian Ward	Jerry King
Noah Naseri	Alexander Nieuwland	Ed Speer	Ken Murray	Brandon Carter	Lotta Murray
Daniel Preston	Chuck Klein	Karen Ellison	Peter Whipple	Robert Sharpe	Lisa Mullins

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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 16	TEHCC Steering Committee Meeting	<a href="#">William Warner</a>	423-408-4469
Feb 19	TEHCC Maintainers Dinner	<a href="#">Kim Peters</a>	423-366-0128
Feb 20	Little Stoney Creek Falls	<a href="#">Tim Schaefer</a>	423-302-0846
Feb 28	F/B: South Holston Dam	<a href="#">Tim Schaefer</a>	423-302-0846
Mar 19-20	Wilderness First Aid	<a href="#">William Warner</a>	423-408-4469

### Standard Hike Information

Hikes leaving from “Colonial Heights” gather at the parking lot below McDonalds, 4317 Fort Henry Drive, which is NW of I-81 Exit 59. The “Johnson City” meeting location is behind Parkway Discount Wine & Liquor just off I-81 Exit 24 at the intersection of University Parkway and South Roan Street. The “Gate City” spot is up on the hill above US 23 at Kane Street intersection (traffic light) by Food Lion. All hikes will leave promptly to stay on schedule. Carpooling is encouraged with passengers providing a few dollars each towards gas.

Bring adequate water, snack/lunch, clothing appropriate for the weather, comfortable footwear, headgear/sun protection, bug spray, camera, and trekking poles as desired. At the discretion of the hike leader, the family dog can come, if friendly, and kept on leash. Walking speed is typically 2 mph including rest breaks. For more information, check the trail wiki (click on hike title if underlined for the link) or call the hike leader. It is appropriate to contact the hike leader to let them know that you are interested in coming and provide a cell phone number in case plans change for either party.

An activity release form is signed by everyone going on the hike – and it helps capture the names and spelling for the trip report. Good digital photos from the hike are also appreciated for the newsletter and trail wiki.

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## Details of Upcoming Events

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### Recurring Events

#### **Tuesday Evenings: Johnson City Roll Practice, 7:30 – 9:00 pm**

Contact: [Wesley R. Bradley](#), 423-647-1321

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

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 are just starting out in the sport and do not have your own equipment, please post a message on the [APEs yahoo group site](#) or contact [Wesley R. Bradley](#). We will try our best to get you outfitted for the night! Also feel free to contact Wesley for any other questions or comments you may have.

#### **Most Thursdays: Weekly A.T. Trail Maintenance**

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

Join a group of maintainers who work somewhere on our 133.6-mile section each week, usually on Thursdays.

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

Contact: [Ryan Shealy](#), 423-963-6066

Interested in kayaking but don't know where to start? Basic kayak training and practice is now available in Kingsport on Thursdays at the [Kingsport Aquatic Center](#)! During the winter months (October-April), the indoor pool is sectioned off specifically for kayakers to practice basic paddling techniques. Admission is \$3 for 2 full hours of fun; Aquatic Center members may attend free! If you have equipment, you may drop it off outside the door closest to the pool, then enter the main door to pay at the front desk. The pool does not provide paddling equipment, but if you are just starting out and do not have your own gear, please contact Ryan Shealy (423-963-6066). For additional event details, click [here](#).

### Scheduled Events

#### **TEHCC Steering Committee Meeting, Tuesday, February 16, 2016, 11:30 am – 1:00 PM**

Contact: [William Warner](#), [chair@tehcc.org](mailto:chair@tehcc.org), 423-408-4469

Location: [Eastman Chemical Company, Kingsport, TN; Bldg 280, Room L5](#) \*note location change

The Steering Committee guides the general program for the club. The Committee normally meets on the third Tuesdays each month at lunch and are open to all TEHCC members. Bring something or grab a bite at B-280 cafeteria. 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.

#### **TEHCC Maintainers Dinner, Friday, February 19, 2016, 5:30 PM**

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

The annual dinner to kick off the primary maintenance season will be held on Friday, February 19, at the Eastman Lodge banquet room. The event will start at 5:30 pm with a social time followed by dinner at 6 pm. After the meal we will present awards and discuss various issues related to maintaining TEHCC's section of the A.T. All maintainers or individuals interested in maintaining are invited to attend.

Ed Oliver has once again graciously agreed to provide the dinner which will feature barbecue from Phil's Dream Pit. The cost is a mere \$5 and you can pay for the dinner at the event. Please contact Kim Peters (423-366-0128 or [atmaint@tehcc.org](mailto:atmaint@tehcc.org)) by Friday,

February 12, to let her know how many people will come for dinner, so we can plan for the meals.

A snow back-up date has been reserved for 2/26 in case of very poor weather.

### **Little Stony Creek Falls, Saturday, February 20, 2016**

*Leader: Tim Schaefer, 423-302-0846*

A third attempt at seeing a frozen waterfall. Little Stony Creek falls is a 5 mile round trip hike. It's located near Dungannon, VA about an hour drive from Kingsport. View the [TrailWiki](#) for details on trail head location and hike details. Hike will be aborted if driving or trails are treacherous. Meet in the [parking lot between McDonalds and State of Franklin Bank](#) in Colonial Heights along Ft. Henry Drive. We'll depart at 9:00 am. You may also meet us at the trail head as we expect to be there at 10:00 am. We should be done and back to Kingsport by 3:00 pm. For more info, carpooling, courtesy notice for attending, contact Tim Schaefer , 423-302-0846 or [tim@tehcc.org](mailto:tim@tehcc.org).

### **F/B South Holston Dam, Sunday, February 28, 2016**

*Leader: Tim and Carrie Schaefer, 423-302-0846*

This should be a nice hike along the lake. If it's still cold, we may have a frozen spillway to view. View [http://tehcc.org/wiki/South\\_Holston\\_Dam](http://tehcc.org/wiki/South_Holston_Dam) for details on trail head location and hike details. Hike will be aborted if driving or trails are treacherous. Meet in the [parking lot between McDonalds and State of Franklin Bank](#) in Colonial Heights along Ft. Henry Drive. We'll depart at 1:00 pm. You may also meet us at the trail head as we expect to be there at 1:45 pm. We should be done and back to Kingsport by 5:00 pm. For more info, carpooling, courtesy notice for attending, contact Tim Schaefer , 423-302-0846 or [tim@tehcc.org](mailto:tim@tehcc.org).

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## **For the Record**

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### **Laurel Fork Gorge and Falls, January 9, 2016**

*Tim Schaefer Reporting*

Frozen waterfall hikes in this area can be fickle. Although the beginning of the New Year was cold, we finished the week with some warm days. This apparently melted away whatever ice may have formed. It didn't matter, as often the destination is a motivator, but it's the journey that is enjoyed best. The hike began at US 321. We hiked to the A.T. and on to the falls. After enjoying a cool (but not frozen) stop at the falls for lunch, we decided to hike up out of the gorge to see the Koonford Bridge rebuilt in 2014. The hike was more steps than I remembered the last time I visited here five years ago. We made it to the bridge and returned, except we stayed on High-Water Trail to see more trail (but really to avoid the descent back into the gorge). Joining us today was the Schaefer Family (Tim, Carrie, Jamie, Bob, Josie), the Zimmerman Family (Yuyan and Frankie), Jeffery and Amy Bryan, Gabrielle Ashley with dog Lucy, and Andrew.



### **Margarette Falls, January 17, 2016**

*Schaefer Family Reporting*

Our timing is off in planning these hikes. Another missed chance to see frozen falls as it's surely bedecked with ice now. Alas the problem with planning one to two months ahead. I just have to put it on the calendar and hope for the best. That's not to say it wasn't worth it. Despite no ice, the trail scenery was beautiful with freshly fallen snow and frosted mountain tops. The hike was fairly straight forward, well worn, and well marked. We made our way to the falls, enjoyed the view and a quick snack and got moving again before the cold got to us. The return home included a stop at the Greeneville Pizza Inn. No takers on this hike, just the Schaefer family including dogs Zoinks! and Beetle. (See photos, next page)



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## A.T. Maintenance Reports

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**Reporting:** Carl Fritz

**Date:** 12/31/2015

**Purpose:** Rehab rock steps

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

**People:** Paul Benfield, Ken Buchanan, Kayla Carter, Richard Carter, Jim Chambers, Sarah Dyson, Carl Fritz, Mike Hupko, Greg Kramer, Ted Mowery, Bill Murdoch, Bob Peoples, Kim Peters, Joshua Self, Tim Stewart, George Thorpe

**Summary:** On the last day of maintenance for 2015, sixteen people and two dogs came out to rebuild some of the hundreds of rock steps going down to Laurel Fork Falls. Much more remains to be done, but there was great improvement in several places. The day was somewhat damp with heavy fog, but for late December, was great. A number of hikers came to enjoy the heavy water flow on the falls.

**Reporting:** Bill Fuller

**Date:** 1/1/2016

**Purpose:** Scout Trail

**Location:** Section 14a, Doll Flats to Bradley Gap

**People:** Bill Fuller

**Summary:** I hiked from Doll Flats to the summit of Hump Mountain. I cleared one small blowdown and cut back some encroaching brush. The improvements made during Hard Core are wonderful!

**Reporting:** Ken Murray

**Date:** 1/2/2016

**Purpose:** Check for blowdowns and finish Inventory

**Location:** Section 20b, Temple Hill Gap to Spivey Gap

**People:** Ken and Lotta Murray

**Summary:** We checked the section for blowdowns and finished the Asset Inventory.

**Reporting:** Jim Chambers

**Date:** 1/3/2016

**Purpose:** Asset Inventory

**Location:** Section 16b, Iron Mountain Gap to Greasy Creek Gap

**People:** Jim Chambers

**Summary:** I conducted the Asset Inventory from Iron Mountain Gap to Greasy Creek Gap.

**Reporting:** Carl Fritz

**Date:** 1/7/2016

**Purpose:** Rehab A.T.

**Location:** Section 10, Steps south of Laurel Falls

**People:** Ken Buchanan, Richard Carter, Jim Chambers, Wes Ford, Carl Fritz, Greg Kramer, Pat Loven, Joe Morris, Ted Mowery, Bill Murdoch, Bob Peoples, Kim Peters, Kevin Sedgwick, George Thorpe

**Summary:** We continued to rehab the steps going down to Laurel Falls. It was cool most of the day down close to the falls which had considerable ice. Although we installed many new steps, there are more to go.

**Reporting:** Craig Haire

**Date:** 1/9/2016

**Purpose:** Complete trail Inventory and clear trail

**Location:** Section 20a: Nolichucky River to Temple Hill Gap entire section

**People:** Craig Haire, Vladi Razskazovski

**Summary:** I completed the A.T. trail assessment. At the south end, where a tree fall had left a big crater, we did some treadway rehab, leveling out and widening the trail. We cleaned out and widened over a dozen turnouts. On the southernmost mile, a large dead tree had fallen into the trail from below which we cut and cleared with my Greenworks electric saw. We encountered around a dozen day hikers enjoying a pleasant Saturday.

**Reporting:** Ken Murray

**Date:** 1/11/2016

**Purpose:** Routine Maintenance

**Location:** Section 20b, Temple Hill Gap to Devils Creek Gap

**People:** Ken Murray

**Summary:** I cleared two small "crawl under" blowdowns. There was too much snow to complete the Trail Asset Inventory.

**Reporting:** Jim Chambers

**Date:** 1/12/2016

**Purpose:** Trail Maintenance

**Location:** Section 10, North of Dennis Cove Road

**People:** Bob Peoples, Jim Chambers

**Summary:** Bob and I performed trail maintenance north of Dennis Cove Road.

**Reporting:** Carl Fritz

**Date:** 1/14/2016

**Purpose:** Clean up trail

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

**People:** Dean Baird, John Beudet, Ken Buchanan, Richard Carter, Jim Chambers, Carl Fritz, Joe Morris, Ted Mowery, Bob Peoples, Kim Peters, Kevin Sedgwick, Tim Stewart, George Thorpe

**Summary:** We finished cleaning up Laurel Fork Gorge. There were a number of hikers, including three south bounders. The falls already have a lot of ice. *Photos courtesy of Ken Buchanan*



**Reporting:** Craig Haire

**Date:** 1/17/2016

**Purpose:** Clear trail

**Location:** Section 18, FS230 switchback to Indian Grave Gap, south end of section

**People:** Craig Haire

**Summary:** On a chilly, windy club hike to Beauty Spot, I did chainsaw clearing at four locations. A couple smaller obstructions were cleared with a hand saw. There were 12 of us on the hike.