When CMC started a Communications Committee several years ago, I didn't know that it was going to become my all-consuming passion. The club had been well served by a quarterly printed Let's Go, a regular eNews and a somewhat static website. But look at us now.

Our website has been redesigned. We can now join and renew our memberships online. Hike leaders are able to cancel hikes in extremely foul weather without having to drive to multiple meeting points. The hike database, a valuable resource of the website, is consulted by members and visiting hikers alike.

We are reaching out to new communities of hikers with our CMC Facebook page. By the time you read this, over 1,200 people will have "liked" us. Hikers write informal hike reports and upload their pictures. People ask questions such as "Where is Cataloochee?" and "Does anyone want to walk the El Camino in the fall?"

We've organized a CMC hiking Meetup group. Meetup is web-based software that brings likeminded people together. It allows more spontaneous activities than our regularly scheduled hikes. However, the hikes continue to follow the same procedures that assure the quality of CMC hikes. Our relationship with the local press is stronger than ever. When outdoor writers have a question about hiking in North Carolina, they call CMC representatives.

Interested in writing, photographing or proofreading with the Communications Committee? Careful! Communications is addictive. — Danny Bernstein

Hiking on Meetup

By Paul Benson

I had been hearing about the Asheville Hiking Meetup group for the past couple of years. I checked out their website and was very impressed with the ease of learning about upcoming hikes and signing up to join the hikes. I attended a couple of their hikes and had been thinking ever since about the advantages of the Meetup hiking scheduling format. I liked how one can see who is attending a hike and read a little about them. The leaders can post complete descriptions with maps and photos, answer questions and post changes and additional information as needed. Hikers can see who and how many people will be attending a hike, ask questions in real time, rate the hike, and post after-hike comments and photos. It's basically hike scheduling with the tools of social media.

So when Jim Reel, Chair of the CMC Hiking Committee, asked me if I would be interested in scheduling hikes, I told him I would be if I could do it by starting up a CMC Meetup site. After a good bit of discussion about how Meetup scheduling would fit with our regular quarterly schedule, the Committee gave me the go-ahead to give it a trial run. With help from Helen Carlton, we got it going last September. With the CMLC White Squirrel Challenge and this year's Anniversary Challenges, Meetup has the ability to offer hikes with only a week or so lead time as compared to the months of lead time required by the quarterly schedule.

CMC Meetup membership is at 161 as I write this, and we get a new member almost every day (I get an emailed notice whenever anyone joins). Most CMC Meetup members are not regular.

continued on page 7
Bill Ramer, Pisgah Trail Blazer

By Stuart English

On our hikes, many trails we walk at some point traverse or briefly follow Forest Service Roads. Have you ever wondered where these gated roads went? In the Pisgah Ranger District, one of our members, Bill Ramer, knows them all. He has made GPS tracts of every road, open and closed, every little spur, every trail, maintained or unmaintained, and every waterfall. He did all this quietly and by himself. Some of our hiking-map-making people found out about this and contacted Bill. He has become a vital asset to our knowledge of this area. Sharing Bill’s love of this area, but not his resolve, I was very eager to hear about this and he graciously gave me this interview.

How did you get interested in this and how long have you been doing it?

I did some hiking before retiring, especially with my grandkids, but after retiring, my outings expanded over a broader area and I covered more and more of the named trails.

In 2007 I obtained a GPS and began tracking my hikes and uploading them to topographic software. Somewhere during this time, it became one of my primary projects and I targeted trails, roads, waterfalls and other places of interest within the Pisgah Ranger District. Each point of interest is accompanied with photographs and waypoints on my maps. I am always looking for new places to add.

What is your background and how long have you lived in the area?

I am originally from the Pisgah Forest area and have lived here all of my life (not yet). I retired from Ecusta after 38 years.

What is the use of most of the Forest Service Roads and what’s their average length?

Most of the roads are closed to vehicles and used only by forest personnel. The two longest gated roads within the district are Fletcher Creek Road in South Mills River and Lickstone Ridge Road in the Sunburst area, which are each a little more than 12 miles long. Other gated roads average about three to five miles long. There are approximately 350 miles of forest service roads in the Pisgah Ranger District.

What area have you most enjoyed exploring and why?

Two specific locations come to mind – Flat Laurel Creek cascades and the lesser known Still House Falls near Lake Toxaway. Both of these sites are unique and photographs do little to capture their true characteristics.

What are your thoughts on the future of the Pisgah Ranger District?

Over the course of my life I have seen the Ranger District change from limited access to more tourists, hiking and biking. My hope is that the natural areas will be preserved for future generations to enjoy as much as I have.
Hike Ratings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Letter</th>
<th>Distance</th>
<th>Second Letter</th>
<th>Elevation Gain</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AA</td>
<td>Over 12 miles</td>
<td>AA</td>
<td>Over 2,000 ft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>9-12 miles</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>1,501-2,000 ft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>6-9 miles</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>1,001-1,500 ft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Under 6 miles</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Under 1,000 ft.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All hikes assemble at the far rear (north end) of Westgate Shopping Center near I-240 exit 3B unless otherwise noted.

Hike cancellations are announced on the CMC website in the “Breaking News Box.” Hike Leaders will announce a cancellation or significant change at least a few hours before the hike meeting time. Hikers that do not have internet access or live hours away from the meeting place: call the hike leader to ensure that you are informed about hike changes.

If it’s not possible for a hiker to go on the regularly scheduled hike, it may be possible to accompany the leader when the hike is scouted. Call or email the hike leader.

See the Hike Schedule on the CMC website for more complete and timely information, including scout reports, at www.carolinamountainclub.org.

**CHALLENGE PROGRAMS**

- **SB6K** For hiking all 40 peaks above 6000’. Contact Peter Barr, pjbar@gmail.com
- **P400** For hiking every trail in Pisgah Ranger District. Contact Dave Wetmore, dwetmore@citcom.net
- **900M** For hiking every trail in GSMNP. Contact Dave Wetmore, dwetmore@citcom.net
- **LTC** For hiking all 24 lookout towers in WNC. Contact Peter Barr, pjbar@gmail.com
- **WC100** For hiking to the 100 best waterfalls in the mountains of WNC, SC and the Smokies. Contact Jack Fitzgerald, 828-685-2897, suejackfitz@bellsouth.net

**WEDNESDAY HIKES**

Wednesday hikes submitted by Ann Gleason 828-859-9387, gleason.amn@gmail.com. Driving distance is round-trip from Asheville. All hikes assemble at the far rear (north end) of Westgate Shopping Center near I-240 exit 3B unless otherwise noted. Some hikes will have second meeting places as described in the schedule, and start times may vary. Times listed are departure times — arrive early.

- **Wednesday No. W1302-805**
  - **Apr. 3**
  - **History Ramble in the Wasp area of Cherokee National Forest**
  - **8:30 AM**
  - Hike 8, Drive 80, 500 ft. ascent, Rated B-C
  - Jack Dalton, 828-622-3704, cell: 828-380-0848, jcdalton9@gmail.com and Marcia Carter, Ranger.
  - “Form carpools at Westgate and meet leader at Hot Springs at the AT trailhead (south) adjacent to Laughing Heart Hostel on Serpentine St. at 9:30 AM. This hike will be done jointly with CMC and the Hot Springs Mountain Club in the Wasp area of Cherokee National Forest. This “ramble” will take us into the Wasp/Upper Wolf Creek historic area at the western base of Bluff Mtn. Ranger Marcia Carter of Cherokee NF will join us and talk about the history of this classic 19th Century Appalachian farming community. Marcia is working on a history of Wasp and has graciously agreed to share her knowledge with us. This will be a rare opportunity for history buffs. There will be old home sites, cemeteries, etc. to visit. We will venture down to the Wolf Creek Falls for our lunch break. Hikers must contact the leader to reserve a space on this hike. Topo(s): Lemon Gap; also NatGeo map #782

- **Wednesday No. W1302-599**
  - **Apr. 17**
  - **Daniel Ridge - Caney Bottom Cove - Creek Falls Loop**
  - **8:00 AM**
  - Hike 10, Drive 80, 1800 ft. ascent, Rated A-A
  - Stuart English, cell: 828-384-1759, stuengo@comporium.net
  - “Form carpools at Westgate and meet leader at Pisgah Ranger Station at 8:35 AM. We’ll start with the 4-mile Daniel Ridge Loop, follow a FS road by 100-foot Toms Springs Falls, and then we’ll go down an unmapped trail to Caney Bottom Trail. Here we’ll loop around to Cove Creek Trail and our lunch spot, the 60-foot Cove Creek Falls. Then we’ll go back to Caney bottom Trail, intersect Cove Creek Trail and back to our cars on Davidson River Road (FS 475). Topo(s): Cruso, Shining Rock; also NatGeo map #780

- **Wednesday No. W1302-560**
  - **Apr. 24**
  - **Rube Rock, Groundhog Creek, AT Loop**
  - **8:00 AM**
  - Hike 9, Drive 100, 1900 ft. ascent, Rated B-A
  - Bruce Bente, 828-692-0116, bibente@bellsouth.net
  - CMC has recently cleared these trails and is able to offer this hike for the first time in four years. It is a loop hike located in the Harmon Den area of Pisgah Nat’l. Forest. Starting at Brown Gap, we’ll take a forest road, then Rube Rock Trail, to descend into the Pigeon River Gorge and along an abandoned railroad grade. Many yellow trilliums in bloom. We’ll climb the Groundhog Creek Trail to the AT and back to Brown Gap. Follow trail straight past AT shelter; right on AT to Brown Gap. Two stream crossings which can be crossed dry unless it has rained recently. **Second meeting place: Pilot Truck Stop off I-40 at Exit 24 at 8:30 AM, but contact leader first. Topo(s): Waterville**

- **Saturday Workday**
  - For the Saturday MST Trail Building Workdays in 2013, meet at 8:30 at the Home Depot at the Enka-Candler Exit 44 exit of I-40. Workdays are April 20, June 1, August 17 and October 19. In the past, we will be back in Asheville by 3:00. Call Les Love at 828-658-1489 (leslove55@gmail.com) to verify date.
Creek past a waterfall, campground and mixed woodlands to Campsite #57, Horace Kephart's last permanent campsite. Next, a short, steep section of the Martin Gap Trail, and then we go downhill on the Indian Creek Trail where we will enjoy another waterfall. Some rockhopping may be needed at one creek crossing. Topo(s): Bryon City, Clingmans Dome

Wednesday No. W1302-513 May 8
**Bee Tree Gap to Craven Gap** 8:30 AM
Hike 9.7, Drive 45, 1800 ft. ascent, Rated B-A
Vance Mann, cell: 828-273-7592, hvancemc@icloud.com
An MST hike with good views, varied forest terrain and many wildflowers. We will hike over Lane Pinnacle, past the Rattlesnake Lodge site, and then do an easy 4-mile hike with little elevation change. Car shuttle. Topo(s): Big Ivy trail maps & NatGeo map #779

Wednesday No. W1302-249 May 15
**Haywood Gap/Buckeye Gap** 8:30 AM
Hike 9, Drive 80, 1500 ft. ascent, Rated A-B
Laura Frisbie, 828-337-5845, laurafrisbie@gmail.com
*Form carpools at Westgate and meet leader at Cold Mtn. Overlook on BRP at 9:10 AM. Wilderness hike, limited to ten hikers—call leader for reservation. We'll hike the MST and the Buckeye Gap Trail in the Middle Prong Wilderness, down a ridge line on an old logging railroad grade, then past an old logging camp. At the junction with the Haywood Gap Trail, we'll hike steeply up alongside Haywood Gap Stream to Haywood Gap and follow the MST back to our cars. Topo(s): Sam Knob; also NatGeo map #780 and USFS Shining Rock and Middle Prong Wilderness map

Wednesday No. W1302-482 May 22
**Sams Gap to Spivey Gap** 8:00 AM
Hike 13.3, Drive 85, 2800 ft. ascent, Rated AA-AA
Tish Desjardins, cell: 828-380-1452, desraylet@aol.com
*Form carpools at Westgate and meet leader at Sams Gap at 8:30 AM. Hike north on AT from Sams Gap to Spivey Gap. Lunch stop on summit of Big Bald; excellent views from Big Bald. Long car shuttle. Topo(s): Sams Gap, Bald Creek, Chestoa

Wednesday No. W1302-473 May 29
**Mt Mitchell, Maple Camp Bald Loop** 8:30 AM
Hike 7.5, Drive 70, 1700 ft. ascent, Rated B-A
Lee Silver, 828-668-7147, cell: 828-442-6549, leesilver@comporium.net
*B400 *Form carpools at Westgate and meet leader at Thrift Cove - Pressley Gap 10:00 AM
Hike 7, Drive 100, 1500 ft. ascent, Rated B-B
Dave Wtemore, 828-883-7296, dwtemore@citcom.net
*Form carpools at Westgate and meet leader at Pisgah Forest Bi-Lo at 10:35 AM. This new CMC hike will go up the east side of Thrift Cove, an old but nice trail up Lindsay Ridge to Hickory Knob, then down to Pressley Gap and then take the (gated) forest service road down to the riding stable. Short car shuttle. Topo(s): Pisgah Forest; also NatGeo map #780
Hike 14.4, Drive 100, 3200 ft. ascent, Rated AA-AA+
Mike Kniess, 828-628-6712, kniess06@att.net
900M We will climb to Mt. Sterling to enjoy the
great views from the fire tower, then follow the
Mt. Sterling Ridge, Pretty Hollow Gap and Little
Cataloochee Trails past the old Little Cataloochee
Church and the site of an old mountain commu-
nity. Short car shuttle. Second meeting place:
Exxon station on US 276 off Exit 20 of I-40
at 8:30 AM. Topo(s): Cove Creek Gap, Luftee
Knob; also NatGeo map #317

Sunday No. A1302-560
Apr. 21
Rube Rock/Groundhog Creek Loop 8:00 AM
Hike 9, Drive 100, 1900 ft. ascent, Rated A-A
Bruce Bente, 828-692-0116, cell: 828-699-6296,
bente@bellsouth.net
CMC has recently cleared these trails and is able
to offer this hike for the first time in four years.
It is a loop hike located in the Harmon Den area
of Pisgah Nat’l. Forest. Starting at Brown Gap,
we’ll take a forest road, then Rube Rock Trail, to
descend into the Pioneer River Gorge and along an
abandoned railroad grade. Many yellow trilliums
in bloom. We’ll climb the Groundhog Creek Trail
to the AT and back to Brown Gap. Two stream
crossings which can be crossed dry unless it has
rained recently. Second meeting place: Pilot
Truck Stop off I-40 at Exit 24 at 8:30 AM, but
contact leader first. Topo(s): Waterville; also
USFS Harmon Den Map.

Sunday No. A1302-457
Apr. 28
Brown Gap to Max Patch
and Return 8:30 AM
Hike 7, Drive 100, 1100 ft. ascent, Rated B-B
Stuart English, 828-883-2447, 
stuengo@comporium.net
An in-and-out hike on the AT with a steep uphill
for the first mile, then leveling off into moderate
ups and downs with a final climb to the top of
Max Patch for lunch. If we’re lucky, it will be
clear for beautiful views. Second meeting place:
Pilot Truck Stop off I-40 at Exit 24 at 9:00 AM,
but contact leader first. Topo(s): Lemon Gap

Sunday No. A1302-804
May 5
Mountain Treasures Camporee #4
Ted Snyder, 864-638-3686, tedsnnyderjr@bell-
south.net and Jim Reel, 828-443-2532,
cell: 828-738-0751, jim57@yahoo.com
The fourth in a series of car camping week-
ends will feature seven hikes into a cluster of
nearby Mountain Treasures. We will camp at the
Kuykendall Group Campground near Brevard.
There will be a group bar-b-que supper Saturday
night, for which reservations are required, both
for camping and for bar-b-que. Please make res-
ervations with Ted Snyder. For details, go to the
CMC website and click "camporee page". The
website gives driving directions, hike descriptions
and plans for the bar-b-que. Any questions should
be put to Ted or Jim.

Saturday No. A1302-204
May 11
Max Patch Ramble
9:00 AM
Hike 7.5, Drive 100, 1100 ft. ascent, Rated B-B
Lenny Bernstein, 828-236-0192, lberns@att.net
We will do a scenic hike around Max Patch, fol-
lowing the AT north to visit the Roaring Fork shel-
ter recently built by CMC, then returning on the
Buckeye Ridge Trail and AT over Max Patch and
back to our cars. Expect spectacular views from
the summit of Max Patch. Second meeting place:
Pilot Truck Stop at Exit 24 off I-40 at 9:30 AM,
but contact leader first. Topo(s): Lemon Gap

Sunday No. A1302-216
May 12
Sams Gap to Devil Fork Gap
*8:30 AM
Hike 8.5, Drive 90, 1400 ft. ascent, Rated B-B
Tish Desjardins, cell: 828-380-1452,
desraylet@aol.com
*Form carpools at Westgate and meet leader
at the Hardy’s/Exxon station off Exit 11 of I-26
in Mars Hill at 8:45 AM. After the hike there
will be a potluck supper at the Bear River
Community Lodge. Hikers are requested to
contribute food for the supper. Food will be
taken to a refrigerator before the hike. Please
contact the leader to coordinate what food to
bring. This section of the AT features nice views
into Tennessee from the ridge line, traversing a
series of knobs along an unusual section of the
TN-NC state line where Tennessee is east of N.C.
and the southbound hiker is actually traveling
north. Car shuttle. Topo(s): Sams Gap

Sunday No. A1302-211
May 19
Wagon Road Gap
to Elk Pasture Gap (NC 151)
8:30 AM
Hike 10.7, Drive 55, 2000 ft. ascent, Rated A-AA
Danny Bernstein, 828-236-0192, danny@hikertoheriker.com
P400 From Wagon Road Gap Overview, we’ll
follow the MST past Pisgah Inn and check out the
remains of Buck Spring Lodge. Then we’ll climb
to the top of Little Pisgah Mtn. and down to Elk
Pasture Gap. Spring wildflowers ought to be at
their peak. Car shuttle. Second meeting place:
Wagon Road Gap Overview (MM 412.2) at
9:10 AM, but must contact leader first. Topo(s):
Shining Rock; Cruso; Dusnmore Mtn.; also MST
Trail Profiles, pp. 39-43 and NatGeo map #780

Saturday No. A1302-449
May 25
Bald Mtns. Loop
8:00 AM
Hike 9.7, Drive 135, 2900 ft. ascent, Rated A-AA
Les and Catherine Love, 828-658-1489,
lesrlove55@gmail.com
This is a beautiful Tennessee hike only an hour
away. Hike from the Horse Creek Rec. Area
with a 0.5 mile side trip to Pete’s Branch Falls,
then up Sarvis Cove along the creek to the AT at
Cold Spring Mountain for lunch in the meadow.
Go back down an old jeep road that has great
views. This hike has seven rock-hop creek cross-
ings that may involve wading, so come prepared.
Optional dinner at Farmer’s Daughter after the
hike. Topo(s): Greystone; also NatGeo map #782

Sunday No. A1302-444
May 26
Avery Creek Loop
*8:30 AM
Hike 10, Drive 80, 1700 ft. ascent, Rated A-A
Michael Cornn, cell: 828-458-1281,
mccornn@aol.com and Kathy Cornn,
cell: 828-458-1282, katherynnkyle@gmail.com
P400, WC100 *Form carpools at Westgate and meet
leader at Pisgah Forest Bi-Lo at 9:05 AM.
A scenic hike featuring waterfalls and a beaver
dam. We’ll first climb to Buckhorn Gap via Twin
Falls, then follow the Black Mtn. Trail to Club
Gap, with our return downhill on the Avery Creek
Trail. Topo(s): Pisgah Forest, Shining Rock; also
NatGeo. map #780

Monday No. A1302-095
May 27
Hemphill Bald from Polls Gap 8:30 AM
Hike 9.5, Drive 95, 1600 ft. ascent, Rated A-A
Becky Smucker, 828-298-5013,
bjsmucker@gmail.com
900M Our annual joint hike with the Smoky
Mountains Hiking Club again offers a good
workout with beautiful scenery. We will hike from
Polls Gap to our lunch spot at Hemphill Bald in
the GSMNP, and return via the same trail. Second
meeting place: Maggie Valley Post Office, rear
of parking lot, at 9:00 AM, but contact leader
first. Topo(s): Delfwood, Bunches Bald; also
NatGeo map #317

Saturday No. A1302-008
Jun. 1
Bee Tree Gap to Tanbark Tunnel *9:00 AM
Hike 6.2, Drive 40, 1300 ft. ascent, Rated B-B
Kathleen Hannigan, cell: 828-230-4883,
kathannigan@gmail.com
*Only Meeting Place: Back parking lot of Folk
Art Center. A pleasant spring hike on the MST
over Lane Pinnacle and through the Rattlesnake
Lodge site, featuring excellent views, interest-
rock formations and late spring wildflowers.
There are several steep but short ups and downs
and a long gradual descent. After the hike, hikers
are invited to join the leader for wine and cheese
at her nearby home. Please RSVP to leader by
cell or to gmail address for wine and cheese
planning. Car shuttle. Topo(s): Craggy Pinnacle;
also MST Trail Profiles, pp. 58-59

Sunday No. A1302-482
Jun. 2
Sams Gap to Spivey Gap (Strenuous)
8:00 AM
Hike 13.3, Drive 85, 3300 ft. ascent, Rated AA-AA+
Janet Martin, cell: 502-494-9309,
jaykaymartin@msn.com and Bob Hysko,
cell: 828-243-3630, rhysko@yahoo.com
Nice variety of vegetation on this challenging
hike, including forest and balds as well as six
campsites, Bald Mtn. shelter and High Rock.
With the high elevations and nine springs along this AT
section, we may see some late spring blossoms.
Although a long hike, the trail is well-maintained by CMC. The high point on Big Bald at 5516 ft. will be our lunch spot to enjoy the great views. Northbound ascent is 2800 ft. Key swap hike. Topo(s): Sams Gap, Bald Creek, Chestoa

Sunday No. A1302-117  Jun. 2
Craggy Dome from Balsam Gap  8:30 AM (moderate)
Hike 7.8, Drive 60, 1560 ft. ascent, Rated B-A
Marianne Newman, 828-257-2136,
mariennenevman12@gmail.com
SB6K  We will hike the MST over a section with great views and wildflowers to Greybeard Overlook for our lunch stop. Hikers wishing to peakbag Craggy Dome may hike up and back at this time. The climb up Craggy Dome will be on a rough, unmaintained trail and will add another mile of hiking, 400 feet of ascent. Second meeting place: Craven Gap at 8:50 AM. Topo(s): Montreat

Sunday No. A1302-365  Jun. 9
Mt. Mitchell Ramble  10:00 AM
Hike 7, Drive 75, 1400 ft. ascent, Rated B-B
Jill Gottesman, 828-587-9453,
cell: 828-545-5236, jill_gottesman@tws.org
SB6K  We will do a loop from Mt. Mitchell, including the Old Mt. Mitchell Trail, Camp Alice Road and the Commissary Ridge Trail. Second meeting place: Craven Gap at 10:20 AM. Topo(s): Mt. Mitchell, Montreat; also PNW South Toe River, Mt. Mitchell & Big Ivy Trail Maps

Saturday No. A1302-193  Jun. 15
NC 215 to Haywood Gap  10:00 AM
Hike 6.5, Drive 85, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated B-B
Marcia Bromberg, 828-505-0471, cell: 828-798-9905, mwbrromberg@yahoo.com
P400, SB6K  *Wilderness hike, limited to ten hikers—call leader for reservation. A car shuttle hike along a lovely MST section amid fragrant balsams in the high country. A possible side trip to Mt. Hardy could add 1.5 miles and 400 ft. to the trip. Topo(s): Sams Knob

Sunday No. A1302-657  Jun. 16
Carvers Gap – Yellow Mtn. Gap  8:30 AM
Hike 8, Drive 135, Rated B-AA (SB) or B-B (NB)
Bruce Bente, 828-692-0116, bbente@bellsouth.net and Carroll Koepplinger, 828-667-0723, carrollkoep@bellsouth.net
SB6K  NB direction: From Carvers Gap, hike north on the AT through open meadows featuring spectacular 360° views and rhododendrons and azaleas in bloom, with a side trip over Grassy Ridge Bald (6160 ft.) to a scenic lunch spot. We'll then return to the AT and follow it north past the AT shelter barn, then turn down to our cars at the end of Roaring Creek Rd. Ascent is 1100 ft. SB direction: description is reversed and ascent is 2300 ft. Key swap hike. Second meeting place: Burnsville McDonalds at 9:10 AM. Topo(s): Carvers Gap, White Rocks Mtn.; also NatGeo Map #783

Sunday No. A1302-128  Jun. 23
Sam Knob Loop  8:30 AM
Hike 10, Drive 90, 1700 ft. ascent, Rated A-A
Ashok Kudva, 828-698-7119, cell: 828-674-1374, ashok.kudva@att.net
P400, SB6K  *Form carpools at Westgate and meet leader at BRP Cold Mtn. Overlook at 9:10 AM. (optional ascent of Chestnut Bald and Black Balsam available for SB6K peak-baggers). We'll start at NC 215 and follow the MST, with a side trip to Devil's Courthouse, cross FS 816 onto ALT. Then we'll loop back and ascend Sam Knob (6040 ft.) with its 360-degree views, return via the Flat Laurel Creek Trail to NC 215. The stream crossing at the end may be a wet crossing if it has rained recently. Pace will be moderate, but stronger hikers may go ahead per leader direction. 1 mile car shuttle. Topo(s): Shining Rock & Sam Knob; also NatGeo map #780

Saturday No. A1302-473  Jun. 29
Mt. Mitchell - Maple Camp Bald loop  8:30 AM
Hike 7.5, Drive 70, 1500 ft. ascent, Rated B-A
Barbara Morgan, 828-738-3395, cell: 828-460-7066, barbic129@gmail.com
SB6K  *First meeting place: Folk Art Center back (lower) parking lot. We’ll do a loop from the Mt. Mitchell parking lot, following the MST/ Mt. Mitchell, and Buncombe Horse Range Trails to Maple Camp Bald for lunch and great views. From there, we’ll backtrack a short distance and climb steeply on the Big Tom Gap Trail (#191-A) up to the Crest Trail, and then return to the trailhead via Big Tom and Mt. Craig. Second meeting place: Craven Gap at 8:45 AM. Topo(s): Mt. Mitchell; also PNW South Toe River, Mt. Mitchell & Big Ivy trail map & NatGeo map #779

Sunday No. A1302-339  Jun. 30
Gareenlo Gap to Hot Springs  9:00 AM
Hike 7.5, Drive 90, 1100 ft. ascent, Rated B-B
Tom Sanders, 828-252-6327, tsanders.avl@gmail.com
This AT hike offers nice variety, with a beautiful hardwood forest, Deer Park and moderate climbs and descents. We’ll look forward to a cooling stop for ice cream in Hot Springs. Car shuttle. Topo(s): Lemon Gap, Spring Creek, Hot Springs; also AT TN-NC map #44

HALF-DAY SUNDAY HIKES
Newcomers are welcome, but non-members MUST call the leader before the hike to determine the requirements. Half-day hikes submitted by Gail Lamb, 828-338-0443, glamb46@gmail.com and Lee Silver, 828-668-7147, leehsilver@aol.com. Driving distance is round-trip from Asheville. All hikes assemble at the far rear (north end) of Westgate Shopping Center near I-240 exit 3B UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED. Some hikes will have second meeting places, and starting times may vary. Times listed are departure times – arrive early.

Half-Day No. H1302-800  Apr. 7
Givens Estates Trails  12:30 PM
Hike 5, Drive 11, 1200 ft. ascent, Rated C-B
Don Walton, 828-654-9904, donwalton@bellsouth.net
Givens recently created, open to the public, 4 miles of largely woody trails on their property of over 200 acres. Scenic views of Givens, Asheville and Mt Pisgah areas. We will hike about 5 miles to hike all of the trails. Topo(s): Asheville

Half-Day No. H1302-049  Apr. 14
Big Creek in the Smokies  12:30 PM
Hike 5, Drive 110, 500 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
Bonnie Allen, 828-645-0357, cell: 828-707-6115, bonnie@allenecats.com
900M Big Creek, a spectacular mountain stream in the Smokies, offers hikers an opportunity to slow down and appreciate the wild beauty of this part of the park. The comfortable roadbed meanders along rushing raps, a waterfall, huge boulders, and deep swimming holes. A beautiful forest and wildflower environment makes for a special experience. An easy in-and-out hike. Bring your camera! Second meeting place: Pilot truck stop off I-40 at exit 24 at 1:00 PM, but contact leader first. Topo(s): Luftee Knob, Cove Creek Gap; also NatGeo Map #317

Half-Day No. H1302-603  Apr. 21
Big Ivy - Perkins, Laurel Gap & Bear Pen  12:15 PM
Hike 5.5, Drive 55, 700 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
Marcia Bromberg, 828-505-0471, mwbrromberg@yahoo.com
This loop in the Big Ivy Creek headwaters area of the Pisgah National Forest begins 4.4 miles up FS 74 at the Perkins Road Trail. We will hike up to the Laurel Gap Trail, turn right and walk to the Bear Pen Trail which will take us back down to FS 74. We’ll walk just under a mile to return to our cars. Expect to see spring wildflowers along the way. Second meeting place: Rose’s parking lot off Exit 19 of I-26 at 12:30 PM. Topo(s): Mt. Mitchell, Montreat

Half-Day No. H1302-089  Apr. 28
Max Patch to Lemon Gap  11:00 AM
Hike 6, Drive 140, 900 ft. ascent, Rated B-C
Jane Laping, 828-772-0379,
donwalton@bellsouth.net
From the panoramic views of Max Patch, follow the Appalachian Trail downhill through a wooded area abundant with wildflowers and streams to Lemon Gap. This one-way hike requires a car shuttle. Counts toward the “90 in 90” AT
Challenge. Second meeting place: Pilot Truck
Stop off I-40 Exit 24, but contact leader first.
Topo(s): Hot Springs

Half-Day No. H1302-767 May 5
Montreat Trestle Road,
Mt. Mitchell Toll Road Loop *11:40 AM
Hike 5, Drive 40, 1040 ft. ascent, Rated C-B
Renate Rikkers, 828-298-9988,
rerikkers@gmail.com

*Form carpools at Westgate and meet leader at
Ingles parking lot off Exit 64 of I-40 at 12:00 PM.
This hike will take us into the history of
Montreat, with special focus on the building of
the trestle railroad for logging, and the 21-mile
long Mt. Mitchell auto toll road to encourage
tourism, between the years 1911-1914. Montreat
resident Van Talmage is an ardent trail runner and
history buff who will join us for the afternoon to
speak to members on the history of the trestle
roadway. At 12:15 PM our group will meet at the
Biltmore Square Mall.
Let's consider dining at Pisgah Inn after the hike.

Half-Day No. H1302-349 May 26
Pisgah Inn to US 276 *12:00 PM
Hike 6.2, Drive 50, 800 ft. ascent, Rated B-C
Beverly MacDowell, cell: 828-777-5806,
bevmacdowellhappy@gmail.com

P400 *First meeting place: Ingles from
Biltmore Square Mall. Moderate downhill for 5
miles with views into Pink Beds area and then
800 foot ascent over 1.6 miles to US 276. Option
afterwards of an early supper at Pisgah Inn for those
interested. Car shuttle. Second meeting place:
Pisgah Inn parking lot next to convenience store
at 12:30 PM. Topo(s): Across from

Half-Day No. H1302-638 Jun. 2
DuPont: Cannon Creek -
Rock Quarry *12:30 PM
Hike 6, Drive 75, 800 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
Ashok Kudva, 828-675-1374,
cell: 828-674-1374, ashok.kudva@ncf.net

*Form carpools at Westgate and meet leader at
Bi-Lo in Pisgah Forest at 1:05 PM. This western-
most hiking trail in the DuPont State Forest starts
at Rich Mountain Road. After hiking 2.5 miles
under a canopy of trees, we reach the "amphitheater"
and walk up to the rim of the quarry for views
and a snack. After a rainy day, crossing the 8-ft wide
Buckhorn Creek with dry feet may not be possible.
Optional ice cream, beverage or dinner after the
hike. Topo(s): Standingstone Mt.

Half-Day No. H1302-004 Jun. 9
Greybeard Overlook
to Glassmine Falls and Return *1:00 PM
Hike 5, Drive 55, 800 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
Dennis Bass, 828-367-7792, cell: 713-828-6307,
dbass367@gmail.com

*Only Meeting Place: Folk Art Center back
parking lot. An enjoyable Sunday afternoon hike on
the Mountains-to-Sea Trail with good views and
an interesting variety of trees and shrubs.
Hopefully we will also have a good display of rho-
dodendron blooms. We can add a climb to Craggy
Pinnacle if there is interest. Topo(s): Montreat

Half-Day No. H1302-655 Jun. 16
East Fork of the Pigeon River
to Big Boulders *12:00 PM
Hike 5, Drive 44, 700 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
Bobbi Powers, 828-667-5419,
obbipowers@live.com

P400 *First meeting place: Ingles on Brevard
Road. Wilderness hike, limited to ten hikers—call
leader for reservation. Starting at the East Fork
parking area on US 276, this in-out hike follows
the scenic Pigeon River. Some tricky rock
hopping. This hike is a variation of hike #655.
Let's consider dining at Pisgah Inn after the hike.

Second meeting place: BRP Cold Mountain
Overlook at 12:40 PM. Topo(s): Shining Rock;
also NatGeo map #780

Half-Day No. H1302-798 Jun. 23
North Mills River *12:00 PM
Hike 5, Drive 50, 715 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
Sawako Jager, 828-687-2547,
cell: 828-674-4067, baiko70@aol.com

P400 *Form carpools at Westgate and meet leader at
Ingles parking lot off N. Mills River Rd / NC 280
Airport Rd. at 12:30 PM. This short lollipop hike starts at the Trace
Ridge Trailhead at North Mills River Rec. Area. We
will take Trace Ridge Trail down to North
Mills River Trail then hike up to the FS 142 to
visit the old Hendersonville Reservoir before we
complete the hike. There are 8 wet river crossings
(1 alternative with a swimming bridge). Normally
the water is less than 2 feet deep, but water levels
rise drastically after a hard rain. Hiking poles are
recommended. Wear old boots or old sneakers
with good traction that you don't mind getting
soaked wet, with moisture-wicking socks, or
bring appropriate footwear (creek/wading shoes,
sports sandals) to change. Let's have summer fun!
Topo(s): Dunsmore Mtn.; also NatGeo map #780

Half-Day No. H1302-009 Jun. 30
Ox Creek Road
to Rattlesnake Lodge *
*12:30 PM
Hike 5, Drive 30, 540 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
Jim Arai, 828-505-0443, cell: 828-778-8355,
jimurai@live.com

*Only Meeting Place: Back parking lot of
Folk Art Center. Popular in and out hike to his-
toric site. Unusually fine switchbacks. Topo(s):
Craggy Pinnacle

Hiking on Meetup: scheduling hikes with one week's notice

continued from page 1

members and many are new to the area. In my opinion this is exactly the
kind of exposure we need to attract new
members and to get the word out about what a great hiking club we have.

For the future, the success of the site depends primarily on the interest in hike leaders posting hikes on the site. The
good news is that 18 CMC hike leaders have joined the site. As experienced hike leaders, they have "Event Organizers"
status which means that they can post hikes to the site. Several leaders have already posted regularly-scheduled hikes and
some Meetup-only hikes on the site.

These are exciting times, and I have enjoyed watching our Meetup site grow
and learning more using it for hike scheduling and reporting.

I invite everyone to go to: http://www.
meetup.com/Carolina-Mountain-Club/
and check it out. I think you'll like what
you see!
2013 Spring Social

Our Spring Social will be held again at the NC Arboretum on April 27. Les and Catherine Love and Sherman Stanbaugh have been the mainstays of this program since its inception. Actually it was started with a party at the Loves’ house when they both turned 50. Sherman suggested the Arboretum the next year and it has been held there every year since. Sherman’s daughter Diane Stickney is now part of the team. Bubba Q will once again cater the meal. The program this year will be different. Ted Snyder, our camporee master, is heading a four-part program about the Roadless Rule Inventory created by the Forest Service during the Clinton presidency. The “Mountain Treasures” that are the destination for Ted’s camporees and subsequent hikes are founded in these “Roadless” areas that have been set aside, free from the threat of any future logging.

The program will explore:
1. Why the Roadless Inventory is a big deal?
2. What is the legal status of the Roadless Rule?
3. What is the relation of the Roadless Rule to the Forest Plan Revision?
4. What can CMC and its members do and how do the camporees fit into the program?

Brent Martin from The Wilderness Society and D. J. Gerken from SELC are the guest speakers that have committed so far. See insert for more information.

Hiking Information: CMC hikes are open to all and we welcome guests. Non-members need to call or email the hike leader to introduce themselves and find out more about the hike. All hikers are encouraged to call or e-mail the leader if they have questions about the hike or the location of the meeting place. Hikes may be canceled by the leader due to adverse weather or dangerous roads. Minors are welcome on CMC hikes, if accompanied by a responsible adult. Dogs are not allowed on CMC hikes.

Hikers will carpool from the meeting places to the trailhead and back. Passengers are expected to contribute 10 cents per mile towards the driver’s operating expenses. Most CMC hikes do not require reservations. However, check the hiking schedule to determine whether a reservation is required, and if so, call or e-mail the leader to reserve your space.

Hike leaders have the right to reject participants who are not properly equipped for the hike or who are unlikely to be able to complete the hike. All hikers are expected to follow the leader’s instructions. No one should get ahead of the leader, or lag behind the sweep, without specific permission. Hikers should obtain the leader’s permission if they wish to leave the hike before its completion.

CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT: CMC’s website (www.carolinamountainclub.org) has a full list of day hiking needs. Most critical are water, footwear, rain gear and a first aid kit. Carry at least two quarts of liquid (water, Gatorade, juice) for a full day hike, no matter what time of year. Water, footwear, rain gear and a first aid kit are essential equipment on hikes or trail maintenance activities. Each participant agrees to hold harmless and free from blame event leaders and the CMC, its officials and members, for any accident, injury or illness which might be sustained from participating in Club hikes and other activities.

CONSERVATION: CMC works with other organizations concerned about the protection of our natural heritage to protect trails and the hiking experience in our hiking area. Phone the Councillor for Conservation for details.

MEMBERSHIP: Everyone is eligible for CMC membership by completing a Membership Application Form and paying dues. Membership Application Forms are available on the Club website or by mail. Annual dues are $20 for individuals and $30 for families. Applications should be sent to Carolina Mountain Club, P.O. Box 68, Asheville, NC, 28802. Hikers are expected to join CMC after participating in a few hikes. Some trail maintenance activities are only open to members.

CAROLINA MOUNTAIN CLUB OFFICERS
President: Marcia Bromberg, 828-505-0471, mwbromberg@yahoo.com
Vice-President: Don Gardner, 828-754-4067, gardog3@bellsouth.net
Secretary: Stuart English, 828-883-2447, stuengo@comporium.net
Treasurer: Jim Ariail, 828-505-0443, jimariail@yahoo.com
Immediate Past President: Barth Brooker, 828-299-0298, barthbh@bellsouth.net
Councillor for Communication: Danny Bernstein, 828-236-0192, danny@hikertohiker.com
Councillor for Conservation: Tish Desjardins, 828-656-2191, desraylet@aol.com
Councillor for Education: Jim Spicer, 828-891-1026, jis15@earthlink.net
Councillor for Hiking: Jim Reel, 828-738-0751, jim57@yahoo.com
Councillor for Membership: Barb Morgan, 828-738-3395, barbc129@gmail.com
Councillor for Trail Maintenance: Pete R. Petersen, 828-697-1967, roap@aol.com
Councillor at Large: Lee Silver, 828-668-7147, leehsilver@aol.com
Sawako Jager, 828-687-2547, baike70@aol.com

Editor: Stuart English, 828-883-2447, stuengo@comporium.net
Deadline next issue: May 15, 2013