THEY'RE HERE! ATC'S FIRST GIS-BASED HIKING MAPS
The ATC’s first hiking maps produced through its geographic information system (GIS) are now available, developed with the help of volunteers Collins Chew of the Tennessee Eastman Hiking Club, Stewart Holt (GIS-based profiles), and staff members. They cover the Tennessee-North Carolina A.T., from Damascus, Virginia, south to the boundary of Great Smoky Mountains National Park. This is also the area for most of the bikes associated with the July 1-8, 2005, 35th meeting of the Conference membership in Johnson City, Tennessee, known as Southern Highlands 2005. Order yours today from the ATC’s Ultimate Trail Store.

Mountains-to-Sea Trails News
The Blue Ridge Parkway as shown on the MST are now officially recognized as a National Recreation Trail (NRT). After a lengthy application process on behalf of the MST Board these sections of the MST have received NRT status. People look forward to more actions of the MST reaching this status as well in the future. You can read the full press release at www.ncmst.org.

NEXT CMC Council Meeting
When: October 6, 2005
Where: Earth Fare Meeting Room, Westgate Shopping Center
Time: 6:00 PM
Meal: Earth Fare has tasty cafeteria-type food service available adjacent to the meeting room, but please tell Gerry McNab if you plan to attend so that we can set a chair for you. Call him at 828-274-0507. All CMC members are welcome to attend.

FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT www.carolinamtclub.org

MOUNTAINEERING INFORMATION
Consult the trip leader for additional information regarding a particular hike. Hikes may be cancelled due to adverse weather or dangerous road and trail conditions. Please call hike leader if weather conditions are questionable. Visitors are cordially welcome but should select trips within their endurance. When reservations are required as listed in the hike schedule, the leader must be called to reserve a space. Hikers will carpool from the meeting place to trailheads and back. Passengers are expected to contribute 5 cents per mile towards the driver’s operating expenses.

CLOTHING & EQUIPMENT, ETC.
Footwear comes first. Never start a mountain trip in brand new footwear. Hiking boots are recommended. Clothing of any substantial type will do. Carry a sweater, even in summer, and some kind of rain gear. Equipment for all-day trips should be a lunch, plenty of water, first aid kit, and cell phone if available and personal medication including allergy medication.

CLUB TRIP REGULATIONS: Both members and visitors are expected to abide absolutely by club regulations and by instructions of the leaders. Visitors should make themselves known to the leader on arrival at assembly place announced for the trip. No one is to start ahead of the leader without definite permission, or lag unreasonably far behind the group.

MEMBERSHIP: Everyone is eligible for Club membership by complete Membership Application Form and paying dues. Annual dues are $20 for individuals and $30 for families, and should be sent to the Carolina Mountain Club, P.O. Box 68, Asheville, NC 28802. Frequent non-member participants in Club hikes are expected to join the Carolina Mountain Club.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE Club’s efforts both in 2005 and on a long term basis. Our guest speaker will be Jeffrey Hunter, Executive Director of the South East Foot Trails Coalition. CMC is a member of the Coalition, which has as one of its goals construction of a 5,000 mile network of trails in the Southeast. CMC members will receive a dinner reservation and membership renewal form, and a copy of the draft bylaws, in a separate mailing. Hope to see you all on November 11.

ANNUAL DINNER AND MEETING ON NOVEMBER 11
CMC’s Annual Dinner and Meeting will be held on Friday, November 11, at the Charter in Hendersonville. A social hour will start at 6:30 p.m., dinner at 7:00, and the meeting at 8:00 p.m. The dinner will cost $22 per person, and beer and wine will be available for $3.

CAMPING: CMC members will be offered camping reservations in the Pisgah National Forest and the DuPont State Forest.

WHAT ELSE? Four B and B’s are shown on page 2.
Based on the interest expressed when we first had this course last spring, we have decided to offer it again. Attendees must bring a compass and a copy of the Dansmore Mtn. topo map. The map can be bought at a good outdoors store or a Forest Service office. There will be a short informal class, followed by a practical exercise. Please contact Dave Wetmore for information on the meeting time and to register. You must register before the course. No walk-ins please. Topo: Dansmore Mtn.

Contact Tom Bindrim at 828-884-7296 or Dave Wetmore at dwetmore@citcom.net

COMMITTEE CHANGES

Here is a list of the various committee chair changes that have occurred:

- Dave Wetmore succeeded his Chair Challenge Committee position to accept the Education Committee.
- Danny Bernstein has accepted the job of newsletter editor.
- Linda Beja has kindly accepted the role of chairman of the Challenge Committee.
- Ruth Hartzler has been appointed as Chair of the Conservation Committee.

A.T. GETS FIRST CHECK FROM N.C. PLATES

The A.T. has received its first check for $30,000 from the sale of the new friends of the Appalachian Trail license plates. Already more than ten members of the club are sporting them. Supporters who have changed vehicles since they sent in their applications—or who did not fill out the application completely—will be getting a letter from the DMV asking for updated information. The plates can be ordered in person at North Carolina DMV offices, and the agency is in the process of updating its Web site to allow online ordering. The more people who sign up for the plate, the more Trail projects in the state will benefit over the years. A.T.C. receives $20 per plate from the special fee for those plates, and one of its partners, the state Natural Heritage program, also stands to benefit from personalized versions of the plate.

2006 WINTER SKI TRIP

Several CMC members have indicated that they would be interested in a ski trip next winter to Telluride, Colorado. It’s not too early to be thinking about it. From past experience Carol Koppinger has found that the latter part of February or the first part of March seems to be a good time to experience Telluride.

Anyone interested (no commitment yet) should contact Carol Koppinger at 667-0223 or carol.koppinger@whitsoouth.net by the end of September. Based on the number of people interested, Carol will start putting a package together for further discussion.

DONATION IN MEMORY OF ALICE SHOULTZ

A few months ago, CMC received a generous donation in memory of Alice Shoults. This instilled us because even our older members did not recognize her name. Her daughter, Cathy told us the following story:

“Alice was not a member of your club, but spent many, many summers in a leased house with my father, Jim, at the top of Seven Devils. For ten years, four of my friends and I would travel to their house during the Labor Day Weekend for hiking and camaraderie. We would be well taken care of by my mother and father. My father always started our first hiking morning with German marching music and she always fed us the same comforting dinner after our first day out. We had wonderful times enjoying the Blue Ridge, Grandfather Mountain and many other areas in the state.

My mother died suddenly on November 30 and my friends wanted to honor her and, evidently, believed you were an organization she would have appreciated. I am grateful I have such thoughtful friends and grateful they were able to provide a contribution to your wonderful group.”

We’d again like to thank Cathy and her friends for sharing this wonderful story with us. We hope they return to Western North Carolina and join us on a hike some time soon.

Alternate MST Section Maintainers Wanted!

The CMC has 2 Alternate MST sections open. One is from Presley Gap to Buckhorn Gap, 2.7 miles, and the other is Cat Gap to Neel Gap, 3.0 miles. Both of these trails are in good shape and a reworking to start a love affair with an affectionate maintainer! If interested please contact Jim Tenquy at 828-617-9987 or Don Walton at 828-654-9904.

There is also an MST section open from Craven Gap to Ox Creek Road. This is close to Asheville and won’t last long. If interested, please contact Don Walton at 828-654-9904.

MST Coordinator Wanted!

The CMC position of Coordinator of the Section Maintenance System for the Mountains to the Sea Trail is open. This prestigious duty for the CMC includes supervising the 5 big sections of the MST (160 miles) which includes 100 volunteer section maintainers. The job is about 1/3d recruiting of maintainers, 1/3d communicating with all of the various federal and state agencies and 1/3d management including recording and reporting all of the hours worked to various places. If interested, please contact Don Walton at 828-654-9904.

CMC ASHEVILLE FRIDAY CREW RELOCATES MST AND BUILDS BRIDGE

Those of you who hike the MST between Hwy 25 and 1-26 have noticed a lot of damage to the trail. The Blue Ridge Institute is exercising their right to put a road on the Right of Way and it happened to be exactly on the same place as the MST. The BRP requested that the CMC Trail Crews assist them in relocating the MST onto the Parkway property. One quarter mile of new trail has been built and a new 30 ft. bridge was constructed. All new haling will now lead you through the woods.

This kind of work is not unusual for the Carolina Mountain Club Trail Crews, but what is unusual is that this bridge will be visible to thousands of Asheville Blue Ridge Parkway drivers and tourists. This section of the MST is also the most traveled by foot traffic. This area of the MST is also expected to be used as an amenity by the new residents in the development being constructed by Biltmore Forest.

Please congratulate Pierre Bodenhorst and his crew for a job well done!

PARKWAY CHANGES MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE, DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT APPOINTED

The Blue Ridge Parkway has in most recent years had only one lead administrator, the Superintendent. That management structure has changed with the retirement of Dan Brown. A deputy superintendent will now share the major administrative duties of this 469 mile linear park.

Martha Bogle, currently superintendent of Congaree National Park near Columbia, South Carolina, has been named Deputy Superintendent for the Blue Ridge Parkway and will begin managing operations for the entire 469 mile scenic road in mid-September to early October.
Note early start time. This in-and-out hike will end at the top of the entrance to the Mountain-to-Sea Trail. 

Note early start time. We will hike the Long Ridge/Turkey Gut/Starr Trail steps to form a five mile loop. There should be nice winter views of Mt. Tryon and other mountains.

Note early start time. A leisure paced annual hike. Bring a little gift (wrapped, please) and receive one too. Where we go will depend on the weather.

Note early start time. This in-and-out hike to the top of the granite monolith provides a great workout and beautiful views.

Note early start time. This loop hike begins at the parking lot of the Carriage Park in Flat Rock and follows the trail taken by the poet and Lincoln biographer to the top of Big Grassy Mountain.

Note early start time. Work off all those extra party calories on this open loop hike in Bent Creek on part of the Mountain-to-Sea Trail. Second meeting place: park and lot across from Biltmore Square Mall on NC 191 south of I-26 at 1-10 PM.

Note early start time. We will hike the Long Ridge/Turkey Gut/Starr Trail steps to form a five mile loop. There should be nice winter views of Mt. Tryon and other mountains.

Note early start time. A leisure paced annual hike. Bring a little gift (wrapped, please) and receive one too. Where we go will depend on the weather.

Note early start time. This loop hike begins at the parking lot of the Carriage Park in Flat Rock and follows the trail taken by the poet and Lincoln biographer to the top of Big Grassy Mountain.

Note early start time. Work off all those extra party calories on this open loop hike in Bent Creek on part of the Mountain-to-Sea Trail. Second meeting place: park and lot across from Biltmore Square Mall on NC 191 south of I-26 at 1-10 PM.
**SATURDAY WORK DAY**

Here is a great chance to learn what is involved in trail maintenance. We will meet on Nov 19 at the Moose Cafe on the Farmer's Market in Rte 191 at 8:00 a.m. for breakfast. We will return to Asheville around 4 p.m. Come join the fun. Call Les Love at 828-638-1499 to verify date.


ALL DAY NO. A054-208 Nov. 6 Big Butt from BRP (moderate) 8:30 AM Hike 9, Drive 55, 1700 ft. ascent, Rated B-A River Runners, 251-2986, runhahn@ncol

Note later start time. We will take the Big Butt trail from Balsam Gap on the BRP, follow the ridge crest to Big Butt (Yeates Knob), a short bushwhack at just under 600 ft., and return via the same route. We will stop at Point Misery for lunch and last few views of the Black Mtns. Second meeting place: Left side of Ingle Rivers at 8:45 AM (I-240 to exit 53, right on Upward Rd. 1 mile to Ingle Ave at US 176); also Jones Gap Mt. Trailhead at 8:40 AM. Top: Cleveland, Table Rock; also Mountain Bridge Wilderness map

ALL DAY NO. A054-271 Nov. 13 Chestnut Mountain, 8000 ft. 8:00 AM Hike 7, Drive 80, 1900 ft. ascent, Rated B-A Tom Bondin & Jene Lee, 273-287-3300. We’ll do our major climbing before lunch on this moderate hike, starting with a view of the Black Mtns., and a 25 year old timber harvest in the Grandfather District. Second meeting place: near Ingle Rivers trails, and a short car shuttle. Top: Old Fort

ALL DAY NO. A054-202 Nov. 20 AT: Street Gap to Big Bald 8:00 AM Hike 10, Drive 17, 3525 ft. ascent Rated A-AA Jonnie Tulp, 289-299-3459, jonnieltulp@gmail.com Big Bald is one of the crown jewels of our section of the AT, with views of the Black, Smokies and other ranges in WNC and Tennessee. The first 0.6 miles climb steeply to Street Gap on the AT, then follows the AT to Big Bald along steep, scrambles, grassy slopes. We plan to spend a long haul on the summit, enjoying the view, so bring appropriate clothing. Top: Sassa Gull, Bald Creek

ALL DAY NO. A054-275 Nov. 27 Rich Mtn., Roundtop Ridge, 8:00 AM Hike 11, Drive 72, 2100 ft. ascent Rated A-A Tom Stoneman, 704-252-6427 tomarystonerchar@ncol From Tanyard Gap we will hike north on the AT to Rich Mountain, for good views, then down beautiful Roundtop Ridge, then up Pump Gap Trail to the AT and north to Tanyard Gap. Contact: Dan/nat Geo. PRD map. Shining Rock: Top: Hot Springs

ALL DAY NO. A054-429 Nov. 4 Jones Gap/Trellis Loop 8:00 AM* (strong) Hike 10, Drive 80, 1650 ft. ascent Rated A-A Ann Gissac, 828-859-9387, cowshoebyt@yahoo.com Starting at Jones Gap St. Park (NOTE: 2 entry points for parking), follow the Jones Gap Trail along the Middle Saluda River, then the Bill Kimball Trail up through the boulders and forest, climbing over the granite face of El Lieutenant. We’ll continue on the Kimball trail, walk a short portion of the Skyline Trail from the 2nd return loop on the Tom Miller and Jones Gap Trails. Meet at Westgate to form carpool and meet leader at left side Ingle Rivers (FVH) at 8:40 AM (I-26 to exit 53, right on Upward Rd. 1 mile to Ingle Ave at US 176); also Jones Gap Mt. Trailhead at 8:30 AM. Top: Cleveland, Table Rock; also Mountain Bridge Wilderness map

ALL DAY NO. A054-479 Dec. 4 Kogel Mtn. (moderate) 8:30 AM Hike 9, Drive 110, 800 ft. ascent, Rated B-Chap Mill, 654-931-31, backpack4me@bullshoowell.com New this week! We’ll meet at Canton Gap Trailhead and hike along the Gate’s Creek valley. Starting at Westgate, we’ll hike along the AT on the Bald Top shelter. We’ll return via a no-name trail for variety. Nice winter views. Second meeting place: Big Bald in Pigeon Forge at 9:00 AM. Top: Rosman, Shining Rock

ALL DAY NO. A054-254 Dec. 11 Green Knob via Sneaks Nose 8:00 AM Hike 11, Drive 65, 1400 ft. ascent Rated A-A Amy Trevorton, 289-299-1882, athletikerabbit@yahoo.com This strenuous trip is from Curtis Creek upclimb up and over the Blue Ridge Parkway to the Green Knob fire tower. Great views along the way. Return via the AT and AA-A stop on the summit of Green Knob: May be challenging if there is snow at the higher elevations. Top: Old Fort

ALL DAY NO. A054-151 Dec. 7 Big East to Shining Rock via Old Butt 7:30 AM Hike 9, Drive 60, 3200 ft. ascent Rated B-A++ Paul Benson, 828-251-190 Mike Sheard, 251-2188, sheard@bakersbox.net Note early start time. We will hike from the Big East parking lot up the steep Chestnut Ridge trail over Dog Lover and Old Butt knobs to lunch at Shining Rock (6040 ft.) with its exceptional views of the North Carolina Great Smoky Mountains deep to the North Fork of Shining Creek. Wilderness area limit has been reduced to ten people please contact: Top: Shining Rock; also Nat’l Geo. PRD map

ALL DAY NO. A054-487 Dec. 25 Bent Creek Loop 99 9:00 AM Hike 9, Drive 20, 1600 ft. ascent, Rated A-A Leonard, 251-2986, benny@bakersbox.net Note later start time. Join us for a Christmas hike around Bent Creek, starting at the Hardinsville trailhead. A great close-in, cool weather hike suitable for everyone. Dress accordingly for the conditions these interested. Top: Danumar Moh., Skylark; also Nat’l Geo. PRD map

NEW YEAR’S DAY NO. A054-281 Jan. 1 Green River Gamelands 9:00 AM* 9:00 AM* Hike 8, Drive (from Hendersonville) 1800 ft. ascent, Rated B-A Bruce Bente, 828-692-2106, bbente@bullshoowell.com*Form carpool at Westgate at 7:30 AM hike from Eastgate at 8:00 AM hike from Cracker Barrel in Hendersonville (exit 53 on I-26). After breakfast, we’ll do a pleasant loop hike on the North Fork Trail and across the Gamelands. We’ll hike back down and along the Green River with a late lunch at the Cracker Barrel on the Green River, and then hike back up on the Pullman Creek trail. Short car shuttle: Top: Cliffsithd Mtn., and Map of the Green River Gamelands Trails

---

**ALL DAY SUNDAY HIKES**

All-day hikes submitted by Bruce Bente 828-692-2106. Anyone interested in going to any distance is round-trip from Asheville. All Saturday and Sunday hikes assemble at Westgate Shopping Center near I-240 exit 38 unless OTHERWISE NOTED.