



Carolina Mountain Club

Since 1923

eNews | Hike . Save Trails . Make Friends.

June 2022

CMC 100th Year Anniversary Celebration!

The beginning of CMC's 100th year is July 16, 2022! To kick off our celebrations, CMC is offering a \$100 discount on Family and Individual Lifetime memberships! All you need to do is pay for your Lifetime membership between July 16 and the end of the month to save \$100! Your membership supports our newly established Endowment Fund which will help support CMC into the next 100 years!



Mark your calendars and help CMC begin and continue for the next 100 years!!

For the flyer, [click here.](#)



Preservation Through Art

by Paul Curtin

Save the date, June 16th, and plan on attending a groundbreaking art auction for Preserving a Picturesque America (PAPA), presented by Brunk Auctions!

Exquisite works of art by celebrated local artists will be on the auction block to support local organizations and their conservation efforts along the French Broad River. This is a unique opportunity to purchase impressive, original works of art. Even better, a portion of the proceeds from the auction will be contributed to protect natural landmarks in the beautiful mountains we call home!

To read more, [click here.](#)

MORE WEDNESDAY HIKE OPTIONS — SHORTER, HALF-DAY HIKES

by Daisey Karasek

For over two years, CMC's Wednesday hike schedule has offered members with a choice of a strenuous all-day hike (8 miles or longer with significant elevation gain) and a moderate hike (5 to 7 miles with moderate elevation gain). Beginning with the next quarter (July - September), shorter hikes will also be offered. This is in response to a call for hikes to meet the needs and interest of beginning hikers as well as members who prefer shorter hikes.

To read more, [click here.](#)

Centennial Challenge

by Tom Weaver and Chris Koebelin

As announced in an earlier eNews article, Carolina Mountain Club has created a new challenge to celebrate our 100th anniversary.

Called the ***Centennial Challenge***, it requires club members to work 50 hours on our trails and hike 50 miles on club-led hikes over the course of 2022 and 2023. Completers will be awarded a certificate and a newly-designed patch.



To read more, [click here.](#)

Trail Skills Workshop with Georgia A.T. Club

The annual Trail Skills Workshop (TSW), will be held at Lake Winfield Scott (Suches, GA) September 24-25, 2022. This training event is focused on teaching the most current trail construction and maintenance methods for Eastern landscapes. It is applicable for all skill levels. Expert instructors are provided from the Georgia Appalachian Trail Club (GATC), the United States Forest Service (FS) and the Appalachian Trail Conservancy (ATC).

This year's offering includes courses on rock construction, log cribbing, and sawyering in addition to introductory and advanced trail maintenance. The courses are offered so participants can attend different classes each day, or dig in on one track for in-depth knowledge.



For more information and to preregister visit georgia-atclub.org or contact Jay M Dement, 404-731-1901, tsw@georgia-atclub.org.

CMC members presented trail maintenance skills courses at MST Gathering of Friends conference

by Skip Sheldon and Gail Snowdon

Carolina Mountain Club members developed and taught classes in trail maintenance skills at the recent MST Gathering of Friends conference. The courses were:

Basic trail maintenance including handling water issues and addressing trail cupping. Taught by Rich Evens, Paul Curtin, and Joe Bange.

Building box steps with locus logs. Taught by Chris Werbylo.

Building turnpikes to cover wet areas and roots. Taught by Ken Hummel

Building a trail bridge. Taught by Tom Weaver

All the courses received very positive feedback with many of the students saying they had learned new skills and had a great time doing it. In addition to the maintenance skills courses, a workshop on tool maintenance was given by Roy Davis and one on chainsaw maintenance by Skip Sheldon. Gail Snowdon videoed several of the sessions and put them on a YouTube video at <https://youtu.be/4VVc4R9mSsQ>.

Paul Curtin Receives an Award

by Tom Weaver

Our own Paul Curtin was recognized at the recent Southern Partnership Meeting in Damascus, VA as the 2022 ATC Deep South Region **Club Volunteer of the Year!**

This award recognizes an A.T. club volunteer who has demonstrated exceptional leadership and made significant contributions to the Trail and/or ATC. The candidate should show initiative, effectiveness and dedication to ATC's mission and programs in Georgia, Tennessee and/or North Carolina.

To read more, [click here.](#)

To read the application submitted by the Appalachian Ranger District, [click here.](#)



Another Great Garlic Mustard Day!

by Barbara Morgan

On May 3, Matt Drury and his seasonal employee Michael Kochinski joined Neill Hurst, Mary Swain, and me to continue our project to pull invasive garlic mustard from the area of the A.T. at Lemon Gap. CMC is helping out with our Natural Resources Team to provide additional people-power to combat invasives in several A.T. areas, and this year was our 7th year working in the same area, and we're really making a difference!

To read more, [click here.](#)

Lew Blodgett Receives Prestigious Honor from Gov. Roy Cooper

by Donna Bange

May 2022 was a big month for Lew Blodgett, CMC Trail Maintainer. He turned 99 years old and was inducted into the North Carolina Order of the Long Leaf Pine Society. This esteemed Society is the highest honor given to a North Carolina resident and includes such prominent individuals as Colin Powell, Maya Angelou and Dale Earnhardt. Lew received a proclamation from NC Governor Roy Cooper.



To read more, [click here.](#)



Mt. Mitchell Quarterly Crew-23 April

by Donna Bange

This past month CMC held the first 2022 Quarterly crew at Mt. Mitchell State Park. Mt. Mitchell is the highest peak east of the Rocky Mountains. The MST trail connects from Camp Alice to the path leading to the top of Mt. Mitchell. There were over 40 volunteers present to rebuild the trail with rock steps and water diversions.

To read more, [click here.](#)

Pisgah Project Day at Skinny Dip Falls-Carolina Mountain Club (CMC)

by Donna Bange

Skinny Dip Falls along the MST & Blue Ridge Parkway is an iconic hiking and tourist destination. For years, individuals of all ages would jump from the rocks into a deep pool below, just above the Falls. Unfortunately, Tropical Storm Fred and the resulting flooding completely destroyed the steps and

the bridge. Likewise, Tropical Storm Fred changed the rock formations and resulting water flow. This year, the Pisgah Conservancy hosted their annual Pisgah Project Day in late April. The CMC Trail Maintenance team chose Skinny Dip Falls.

To read more, [click here.](#)

Engaging the Next Generation in Trail Crew

by Donna Bange

It is never too late to start engaging the next generation in hiking trail maintenance. On Saturday, April 30 Bob Boyle, long time CMC trail maintainer, and his 15-year-old grandson Tyler participated in the Pisgah Project days at Skinny Dip Falls. Skinny Dip Falls is a very popular destination on the MST trail.



To read more [click here.](#)



Mike Knies Profile

by Kathy Kyle

Mike Knies is known for his bushwacks, his love of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, his quirky sense of humor and his willingness to share those loves with the Carolina Mountain Club. He recently answered some questions to share more about himself.

When did you start hiking and how did you become interested in hiking?

I was born at a very young age. When I was six, we stopped at Newfound Gap on the way back from vacation. (He grew up in Tennessee) There was a path leading from the parking lot called the Appalachian Trail. My dad said it was created by the Indians and went to Pennsylvania. I wanted to see the other end!

To read more, [click here.](#)

Carolina Mountain Club eNews is published on the first Friday of each month. Send your news to eNews@carolinamountainclub.org. Articles are due on the last Friday of the previous month. Please limit articles to no more than 1,000 words. You may send up to two photos as jpg attachments.

To join Carolina Mountain Club go to: www.carolinamountainclub.org. Click on "Join CMC" on the right side. Follow the instructions. For all address and email changes, log in, select "Modify Profile", make changes and click on "Update Member" or email Dennis Bass at dbass3607@gmail.com. Your email changes will be automatically reflected in eNews delivery.

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