

CMC members comment on proposed forest plan

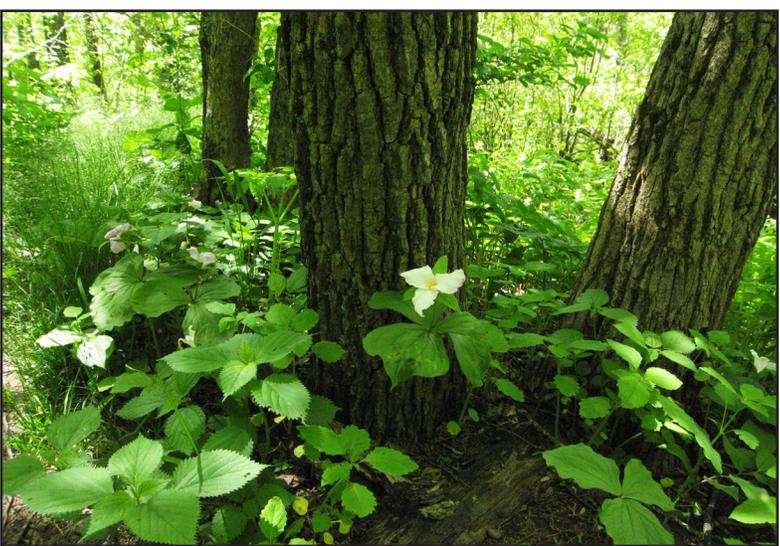
By Ruth Hartzler

Not only are CMC members superb hikers and trail builders, but they can write! The US Forest Service requested input on its proposed revision to the Nantahala and Pisgah Forest Management Plan, and CMC members responded eloquently and passionately.

Most commented on the planned designation of 700,000 acres, 70% of the forests, as suitable for logging. Ken and Carol Deal wrote, "We feel strongly that these areas should continue to be available, and remain beautiful, for use by all of us who enjoy and find ourselves restored by being out in the forest. We recommend that the logging be sharply curtailed and certainly completely removed from the areas where so many of our hiking trails and recreation areas are located.

Comments included the economic trade-off of the proposed high level of logging. Jonathan Sackson commented, "It is hard to imagine a compelling economic interest for authorizing the destruction of the grand national treasure that is these forests." And Jan Onan wrote "Many who bike, hike, fish, hunt, horseback ride, swim, kayak, etc., who spend their dollars here, will not come." Ken and Carol Deal added, "We are convinced that there will be considerable economic loss to the community if active adults see bespoiled forest land and decide to locate in another state or place of greater natural beauty. We are particularly shocked that the wilderness areas are under consideration for logging."

Marianne Newman wants spe-
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Trillium blooms in an area of Pisgah Forest deemed suitable for logging.

COUNCIL CORNER

When I was asked to edit the *eNews* over two years ago, I said yes. I thought it would be a stretch for me. My husband Michael and I were leading hikes and enjoying hiking with the Club nearly every weekend. The newsletter would give me a way to find out more about the Club. Two and a half years later, I *have* stretched. It takes about 4 hours of my time each month, and the hikers and maintainers I have read about are inspiring. Late last summer someone asked via email if I would be interested in joining the Council. I was a little more wary. When I learned it would be a meeting every quarter, I thought I could handle that for the Club. I just attended the yearly planning session and I am learning even more about the Club. This is some of what I have learned:



- The Forest Service and state agencies benefit greatly from what the trail maintenance members do and the feedback committees and members give.
- Other hiking groups and organizations benefit from the support we give.
- A lot of effort goes into trail maintenance.
- We are working to educate more young people about hiking.
- We are helping with an update of a hiking guide.
- The people who maintain our website are volunteers.

There have been stories in the *eNews* and the *Let's Go* newsletter about all of these projects, but until you talk to the people putting in the time and effort to drive them, they don't hold as much meaning. My hope is that those leading hikes or going on hikes will stretch themselves and do something new for the Club. If you see something you wish the Club would do, then speak up and help make it happen. Contact one of the council members. The Club is only as good as those who volunteer and are willing to do the work. I hope you will say yes to making CMC a Club that continues to evolve and is the Club of *your* dreams.

– Kathy Kyle

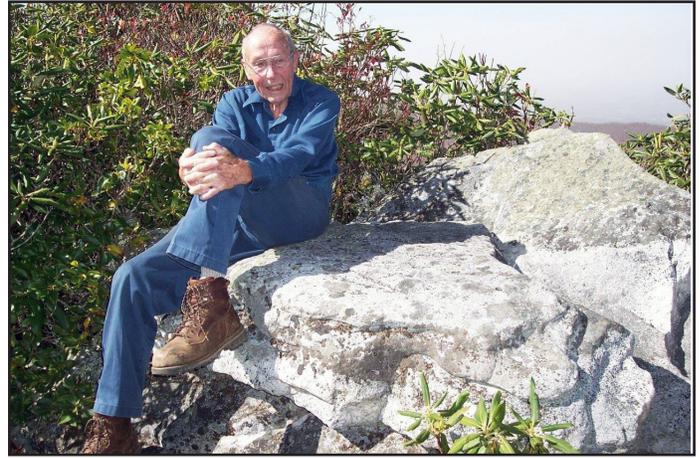
Howard McDonald: Master builder

By Stuart English

Howard McDonald, one of our most legendary trail maintainers, has retired after 22 years, over 9,000 hours, the President's Call to Service Award, a congratulatory letter from Barack Obama, and several awards from our club.

Our club draws people with different backgrounds and different talents. Howard's niche in life happened to be engineering. He earned a degree in Ceramic Engineering and came to work at Selee Corporation in Hendersonville, where he helped design and promote porous technical ceramics and metals.

Howard's story makes me wonder how often the realities of our lives do not match our dreams. How many talented individuals retire and come to a club like ours and use their talents in different ways than their actual careers. Having worked in a factory for 29 years myself, I knew many engineers. They did time studies and were often project supervisors. But they didn't get the chance to build bridges across streams, privies, install bear cables, and other works in the great outdoors that last much longer than any of us will last. I'm sure Selee Corporation appreciates the work that Howard did for them,



Howard McDonald on "Howard's Rock" on Firescald Bald.

but I feel strongly that Howard found his true engineer self with CMC.

When you walk the A.T. on Firescald Bald, keep your eyes peeled. You will come to a plaque that has been mysteriously placed there under a huge rock which doesn't seem to belong in that place. The plaque says simply:

Howard McDonald
Master Builder

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cific protection for wild areas identified for their conservation values. "As a student/observer of our amazing botanical richness, and at least a fourth-generation offspring of local mountain people, I have a very vested interest in the care of these forests. ... all of



Trees in the Pisgah National Forest.

the NC Mountain Treasure areas, NC Heritage Program areas and old growth forest areas should be designated as unsuitable for timber production or harvest or for road-building." She would also like to see the Bald Mountains (except the A.T.), Black Mountains, Craggy Mountains (Big Ivy) area, and others, as Congressionally designated Wilderness Areas.

Marianne also addressed trail protection. "The well-known trails are getting seriously crowded and over-used, causing ever-increasing maintenance problems. Lesser-known trails that can be left in a more natural, less-manicured condition for experienced hikers can help to mitigate this problem. They should not be decommissioned."

Carroll Koeplinger was blunt. He said, "I have seen many young parents with their young children on their backs & yes, even pushing them in strollers along the trails. The safety factor of these trails is vitally important also. With the current management proposals; will these

beautiful & superb forests be there for these children? Not likely"

Jonathan Sackson ended his comments with, "I think the forest is amazing in its wildness and beauty. It is abundant in its ecology and is a haven for wild animals and rare plants. Most of all, it is a source of hope, that wild places can be protected and flourish in a world that seems set on the destruction of everything for economic profit."

The Forest Service is currently reviewing over 12,000 comments and is planning additional community meetings, probably in April. Kristin Bail, Supervisor of North Carolina's national forests, was quoted in the Asheville *Citizen-Times*, "These additional meetings will be designed to foster consensus and fruitful engagement around development of the proposed Forest Plan and a range of alternatives to analyze," she said in an email. "We will be pausing in our development of management area boundaries until this additional collaboration occurs." This is likely good news for some of the land protections that we are seeking, with a win-win result for all forest stakeholders. The Forest Service is listening.

TRAIL MAINTENANCE

All members are encouraged to participate in trail maintenance activities. Non-members are invited to try it a few times before deciding if they want to join the Club and be a regular part of a crew. We train and provide tools.

Below is a general schedule of work days. Exact plans often are not made until the last minute, so contact crew leaders for details. Crews marked with an * are currently seeking new members. MST and AT section maintainers work on their own schedule.

Burnsville Monday Crew

John Whitehouse, johnwhitehouse@ccvn.com

Waynesville West Crew *

Larry Sobil, lsobil@bellsouth.net

Thursday Crew

Bill Falender, billfalender@hotmail.com

Asheville Friday crew *

Skip Sheldon, shelhalla@bellsouth.net

Pisgah Friday Crew *

Pete Petersen, roap@aol.com

Wilderness Crew *

Becky Smucker, bjsmucker@gmail.com

Quarterly Saturday Crew *

Les Love, leslove@charter.net

AT Maintainers

Tim Carrigan, tim@newprism.com

MST Maintainers

Heintooga Road to Old Bald

Larry Sobil, lsobil@bellsouth.net

Old Bald to Mt. Pisgah Parking Lot

Pete Petersen, roap@aol.com

Mt. Pisgah Parking Lot to Folk Art Center

Les Love, leslove55@gmail.com

Folk Art Center to Black Mtn. Campground

John Whitehouse, johnwhitehouse@ccvn.com

HIKE SCHEDULE Second Quarter 2015

Hike Ratings

First Letter Distance	Second Letter Elevation Gain
AA: Over 12 miles	AA: Over 2,000 ft.
A: 9.1-12 miles	A: 1,501-2,000 ft.
B: 6.1-9 miles	B: 1,001-1,500 ft.
C: Up to 6 miles	C: Under 1,000 ft.

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

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.

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. 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, pjbarr@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, pjbarr@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.ann@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. W1502-033 **Apr. 1**
Ramsey Cascades **8:00 AM**

Hike 8, Drive 165, 2300 ft. ascent, Rated B-AA Carroll Koeplinger, 828-667-0723, cell: 828-231-9444, carrollkoepp@bellsouth.net

900M, WC100 This popular hike goes through diverse forests rich in wildflowers. We'll see huge old growth tulip trees at the mid-point of the trail. Ramsey Cascades is one of the most beautiful waterfalls in the Smokies. **Second meeting place: Pilot Truck Stop off Exit 24 of I-40 at 8:30 AM.** Topo(s): Mt. Guyot; also NatGeo map #317

Wednesday No. W1502-142 **Apr. 8**
Jerry Miller Trail to A.T.

to Fork Ridge Trail ***8:30 AM**
Hike 10.5, Drive 92, 3350 ft. ascent, Rated A-AA+ Tish Desjardins, cell: 828-380-1452, desraylet@aol.com

SATURDAY WORKDAY

For the Saturday MST Trail Building Workdays in 2015, meet at 8:30 at the Home Depot at the Enka-Candler Exit 44 off of I-40.

The workdays are May 2, June 6, August 15, and October 3. As 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.

***Form carpools at Westgate and meet leader at the corner of U.S. 25/70 and NC 208 at 9:15 AM.** Hike up Jerry Miller Trail; right onto A.T.; right on Fork Ridge Trail. Walk short distance on FS 111 to trailhead. Topo(s): Greystone; also NatGeo map #782

Wednesday No. W1502-355 **Apr. 15**
Devil Fork Gap to Carmen ***8:00 AM**

Hike 10.7, Drive 95, 2400 ft. ascent, Rated A-AA Tish Desjardins, cell: 828-380-1452, desraylet@aol.com

***Form carpools at Westgate and meet leader at corner of US 25/70 & NC 208 at 8:45 AM.** Go along nine of the most scenic miles on the A.T. They feature two shelters, including Jerry's Cabin, a historic gravesite and beautiful views from atop Big Butt. Then go down the Fork Ridge Trail to the parking lot in the Carmen area. Car shuttle. Topo(s): Greystone; also NatGeo map #782

Wednesday No. W1502-267 **Apr. 22**
Horsepasture River ***8:30 AM**

Hike 5.5, Drive 105, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated C-C Jack Fitzgerald, 828-685-2897, suejackfitz@bellsouth.net

WC100 *Form carpools at Westgate and meet leader at Pisgah Bi-Lo at 9:00 AM. Hike to four waterfalls on Horsepasture River, with access through Gorges State Park. All are top rated waterfalls, and entirely different: Rainbow, Turtleback, Drift, and Stairway. Topo(s): Reid

Wednesday No. W1502-691 **Apr. 29**
Upper Whitewater Falls -

Round Mountain Gap ***9:00 AM**

Hike 7, Drive 120, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated B-C Stuart English, cell: 828-384-4870, stuengo@comporium.net

WC100 *Form carpools at Westgate and meet leader at Pisgah Forest Bi-Lo at 9:30 AM. We will follow the Foothills Trail west from the NC 281 parking lot to Round Mountain Gap, then follow the Round Mountain trail back to the Whitewater Falls overlook. We will drop steeply on the Foothills Trail east, cross the Whitewater River bridge, and turn right and uphill on a short spur to Bad Creek parking area. Short car shuttle. Topo(s): Cashiers, Reid; also NatGeo map #785

Wednesday No. W1502-242 **May 6**
Sam Knob – Devil's Courthouse Loop**8:30 AM**

Hike 8.5, Drive 75, 1500 ft. ascent, Rated B-B Laura Frisbie, 828-337-5845, laurafrisbie@charter.net

P400, SB6K From FS 816 we'll ascend Sam Knob (6040 ft.) with its 360-degree views, then hike through high meadows on the Flat Laurel and Little Sam Trails, and the MST via Devil's Courthouse. We then return via the MST across FS 816 and up to the summit of Black Balsam (6214 ft.), then down to our cars. **Second meeting place: BRP Cold Mountain Overlook at 9:10 AM.** Topo(s): Sam Knob, also NatGeo Map #780

Wednesday No. W1502-089 **May 13**
Lemon Gap to Max Patch **8:00 AM**
 Hike 11, Drive 100, 1800 ft. ascent, Rated A-A
 Randy Fluharty, 828-253-1626,
 cell: 828-423-9030, rfluharty54@gmail.com
 We'll see the A.T. shelter built by the CMC along
 a beautiful section of the A.T. We will begin at
 Lemon Gap, have lunch on top of Max Patch with
 its beautiful views and return to our cars at Lemon
 Gap. **Second meeting place: Pilot Truck Stop at**
exit 24 off I-40 at 8:30 AM, but contact leader
first. Topo(s): Lemon Gap

Wednesday No. W1502-278 **May 20**
Kitsuma Peak **8:00 AM**
 Hike 10, Drive 60, 1550 ft. ascent, Rated A-A
 Vance Mann, cell: 828-273-7592,
 hvancem@icloud.com
 Hike up Young's Ridge and see great views of
 Greybeard, Green Knob and the Mount Mitchell
 area. There is also a great view of the Swannanoa
 Valley. We will take the alternate hike #1, which
 passes along the original US 70 paved in the
 1920s. We will stop at Point Lookout overlook
 with its flag and old home site on the left above
 the road. Road parallels and crosses over RR line
 with many tunnels. **Second meeting place: Ingles**
parking lot off Exit 64 of I-40, but contact
leader first. Topo(s): Old Fort, Black Mountain

Wednesday No. W1502-137 **May 27**
Grassy Ridge Bald
and Roan Mountains ***8:00 AM**
 Hike 11.9, Drive 140, 2400 ft. ascent,
 Rated A-AA
 Tish Desjardins, cell: 828-380-1452,
 desraylet@aol.com
SB6K *Form carpools at Westgate and meet
leader at Burnsville McDonald's at 8:40 AM.
 Hike north on A.T.; right onto Grassy Ridge side
 trail to lunch spot at end, then return to Carvers
 Gap via same route. Continue south on A.T. to
 Roan High Knob and Roan High Bluff; return to
 Carvers Gap via same route. This hike features
 360-degree panoramic views. Topo(s): Carvers
 Gap; also NatGeo map #783

Wednesday No. W1502-125 **Jun. 3**
Clingmans Dome, Mt. Collins
from Road Prong Trailhead **8:00 AM**
 Hike 12, Drive 140, 2800 ft. ascent, Rated A-AA
 Janet Martin, cell: 502-494-9309,
 jaykaymartin@msn.com
SB6K, 900M This hike along the A.T. provides
 an escape from hot weather. As a bonus you can
 snag, or resnag, two peaks over 6,000'. This hike
 will start at the Road Prong Trailhead and follow
 the A.T. southbound on the Tennessee side of
 Clingmans Dome Road across Mount Collins to
 Clingmans Dome and return on the A.T. Catawba
 rhododendron should be in bloom. **Second**
meeting place: Oconaluftee Visitor Center at
9:00 AM, but contact leader first. Topo(s):
 Clingmans Dome, NatGeo map #317

Wednesday No. W1502-632 **Jun. 10**
Cantrell Lodge History Hike **8:30 AM**
 Hike 8, Drive 55, 700 ft. ascent, Rated B-C
 Barbara Morgan, cell: 828-460-7066,
 barbc129@gmail.com
P400 This in-and-out hike begins at the Turkey
 Pen parking area and follows the South Mills
 River Trail to the Cantrell Lodge, following an
 old logging railroad grade. On the way, we'll cross
 three pedestrian bridges and a couple of unusual
 Carsonite signs. We'll learn more about the history
 of this historic lodge and area. Second meeting
 place: Mills River Ingles (near gas pumps) at
 8:50 AM. Topo(s): Pisgah Forest, also NatGeo
 map #780

Wednesday No. W1502-503 **Jun. 17**
Mount Sterling
via Baxter Creek Trail **8:00 AM**
 Hike 12.5, Drive 110, 4100 ft. ascent,
 Rated AA-AA+
 Brenda Worley, 828-684-8656,
 cell: 828-606-7297, bjdworley@gmail.com
900M This major climb in the Smokies is strenu-
 ous but on a gradual, well-graded trail. After pass-
 ing through a mixed forest, followed by balsam
 and red spruce, we'll enjoy fine lunchtime views
 from the Mount Sterling fire tower. **Second meet-**
ing place: Pilot Truck Stop off Exit 24 of I-40 at
8:30 AM, but contact leader first. Topo(s): Cove
 Creek Gap; also NatGeo map #317

Wednesday No. W1502-566 **Jun. 24**
Roans in Bloom **8:30 AM**
 Hike 6.6, Drive 150, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated B-C
 Daisy Karasek, 828-505-2036,
 cell: 408-887-3666, daisytk@yahoo.com
SB6K Hike A.T. north from Carvers Gap; turn right
 on unnamed trail past Grassy Ridge Bald to over-
 look (lunch spot); return to Carvers Gap. Drive up
 side road to Roan Rhododendron Gardens (small
 fee); hike 0.5 mile in-and-out to Roan High Bluff,
 then walk through Rhododendron Gardens and
 return to car. **Second meeting place: Burnsville**
McDonald's at 9:10 AM. Topo(s): Carvers Gap,
 Bakersville

ALL-DAY WEEKEND HIKES
 All-day hikes submitted by Bruce Bente, 828-
 692-0116, bbente@bellsouth.net. Driving dis-
 tance is round-trip from Asheville. All Saturday
 and Sunday hikes assemble at the far rear (north
 end) of Westgate Shopping Center at I-240 exit
 3B UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED. Some hikes
 will have second meeting places, and starting
 times may vary.

Sunday No. A1502-516 **Apr. 5**
Lakeshore Loop History Hike ***8:00 AM**
(strenuous)
 Hike 11, Drive 145, 1600 ft. ascent, Rated A-A
 Mike Knies, 828-628-6712, knies06@att.net
900M *First meeting place: Home Depot off
 Exit 44 of I-40. We will start at the tunnel at the

end of the Lakeshore Drive and hike Lakeshore,
 White Oak Branch, Forney Creek, and Goldmine
 Trails. Learn the history of the infamous Road to
 Nowhere, settlement and logging along Forney
 Creek and the development of Lake Fontana.
 We will visit some old home and farm sites and
 discuss the way of life of the pre-GSMNP inhab-
 itants, and may visit some cemeteries. **Second**
meeting place: Rest area beyond Waynesville
on US 23/74 at 8:30 AM. Topo(s): Noland Creek;
 also NatGeo map #316

Sunday No. A1502-731 **Apr. 5**
Baxter Creek
& Big Creek Wildflower Hike ***8:30 AM**
(moderate)
 Hike 8, Drive 110, 1400 ft. ascent, Rated B-B
 Stuart English, cell: 828-384-4870,
 stuengo@citcom.net
900M *First meeting place: Home Depot off
 Exit 44 of I-40. We will first go about 2 miles
 up Baxter Creek to the overlook and back, then
 2 miles up Big Creek to Mouse Creek Falls and
 back. A major goal is to enjoy the multitude of
 flowers that bloom in that area in early April.
 Flowers along the two trails are quite different.
Second meeting place: Pilot Truck Stop off Exit
24 of I-40 at 9:00 AM, but contact leader first.
 Topo(s): Cove Creek Gap; also NatGeo map #317

Saturday No. A1502-423 **Apr. 11**
Pilot Rock, Laurel Mountain,
Slate Rock Creek Trails **10:00 AM**
 Hike 7, Drive 90, 1450 ft. ascent, Rated B-B
 Laura Frisbie, cell: 828-337-5845,
 laurafrisbie@gmail.com
P400 We'll hike up the Pilot Rock Trail, with a
 stop at a great overlook, then up to a connector
 up to the Laurel Mountain Trail. Our route will
 go downhill to Sassafras Gap, then turn steeply
 downhill to the Slate Rock Creek Trail, one of
 the gems of Pisgah Natl. Forest. Short car shuttle.
Second meeting place: New Mills River Ingles
on NC 280 behind gas pumps at 10:20 AM.
 Topo(s): Dunsmore Mtn.; also NatGeo map #780

Sunday No. A1502-031 **Apr. 12**
South Mountains Loop **8:00 AM**
 Hike 10.9, Drive 170, 2400 ft. ascent,
 Rated A-AA
 Carroll Koepplinger, 828-667-0723,
 cell: 828-231-9444, carrollkoepp@bellsouth.net
WC100 South Mountains State Park south of
 Morganton has outstanding views, a beautiful
 waterfall, and an interesting visitor center. We'll
 climb to Jacob Fork River Gorge Overlook and
 then continue to Chestnut Knob Overlook, a
 rocky outcropping with outstanding views toward
 the Kings Mountain Range and on a clear day,
 Charlotte's skyline. We will continue on the
 Sawtooth, Horse Ridge and Upper Falls Trails to
 the top of High Shoals Waterfall – truly awesome,
 as is the wooden staircase and the platform which

allows a close look at the falls and the jumble of rocks in Jacob Fork. Since this is a state park, the trails are meticulously maintained. Optional supper after the hike in Black Mountain. **Second meeting place: Ingles parking lot off Exit 64 of I-40 at 8:20 AM; also South Mtns. State Park trailhead at 9:30 AM.** Topo(s): Benn Knob

Sunday No. A1502-066 **Apr. 19**
Garenflo Gap – Bluff Mountain 8:00 AM
Hike 8.5, Drive 80, 2200 ft. ascent, Rated B-AA
Jim Reel, 828-738-0751, cell: 828-443-2532,
jimr57@yahoo.com

We'll do a loop hike in hardwood forests from Garenflo Gap to the summit of 4686 ft. Bluff Mountain. We will enjoy the many wildflowers that carpet the forest floor while the leader shows off the A.T. section that he maintains. After lunch on the summit, we will do a short bushwhack and then hike parts of the old A.T. on our way back to the trailhead. Topo(s): Lemon Gap; also ATC TN-NC map #4

Sunday No. A1502-854 **Apr. 26**
Celo Knob and Gibbs Mountain
via Crest Trail 8:00 AM
Hike 10.5, Drive 80, 3100 ft. ascent,
Rated A-AA+
Janet Martin, cell: 502-494-9309,
jaykaymartin@msn.com

SB6K Starting from the north end of the Crest Trail, the first mile along Bowlers Creek will be adorned with spring wildflowers. As we ascend, there are distant views unobscured by leaves and eventually fir and spruce. The reward for the climb is a chance to bag two peaks over 6000' by a bushwhack up and down Gibbs Mountain and an in-and-out manway to the summit of Celo Knob. Then it is all downhill from there. **Second meeting place: Burnsville McDonald's at 8:40 AM, but contact leader first.** Topo(s): Burnsville, Mt. Mitchell, Celo

Sunday No. A1502-060 **May 3**
Pilot Mountain – Farlow Gap ***8:30 AM**
(strenuous)
Hike 8, Drive 80, 1900 ft. ascent, Rated B-A
Ashok Kudva, 828-698-7119, cell: 828-674-1374,
ashok.kudva@att.net

P400 *Form carpools at Westgate and meet leader at Pisgah Forest Bi-Lo at 9:00 AM. This hike is timed for what we hope will be the bloom of rare pink-shell azaleas and trout lilies. It starts with a steep climb to the summit of Pilot Mountain, then down to Deep Gap and a short climb over Sassafras Knob. It's nearly all downhill or level as we continue to Farlow Gap with its trout lily flower display. We'll return on a pleasant seldom-used gravel forest road. There will be several stops for photography along the way. Topo(s): Shining Rock; also NatGeo. map #780

Sunday No. A1502-008 **May 3**
Bee Tree Gap to Tanbark Tunnel ***9:00 AM**

(moderate)
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, interesting rock formations and late spring wildflowers. There are steep but short ups and downs and a gradual descent. Car shuttle. Topo(s): Craggy Pinnacle; also MST Trail Profiles, pp. 58-59

Sunday No. A1502-547 **May 10**
MST downhill from Waterrock Knob 8:30 AM
Hike 10, Drive 80, 800 ft. ascent, Rated A-C
Danny Bernstein, cell: 828-450-0747,
danny@hikertohiker.com

Come to see the MST extension that CMC has been building for the last 10 years. We did a similar hike 5 years ago, but subsequent CMC work days have extended the new trail farther uphill. We'll start by doing an in-and-out hike up to Waterrock Knob, and then we'll hike the MST downhill from Waterrock Knob parking lot to Balsam Gap. Car shuttle. **Second meeting place: Rest area beyond Waynesville on US 23/74 at 9:00 AM.** Topo(s): Hazelwood; also MST Trail Profiles, pp. 20-21

Saturday No. A1502-531 **May 16**
Pisgah Inn to Stony Bald Overlook *10:00 AM
Hike 7, Drive 50, 1100 ft. ascent, Rated B-B
Judy and Jim Magura, cell: 828-606-1490,
jqs290@gmail.com

P400 *Only Meeting Place: Ingles parking lot across from Asheville Outlets (formerly Biltmore Sq. Mall) on NC 191. Enjoy the mountain views along the MST from Pisgah Inn to the Stony Bald Overlook. After Little Pisgah Mountain, it's downhill almost all the way. Car shuttle. Topo(s): Cruso, Dunsmore Mountain; also MST Profiles book, pp. 42-45

Sunday No. A1502-420 **May 17**
Allen Gap to Tanyard Gap ***8:00 AM**
Hike 8.8, Drive 80, 2100 ft. ascent, Rated B-AA
Tish Desjardins, cell: 828-380-1452,
desraylet@aol.com

LTC *Form carpools at Westgate and meet leader at parking lot on US 25 at intersection with NC 208 at 8:45 AM. After the hike there will be a potluck supper in the nearby Bear River Community Lodge. **Hikers are requested to contribute food for the supper. Food will be taken to a refrigerator before the hike. Please phone the leader to coordinate what food to bring.** Great views from Rich Mountain fire tower, a visit to Spring Mountain shelter and one of the prettiest sections of the A.T. in our area highlight this pleasant spring hike. Car shuttle. Topo(s): Hot Springs

Sunday No. A1502-644 **May 24**

Mingus Mill Semi-circular 8:00 AM
Hike 10.4, Drive 110, 2800 ft. ascent,
Rated A-AA
Jeff McGurk, cell: 864-921-6469,
jbsbestfan@hotmail.com

900M We'll hike up Newton Bald through wildflowers and a rhododendron tunnel to a former bald with flame azaleas blooming on top of the ridge, and then descend on the Mingus Creek Trail. On the way down, we'll stop to see the operating Mingus Mill. Short car shuttle. **Second meeting place: Back of Maggie Valley P.O. parking lot at 8:30 AM, but contact leader first.** Topo(s): Smokemont; also NatGeo map #317

Monday No. A1502-547 **May 25**
Balsam Gap to Waterrock Knob 9:00 AM
Hike 10, Drive 80, 2500 ft. ascent, Rated A-AA
Becky Smucker, cell: 828-231-2198,
bjsmucker@gmail.com

Our annual joint hike with the Smoky Mountains Hiking Club this year will be the new section of the MST uphill from Balsam Gap to Waterrock Knob for a great view and then to the Waterrock Knob Visitors Center. Car shuttle. **Second meeting place: Rest area beyond Waynesville on US 23/74 at 9:30 AM.** Topo(s): Hazelwood

Saturday No. A1502-278 **May 30**
Kitsuma Peak & Old US 70 8:30 AM
Hike 10, Drive 60, 1550 ft. ascent, Rated A-A
Vance Mann, cell: 828-273-7592,
hvancem@icloud.com

Hike up Young's Ridge and see great views of Greybeard, Green Knob and the Mount Mitchell area. There is also a great view of the Swannanoa Valley from our lunch spot. We will take alternate #1, which passes along the original US 70, paved in the 1920s, and we'll stop at the Point Lookout overlook. The road parallels and crosses over a railroad and one of its many tunnels. **Second meeting place: Ingles parking lot off Exit 64 of I-40 at 8:50 AM, but contact leader first.** Topo(s): Old Fort, Black Mtn.

Sunday No. A1502-372 **May 31**
Big Fork Ridge – Rough Fork Loop 8:30 AM
Hike 9.3, Drive 95, 1800 ft. ascent, Rated A-A
Bob Hysko, cell: 828-243-3630,
rhysko@yahoo.com

900M Cataloochee was one of the most successful communities in the Smokies. From the end of the Cataloochee Valley, we'll hike up Big Fork Ridge Trail, then turn right onto Caldwell Fork Trail. We'll pass by record-size tulip poplar trees, then go downhill on Rough Fork Trail. About a mile from the end of the hike, we'll stop at the Woody House. On the way out of the valley, we'll stop at the Palmer Chapel Cemetery. **Second meeting place: Exxon station, Exit 20 off I-40 at 9:00 AM, but contact leader first.** Topo(s): Dellwood; also NatGeo map #317

Sunday No. A1502-753 **Jun. 7**
Alarka Falls
(Mountain Treasures hike #15) ***8:00 AM**
(strenuous)

Hike 10, Drive 150, 800 ft. ascent, Rated A-C
Brent Martin, 828-587-9453, cell: 828-371-0347,
brent_martin@tws.org

SB6K *Form carpools at Westgate and meet leader at Cowee Convenience Store (US 23 south, right onto Sanderstown Rd., right onto NC 28) at 9:15 AM. This hike in the Alarka Laurel area of the Cowee Mountains starts out on the Walton Smith Trail, follows old logging roads and unnamed trails to Alarka Falls and loops back to the trailhead. Topo(s): Greens Creek

Sunday No. A1502-343 **Jun. 7**
Mount Mitchell Loop
via Commissary Ridge ***9:00 AM**
(moderate)

Hike 7, Drive 60, 1500 ft. ascent, Rated B-B
Jeff Wasserman, cell: 828-243-7815,
jbwass47@gmail.com

SB6K *Only Meeting Place: back parking lot of Folk Art Center. We will hike from the Ranger Station to the summit via Old Mitchell Road Trail and return via the Commissary Ridge Trail and Camp Alice Road. We'll enjoy the view from the Mount Mitchell observation platform. Bring rain gear for the usual afternoon shower. Topo(s): Mount Mitchell, Montreat; also NatGeo map #779 and USFS South Toe River map

Saturday No. A1502-611 **Jun. 13**
Big Ivy - Walker Ridge Loop **10:00 AM**

Hike 7.4, Drive 34, 1700 ft. ascent, Rated B-A
Marcia Bromberg, 828-505-0471,
mwbromberg@yahoo.com

On this variation of hike 611 we'll begin by hiking down the Walker Creek Trail from FS 63, then up the challenging Staire Creek Trail and across the road to continue up on the Bear Pen Trail to the Laurel Gap Trail. After a 2-mile stroll on this meadow-like trail we'll head downhill on the Perkins Trail to return to our cars. These trails are rocky and steep in spots. There are several stream crossings on this hike. We walk near lovely creeks on part of the trails. **Second meeting place: Rose's parking lot in Weaverville at 10:15 AM.** Topo(s): Mount Mitchell, Craggy Pinnacle, Montreat; also South Toe/Big Ivy FS map RG355 and NatGeo map #779

Sunday No. A1502-759 **Jun. 14**
Harper Creek Loop

(Mountain Treasures Hike # 12) ***8:30 AM**
Hike 9.8, 1400 ft. ascent, Rated A-B
Jill Gottesman, 828-587-9453,
cell: 828-545-5236, jill_gottesman@tws.org

*Wilderness hike, limited to ten hikers—call leader for reservation. Harper Creek is a Congressionally designated Wilderness Study Area. Its main feature is the tumultuous central creek in a forest recovering from 1920-era's logging. Two water-

falls will be examined, including the 200 foot upper falls on South Harper Creek. Twelve creek crossings are required, some of which will be wet. Hikers should wear waterproof boots or plan to walk in wet ones. This large watershed is a key area for conservation and a potential Wilderness Area identified in the National Forest plan revision process. Topo(s): Chestnut Mountain; also NatGeo map #779

Sunday No. A1502-137 **Jun. 21**
Carvers Gap to Grassy Ridge Bald,
Roan Mtn. **8:00 AM**

Hike 11.9, Drive 130, 2400 ft. ascent, Rated A-AA
Michael and Kathy Cornn, cell: 828-458-1281,
mcomrn@aol.com

SB6K Hike from Carvers Gap north on A.T. to Grassy Ridge side trail, then return on the A.T. to Roan High Knob and Roan High Bluff, and return to trailhead along road. Weather permitting, we will see 360 degree panoramic views, rhododendrons and flame azaleas in bloom, with a possibility of Gray's Lily flowers. **Second meeting place: McDonald's in Burnsville at 8:40 AM.** Topo(s): Carvers Gap; also ATC TN-NC map #2

Saturday No. A1502-459 **Jun. 27**
NC 128 to Greybeard Overlook **8:30 AM**

Hike 8.9, Drive 80, 2600 ft. ascent, Rated B-AA
Les and Catherine Love, 828-658-1489,
cell: 828-230-1861, leslove55@gmail.com

SB6K We'll head up into old growth balsam and spruce forests just south of Mount Mitchell and over 6359 ft. Blackstock Knob. This is a scenic hike with dramatic views and several rocky climbs. Hikers wishing a shorter hike can stop after 6.4 miles at Glassmine Falls Overlook. At the end of the hike, an optional climb will be offered up 6080 ft. Craggy Dome. Car shuttle. **Second meeting place: Craven Gap at 8:50 AM.** Topo(s): Mt. Mitchell, Montreat; also MST Profiles, pp. 66-69

Sunday No. A1502-622 **Jun. 28**
Cold Mountain via Crawford Creek ***8:00 AM**

Hike 10.7, Drive 65, 3100 ft. ascent,
Rated A-AA+
Dave Wetmore, cell: 828-577-0648,
dwetmore@citcom.net

P400, SB6K *Wilderness hike, limited to ten hikers—call leader for reservation. The Club has received permission to have a hike on private property north of Crawford Creek. This is the easy way to the summit of Cold Mountain. We will follow old roads to Deep Gap and take the Forest Service trail to the summit. This route is the one the designers of the Art Loeb trail had hoped to use. Note that we have permission to cross this property for only this one hike. Topo(s): Cruso

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. H1502-049 **Apr. 5**
Big Creek Wildflower Hike **11:00 AM**

Hike 6, Drive 110, 500 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
Renate Rikkers, 828-298-9988,
rerikkers@aol.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 section of the park. A comfortable roadbed meanders along rushing rapids, Mouse Creek Falls, huge boulders, and deep swimming holes. A beautiful forest and early wildflower environment make for a special experience – so bring your camera! A moderate in-and-out hike. **Second meeting place: Pilot Truck Stop, off Exit 24 of I-40, at 11:30 AM.** Topo(s): Luftee Knob, Cove Creek Gap; also NatGeo map #317

Half-Day No. H1502-319 **Apr. 12**
Holmes State Educational Forest ***12:30 PM**

Hike 4.7, Drive 75, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
Ashok Kudva, 828-698-7119, cell: 828-674-1374,
ashok.kudva@att.net

*Form carpools at Westgate and meet leader at Bi-Lo in Pisgah Forest at 1:00 PM. Expect a pleasant walk through Holmes State Forest. The first 0.7 mile on Wildcat Rock Trail has a steep 450 ft climb. The hike features educational "Talking Trees" on a trail, a delight for children. Topo(s): Standingstone Mountain; also Holmes Educational State Forest Map

Half-Day No. H1502-430 **Apr. 19**
Green River Gamelands

– Long Ridge Loop ***11:30 AM**
Hike 5, Drive 70, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
Sawako Jager, 828-687-2547, baiko70@aol.com

*Form carpools at Westgate and meet leader at Cracker Barrel off Exit 53 of I-26, at the NE corner of the parking lot at 12:00 PM. We will start from Big Hungry Road trailhead and hike the Long Ridge/Turkey Gut/Stair Step Trails to form a five-mile loop. Let's take a spring walk in the woods and enjoy Stair Step Falls and wildflowers in bloom. Topo(s): Clifffield Mountain; also Trails of the Green River Gamelands map

Half-Day No. H1502-490 **Apr. 26**
Craven Gap to Folk Art Center ***12:30 PM**

Hike 5.4, Drive 12, 750 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
Bobbi Powers, 828-667-5419,
bobbipowers23@gmail.com

***Only Meeting Place: Back parking lot of Folk Art Center.** Depending on Mother Nature's timing, this section of the MST is usually a mecca for dozens of varieties of early spring wildflowers. We'll enjoy views and a snack break at Lunch Rock. Car shuttle. Topo(s): Oteen, Craggy Pinnacle

Half-Day No. H1502-603 **May 3**
Big Ivy 12:30 PM
 Hike 5.5, Drive 55, 700 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
 Bonnie Allen, 828-645-0357, cell: 828-707-6115,
 bonnie@allencats.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: Roses parking lot off Exit 19 of I-26 in Weaverville at 12:45 PM.** Topo(s): Mt. Mitchell, Montreat

Half-Day No. H1502-512 **May 10**
Pisgah Inn to Big Ridge Overlook *12:00 PM
 Hike 5.7, Drive 34, 800 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
 Dick Zimmerer, 828-989-0480,
 dd1zz@yahoo.com

P400 *Only Meeting Place: Ingles on NC 191 across from Asheville Outlets (formerly Biltmore Square Mall). Hike on the MST from the Pisgah Inn, with a brief stop to view the Buck Spring Lodge site, continuing over Little Pisgah Mountain down to the Big Ridge Overlook on the Blue Ridge Parkway. 1500 ft descent, occasionally very steep. Poles recommended. Car shuttle. Topo(s): Cruso, Dunsmore Mtn.; also MST Profiles book, pp. 42-43.

Half-Day No. H1502-297 **May 17**
Sams Gap South 12:30 PM
 Hike 5, Drive 60, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
 Linda Blue, 828-296-7537, lgblue@bellsouth.net
 A moderate in-and-out hike from Sams Gap to the Hog Back Ridge Shelter and return along the Appalachian Trail. Expect lots of spring wildflowers. Topo(s): Sams Gap

Half-Day No. H1502-295 **May 24**
**A.T./Lovers Leap/Pump Gap/
 Silvermine Loop 12:30 PM**

Spring is on the way! Celebrate in style

Like the Beatles once said, "It's been a long, cold, lonely winter. But look lil darlin', Here comes the sun." There has never been a harbinger of spring more awaited than the CMC Spring Social.

The tenth annual Spring Barbeque will be held in the beautiful NC Arboretum on Saturday, April 25, from 2:30 until 8:30.

This year our program will be on our club's involvement with the Boy Scouts of Western North Carolina and emceed by Skip Sheldon. The Daniel Boone Council CEO, Joshua Christ, will speak, along with Assistant Scout Executive, Dan

Rogers, who has thru-hiked across the U.S. and published a book on his 11,000 miles of backpacking. We'll also have accomplished scouts and scout leaders telling how scouting and hiking have influenced their lives.

CMC members, their families and friends are welcome. You do not have to be a member to attend.

Hikes will be held as usual and a social hour with beer and wine will be held in the main building, followed by a catered dinner by Bubba Q. See the attachment with this issue.

Hike 5, Drive 80, 1100 ft. ascent, Rated C-B
 Bev MacDowell, cell: 828-777-5806,
 bevmacdowellhappy@gmail.com

This loop hike begins north on the A.T. with a climb to Lover's Leap, where we will stop for the view and photos! We will continue on the A.T. along a ridge above Hot Springs until it intersects with the Pump Gap Trail. This will take us back to our starting point, passing Silvermine Campground. **Second meeting place: A.T. trailhead at NOC parking area, but contact leader first.** Topo(s): Hot Springs

Half-Day No. H1502-002 **May 31**
MST: NC 128 to Balsam Gap *12:30 PM
 Hike 5, Drive 60, 1500 ft. ascent, Rated C-A
 Lee Belknap, 828-698-9394, cell: 828-674-3631,
 rivergypsy@sprintmail.com

SB6K *Only Meeting Place: back parking lot of Folk Art Center. This hike in the high country on the MST near Mount Mitchell features great views, rocky climbs, spruce forests and 6320 ft. Blackstock Knob. Topo(s): Montreat; also MST Profiles, pp. 67-69

Half-Day No. H1502-116 **Jun. 7**
**Craggy Gardens
 and Craggy Pinnacle *12:30 PM**
 Hike 4.1, Drive 40, 1100 ft. ascent, Rated C-B
 Dennis Bass, 828-367-7792,
 dbass3607@gmail.com

***Only Meeting Place: Back parking lot of Folk Art Center.** The hike starts at Bee Tree Gap, hiking the MST to the Craggy Gardens Visitors Center and then return, which is a round trip of approximately 2.7 miles. We will then drive up to the Craggy Pinnacle Trail for an additional 1.4 mile round trip. Hopefully the rhododendron will be in bloom. Topo(s): Montreat; also NatGeo Map #779

Half-Day No. H1502-325 **Jun. 14**
Rich Mountain Fire Tower *12:30 PM
 Hike 5.2, Drive 52, 1350 ft. ascent, Rated C-B
 Russ and Heather Cooper, 828-484-9562,

cooper.hs@charter.net

LTC *Only Meeting Place: Wells Fargo/Roses parking lot (opposite McDonald's) off Exit 19B of I-26 in Weaverville. This moderate in-and-out hike features great views from the Rich Mountain fire tower near Hot Springs. We follow the A.T. north from Tanyard Gap, then take a short side trail to the fire tower, and return via the A.T. Topo(s): Hot Springs; also ATC TN-NC map #4

Half-Day No. H1502-855 **Jun. 21**
**Betty Place Upper Loop
 Trail (new) *12:00 PM**

Hike 6, Drive 85, 400 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
 Jack Dalton, 828-622-3704,
 jckdalton9@gmail.com
***Form carpools at Westgate and meet leader at Hot Springs Medical Center parking lot in Hot Springs, 66 NW US 25-70 at 12:45 PM.** This is a joint hike with the Hot Springs Mountain Club. The group will drive to the trailhead from the Hot Springs Medical Center parking lot. We will begin on the Betty Place Trail (FS #298) in the Upper Shut-In community to the new upper loop trail, passing old home sites at the base of Bluff Mountain. The grade is moderate, and the trail passes through mixed hardwood forest along old roads and along streams. Topo(s): Hot Springs; also NatGeo map #782

Half-Day No. H1502-573 **Jun. 28**
Devil's Courthouse from NC 215 12:00 PM
 Hike 6, Drive 75, 700 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
 Chris Allen, cell: 828-707-6500, chrisallen@icloud.com

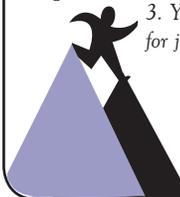
P400 We will hike east from the parking area off NC 215 through patches of mountain laurel and a dense pine cluster on the MST, crossing over the Blue Ridge Parkway tunnel on a connector trail to Devil's Courthouse, where we will pause for a snack to enjoy 360-degree mountain views before returning. **Second meeting place: Cold Mountain Overlook at 12:40 PM.** Topo(s): Sam Knob; also NatGeo map #780

How to join the CMC

1. Go to www.carolinamountainclub.org
2. Click on **Join** (top left) or **Join CMC!** (right center).

3. You will see instructions for joining online or via mail.

or ... write to us at
 CMC, PO Box 68,
 Asheville, NC 28802
 and we'll mail you an
 application



Let's "sell" CMC!

By Lenny Bernstein

For many years CMC's membership grew at a rate of 5 to 7% per year. However, for the last few years our membership has been constant. That concerns me. It is a truism that organizations either grow or they stagnate and die. While I don't think CMC is about to stagnate, I know that we depend on a steady flow of new members to keep the club healthy.

Traditionally, CMC depended on word-of-mouth to bring the club to the attention of potential new members. More recently our website has become an important tool for doing this. Since we welcome guests on both our hikes and our maintenance activities, there is a critical next step. We need to sell those guests on becoming members. That's where all of you come in. You, our active membership, are our best salespeople. When you hike or work on trail maintenance with a guest, you need to try to convince that guest to join the club.

I'm not going to give you a sales pitch. Each of us enjoys CMC for different reasons. Telling guests why you see value in being a CMC member is far more effective than any prepared spiel.

Each year we lose about 20% of our membership – 200 people – who move away, lose interest in the club, or in the case of our oldest members, are no longer able to participate. We need 200 new members each year just to hold our own, more if we are to grow. At our Annual Meeting last November, I challenged CMC to increase its membership by a net of fifty new members in 2015. I hope each of you will help meet that goal. CMC's future depends on it.

Carolina Mountain Club

P.O. Box 68
Asheville, NC 28802

NEXT CMC COUNCIL MEETING

When: Monday, May 4, 2015

Where: EarthFare, Hendersonville Road (US 25), south Asheville

Time: 6:00 - 9:00 PM

Info: Call Lenny at 450-1325 if you would like to attend. All CMC members are welcome.

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. Pets 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, click on Hiking) 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. Hiking boots are recommended for all hikes. They should be broken in before the hike. Weather changes quickly in the mountains. Even if there is no sign of rain in the morning, you need to be prepared for an afternoon shower. Your first aid kit should include any personal medication, including allergy medication, if needed. Wear layered clothing – you'll want to take layers off during a strenuous climb or as the day proceeds, then put them back on in cooler conditions.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR SAFETY: Each CMC member and guest agrees to accept personal responsibility for his or her own safety and for the safety of accompanying minors. The Club cannot ensure the safety of any participant on hikes or trail maintenance activities. Each participant agrees to hold harmless

Further information about regulations is available at www.carolinamountainclub.org

and free from blame event leaders and the CMC, its officers 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 Councilor for Conservation for details.

MEMBERSHIP: Everyone is eligible for CMC membership by joining and paying dues. To join online or by paper application, go to www.carolinamountainclub.org and click on the green Join button just below the Member Login. Choose either Join CMC online or CMC application form (pdf). Don't have internet access? Mail a note to the CMC address requesting an application form be mailed to you. Annual dues are \$20 for individuals and \$30 for families. 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

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Deadline next issue: May 15, 2015