

North Shore Road settlement accepted

By Stuart English

In February of 2006 several public meetings were held to discuss whether to finish building a 34.3 mile road through the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The road had been promised to replace an existing road that had been flooded with construction of Fontana Dam. CMC supported a monetary settlement for the people of Swain County. It has been a very controversial issue over the years.

I had become editor of this newsletter in January of 2006, and this was the first big news item that confronted me. Attending two of the meetings: one at Swain High School and one in Asheville,

I remember speaking before the crowd with shaky knees and a mouth devoid of any saliva. It was the beginning of my real involvement with the Club.

continued on page 2

2010 Spring Social

Our annual Spring Social will once again take place at the beautiful NC Arboretum on April 24. This year's program will be musical entertainment from our own CMC members, among them Karen Bartlett and her group performing bluegrass and Angela Martin singing and performing her own songs.

There is an insert in this newsletter. Fill out the bottom portion, tear it off, and send it in with your check for \$14.



Ruth Hartzler and Les Love talk near the tunnel on the Road to Nowhere.

COUNCIL CORNER



Council will be doing some thinking this year about youth and trails. Is encouraging kids to get outside and hike part of our mission?

Do you remember your first hike? I was eleven. From north-eastern Ohio, Dad drove our small car with a rented pop-up camper for a week's trip to the Poconos. We four kids were crammed in the back seat, sans seat belts. I was used to flat farmland, so steep, curvy mountain roads were a novelty.

According to the map we picked up at the campground office, there was a trail that connected our campsite to the creek, maybe a half-mile in length. After we set up camp that first evening, Dad gave my brother and me permission to follow the trail to the creek and back for a quick look before supper. Looking back, I'm a bit surprised that he allowed it, but times were different, and I expect he wanted to tire us out.

We set out through the woods. I was spooked and excited. It was dark in the woods, and we couldn't see very far ahead. That half mile seemed forever, and I wondered several times if we were lost.

My hot-shot brother was not worried at all. He told me so repeatedly. When we started to hear the water, we were revved and ran to the creek. It was noisy and gorgeous!

We hurried back, eager to tell everyone of our adventure. We arrived at the campsite to learn that Dad was having another kidney stone attack, and we had to go home. Dad lay down in the back seat, and we kids sat on the floor and watched him hurt while Mom drove down the mountain in the dark. It was a short vacation, but I remember the long, thrilling hike.

— Becky Smucker

"Wild Thing, I think I love you!"

By Bobbi Powers

The CMC Wilderness Crew could use this classic as its theme song. This maintenance crew, formed in spring 2008 by Becky Smucker and Bill Newton, focuses its efforts primarily in Shining Rock and Middle Prong Wilderness Areas.

This mixed gender crew meets two Saturdays each month and has learned special skills required for maintaining these wild areas. For instance, four members are cross cut certified because no chainsaws are allowed. David Finnan, Wilderness Ranger for the Pisgah District, helps the crew set priorities and learn the required standards and regulations.

The Wilderness Crew has been working on Section 4 of the Art Loeb Trail, as well as joining the quarterly Saturday Crew that is extending the MST west-

ward. They have enjoyed occasionally taking high school kids out who want to work on trails as part of a school project.

According to Becky, "We welcome new members, young, old, male and female, who are willing to come out with us as their schedules allow ... this crew is a great group of folks who are passionate about our mission, and who consider this hard work to be R&R from what can often be a stressful work week. I am proud of our accomplishments and of how we have grown into an effective work group."

Interested in becoming a Wild Thing? Contact Becky at 828-298-5013 or bjsmucker@gmail.com.



Wilderness Crew members who are cross cut certified Nan Needs, Paul Dickens, Gary Eblen and Kay Shurtleff.

North Shore Road settlement accepted by Swain

continued from page 1

More important than that, it made evident the far reaching political influence an organization like ours could have.

Ruth Hartzler, chair of the Conservation Committee for several years, wrote, "My first project after CMC's Conservation Committee was formed was to sup-

port CMC's North Shore Road position – the \$52 million monetary settlement for Swain County. I was pleased to represent CMC at a number of strategy meetings and I learned a lot. The most significant for me was a visit to GSMNP Superintendent Ditmanson by a coalition of conservation organizations

also supporting the monetary settlement. Ditmanson remarked that we represented a lot of people. I feel CMC's participation was a factor in his comment. I was also gratified by the support from CMC Council and membership. Most of CMC's Council attended the Asheville North Shore Road hearing and many members spoke in favor of the monetary settlement. Ted Snyder, CMC member and former national Sierra Club President, deserves special recognition. Ted was untiring over a period of years working with Swain County residents, conservation organizations and government representatives in his efforts to bring about the monetary settlement."

On Friday, February 5, 2010, the Swain County Commissioners voted 4 to 1 to accept the \$52 million settlement. The next day the signing ceremony was held at Swain County High School. CMC's Danny Bernstein was there.

Peter Barr takes a walk in the woods

This March, CMC member and Challenge Committee chair Peter Barr will be departing to thru-hike the 2,178 mile Appalachian Trail. The hike will take him about five months.

During his journey, he will be raising money for the restoration of the Shuckstack fire tower in the Great

Smoky Mountains National Park. Just a short distance off the Appalachian Trail, the historic and scenic lookout is in serious disrepair and in jeopardy of being removed. It is his goal to raise \$2,178 – one dollar for each mile he hikes. Unable to resist a challenge program, he will also attempt to start and complete the New Hampshire 4,000 footers program during his time on the trail in that state. You can follow his progress on

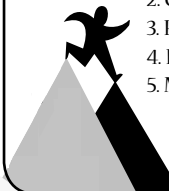
the trail as well as find out more about the Shuckstack lookout tower project by visiting and bookmarking his online journal at <http://www.PeterontheAT.com>.



Peter Barr gets some perspective on his upcoming thru-hike.

How to join the Carolina Mountain Club

1. Go to www.carolinamtnclub.org
2. Click on "How to Join" (upper left corner)
3. Print out the "CMC Application Form"
4. Fill it out, write a check for dues and
5. Mail to: CMC
PO Box 68
Asheville NC 28802



or ... write to us and we'll mail you an application.

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 cannot be 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.

Monday

Barth Brooker, barthb@bellsouth.net

Wednesday*

John Soldati, jr4152@bellsouth.net

Friday Asheville*

Piet Bodenhorst, pietboden@bellsouth.net

Friday Pisgah

Pete (R) Petersen, roap@aol.com

Saturday bimonthly*

Becky Smucker, bjsmucker@gmail.com

Saturday quarterly*

Les Love, lesrlove@charter.net

MST and AT sections*

Don Walton, donwalton@bellsouth.net

HIKE SCHEDULE Second Quarter 2010

Hike Ratings

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

Contact the hike leader if you have questions or if the weather on the hike day is questionable.

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. Scouts typically take place one to six weeks before the scheduled date. Call or email the hike leader.

See the CMC website for more complete and timely information, including scout reports: www.carolinamtnclub.org/Hiking/hikemenu.htm

CHALLENGE PROGRAMS

SB6K For hiking all 40 peaks above 6000'. Contact Peter Barr, pjbarr@unc.edu

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@unc.edu

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

All-day hikes submitted by Ann Gleason 828-859-9387, gleason.ann@gmail.com. Driving distance is round-trip from Asheville. Hikes will assemble at Westgate Shopping Center near I-240 exit 3B UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED. Some hikes will have second meeting places as described in the hike listing. Please phone the hike leader if you are not sure of the meeting location.

WEDNESDAY NO. W1002-652 **April 7**

Devil Fork Gap to Rocky Fork Rd. *9:00 AM

Hike 7, Drive 80, 1300 ft. ascent, Rated B-B

Don Walton, 828-654-9904,

donwalton@bellsouth.net

***Be prepared for possible wet stream crossings.** This hike ventures into the new Rocky Fork Tract purchase of 10,000 acres near Flag Pond, TN. The first three miles of this hike is on the AT to Flint Gap Shelter and on to Flint Gap and the entry into the Rocky Fork Tract. This route is also the path of a surprise attack on an Indian Camp in the early 1800s. Car shuttle. Topo: Flag Pond

WEDNESDAY NO. W1002-694 **Apr. 14**

Mackey Creek Trail *8:00 AM

Hike 8, Drive 75, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated B-B

Joanne Tulip, 828-299-3495,

tulipinn@aol.com, and Tommie Boston,

828-686-5029, tambee2@aol.com

***Form carpools at Westgate, and meet leaders at Ingles parking lot off Exit 64 of I-40 at 8:20 AM.** From the Curtis Creek Road we descend steeply to Mackey Creek on a rough non-maintained trail. Hiking poles are recommended. Water shoes are also recommended for the several creek crossings. From the creek we ascend steeply on the Connector Trail to Lead Mine Gap. A two mile descent on the Hickory Branch Trail takes us to our cars at Curtis Creek campground. Short car shuttle. Topo: Old Fort

WEDNESDAY NO. W1002-401 **Apr. 21**

Laurel Mountain, Slate Rock *8:30 AM

Hike 8, Drive 70, 1500 ft. ascent, Rated B-B

Greg Goodman, 828-684-9703,

greggoodman@bellsouth.net

P400 *Form carpools at Westgate, and meet leader at the North Mills River Parking lot at 9:00 AM. We'll take Laurel Mountain Ridge Trail to the Slate Rock Creek Trail to the old road and back to our cars. Topo: Dunsmore Mtn.; also NatGeo map #780

SATURDAY WORK DAY

Here is a great chance to learn what is involved in trail maintenance. We will meet on June 5 (National Trails Day) at the Moose Cafe at the Farmer's Market on Rt. 191 at 8AM for breakfast. We will return to Asheville around 3:30PM. Call Les Love at 828-658-1489 (lesrlove@charter.net) to verify date.

WEDNESDAY NO. W1002-695 **Apr. 28**

3 Waterfalls in SC *8:00 AM

Hike 6, Drive 200, 500 ft. ascent, Rated B-C

Jack Fitzgerald, 828-685-2897,

suejackfitz@bellsouth.net

WC100 *Form carpools at Westgate, and meet leader at Cracker Barrel, Exit 53 on I-26 at 8:30 AM.

We will visit three (and maybe four) waterfalls in South Carolina, all on the Waterfall 100 Challenge: Rileymoore, Brasstown and Opossum. All are in-and-out hikes, 3 miles round trip max. A long drive and long day, but well worth it with waterfalls and spring flowers.

WEDNESDAY NO. W1002-216 **May 5**

Sams Gap to Devil Fork Gap 8:30 AM

Hike 8.5, Drive 90, 1400 ft. ascent, Rated B-B

Ashok Kudva, 828-698-7119,

ashok.kudva@gmail.com

This section of the AT features magnificent wildflower displays and 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 NC and the southbound hiker is actually traveling north. Car Shuttle. Topo: Sams Gap

WEDNESDAY NO. W1002-041 **May 12**

Sugar Cove Trail to Mackey Mountain *8:30 AM

Hike 11.5, Drive 87, 2900 ft. ascent,

Rated A-AA+

Barbara Morgan, 828-738-3395,

bcmorg@hughes.net

*Form carpools at Westgate, and meet leader at Ingles parking lot off Exit 64 of I-40 at 8:50 AM.

We'll take the Sugar Cove Creek trail and turn onto the Mackey Mtn. Trail to Mackey Mtn and return the same way. Topo: Old Fort; also NatGeo Map #779

WEDNESDAY NO. W1002-249 **May 19**

Buckeye Gap and Haywood Gap Trails Circuit 8:00 AM

Jim Ariail, 828-505-0443, jimariail@yahoo.com

Hike 9, Drive 85, 1400 ft. ascent, Rated B-B

P400 Cross the BRP then go right onto the MST, left onto Buckeye Gap Trail at unmarked junction. Descend on old logging RR grade to lunch spot at river, and then climb on Haywood Gap trail to MST and back to the starting point. **Wilderness area, limit 10, so contact leader for reservation. Second meeting place: BRP Cold Mtn. Overlook (M.P. 412) at 8:40 AM.** Topo: Sam Knob

Topo: Sam Knob

WEDNESDAY NO. W1002-113 **May 26**

Cold Mountain 8:00 AM

Janet Martin, 502 494 9309,

jaykaymartin@msn.com

Hike 10.4, Drive 70, 3400 ft ascent, Rated A-AA

SB6K, P400 From the BSA Daniel Boone Camp, we will climb and climb past laurel and rhododendron to Deep Gap, and then continue to the

top of the mountain for great views of the BRP and Mt. Hardy. **Wilderness area, limit 10, so contact leader for reservation.** Topos: Waynesville, Cruso; also NatGeo. map #780

WEDNESDAY NO. W1002-104 **June 2**

Wolfe Ford and High Falls *9:00 AM

Hike 7.3, Drive 80, 900 ft. ascent, Rated B-C

Laura Frisbie, 828-337-5845,

laura@beat-depression-naturally.com

P400 *Form carpools at Westgate, and meet leader at Bi-Lo in Pisgah Forest at 9:30 AM.

From the gauging station on the South Mills River, we'll hike this mostly level trail to High Falls, then cross the footbridge at Wolfe Ford and loop back to the trailhead. One possible wet stream crossing. Topo: Pisgah Forest; also NatGeo map #780

WEDNESDAY NO. W1002-008 **June 9**

Bee Tree Gap to Tanbark Tunnel *9:00 AM

Hike 6.2, Drive 30, 1300 ft. ascent, Rated B-B

Joe Burchfield, 828-298-8413,

Burchfield@niu.edu

***Note that the only meeting place is the back parking lot of the Folk Art Center.** A moderate hike on the MST over Lane Pinnacle. Good mountain views and, with luck, the rhododendrons will be in bloom. There are several steep but short ups and downs and a long descent. Topo: Craggy Pinnacle; also new MST Profiles, Pg. 58-59

WEDNESDAY NO. W1002-566 **June 16**

The Roans *8:30 AM

Hike 8 Drive 130, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated B-B

Adrian Lotherington, 828-484-9132,

jaloth@charter.net

SB6K *ONLY MEETING PLACE: Rose's car park (opposite McDonald's), exit 19B off I-26 in Weaverville. This in-and-out hike features great views. From Carver's Gap we go over Jane Bald and Round Bald to Grassy Ridge Bald. With luck we will hit the rhododendron bloom. If time allows we will drive to the gardens and walk 1/2 mile to see the view from Roan High Bluff (small fee).

WEDNESDAY NO. W1002-471 **June 23**

Cold Mtn. Overlook to

Bridges Camp Gap to Big East 8:00 AM

Hike 9.7, Drive 55, 1500 ft. ascent, Rated B-A

Tom Sanders, 828-252-6327,

tomary.avl@gmail.com

P400 Hike from Cold Mtn Overlook up to Green Knob (Penny Rock) and to Bridges Camp Gap on the MST, then down to US 276. Short car shuttle. **Wilderness area, limit 10, so contact leader for reservation. Second meeting place: Cold Mtn. Overlook at 8:40 AM.** Topo: Shining Rock

WEDNESDAY NO. W1002-137 ***June 30**

Carvers Gap to

Grassy Ridge Bald, Roan Mtn. *8:00 AM

Hike 11.9 Drive 130, 2400 ft. ascent,

Rated A-AA

Tish Desjardins, 828-656-2191,

desraylet@aol.com

***Form carpools at Westgate, and meet leader at McDonald's in Burnsville at 8:40 AM.** Hike from Carvers Gap north on AT to Grassy Ridge side trail, then return on the AT to Roan High Knob and Roan High Bluff, and return to trail head. 360 degree panoramic views and flowers. Topo: Carvers Gap

ALL DAY SATURDAY AND SUNDAY HIKES

All-day hikes submitted by Bruce Bente 828-692-0116, bbente@bellsouth.net. All hikes assemble at the east end of Westgate Shopping Center near I-240 exit 3B UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED. Some hikes have second a meeting place. Driving distance is round-trip from Asheville.

SUNDAY NO. A1002-691 **Apr. 4**

Upper Whitewater Falls –

Round Mtn. Gap *9:00 AM

Hike 8, Drive 120, 1400 ft. ascent, Rated B-B

Marcia Bromberg, 828-505-0471,

mwbromberg@yahoo.com

WC100 This new CMC hike will follow the Foothills Trail west from the Upper Whitewater Falls parking lot (small parking fee) to Round Mtn. Gap, then follow the Round Mtn. trail back to the waterfall overlook. From here we will take the Foothills Trail east, crossing the Whitewater River bridge and then turning uphill on a spur trail to the Bad Creek parking area. Short car shuttle. **Second meeting place: Pisgah Forest Bi-Lo at 9:35 AM.** Topos: Cashier, Reid; also NatGeo map #780

SATURDAY NO. A1002-053 **Apr. 10**

East Fork Pigeon River 10:00 AM

Hike 7.5, Drive 74, 1200 ft. ascent, Rated B-B

Barbara Morgan, 828-738-3395,

bcmorg@hughes.net

P400 Wilderness area, limit 10, so contact leader for reservation. A stroll along one of WNC's most beautiful streams, the East Fork of the Pigeon River. We will ascend to Dark Prong for lunch and then return. **Second meeting place: Big East parking area on US 276, north of BRP at 10:45 AM.** Topo: Shining Rock; also NatGeo map #780

SUNDAY NO. A1002-201 **Apr. 11**

MST: NC 80 over Woods Mtn.

to Woodland Park *8:00 AM

Hike 12, Drive 85, 2600 ft. ascent, Rated A-AA

Don Gardner, 828-754-4067,

gardog3@bellsouth.net

***Form carpools at Westgate, and meet leader at Little Siena Restaurant at intersection of US 70 and NC 80 at 8:30 AM.** We will hike a little-traveled and scenic section of the MST over Woods Mtn. and on to US 221, with seldom-seen views of the Blacks and Mt. Mitchell. Long descent. Car

shuttle. Topos: Celo, Little Switzerland

WEEKEND NO. A1002-tbd **Apr. 16-18**

Congaree National Park Weekend

Danny Bernstein, 828-236-0192,

danny@hikertohiker.com

Spend a weekend hiking, camping and canoeing in Congaree National Park (<http://nps.gov/cosw>), one of our newest National Parks, near Columbia, SC, a three-hour drive from Asheville (360 miles round trip). This park has the largest remnant of old-growth floodplain forest remaining in North America and its trails are flat. This trip is suitable for everyone. For more information, look at <http://www.hikertohiker.com/resources/cmc-congaree-national-park-weekend>.

SUNDAY NO. A1002-066 **Apr. 25**

AT: Garenflo Gap – Bluff Mtn. *8:30 AM

Hike 8.5, Drive 80, 2200 ft. ascent, Rated B-AA

Jim Reel, 828-738-0751, jimr57@yahoo.com

& Tish Desjardins 828-656-2191,

desraylet@aol.com

We'll do a loop hike in hardwood forests from Garenflo Gap to the summit of 4686 ft. Bluff Mtn. We will enjoy the many wildflowers that carpet the forest floor while the leader shows off the AT section that he maintains. After lunch on the summit we will do a short bushwhack and then hike parts of the old AT on our way back to the trailhead. ***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 Tish Desjardins to coordinate what food to bring.** Topo: Lemon Gap

SUNDAY NO. A1002-692 **May 2**

Terrapin Mtn. (Bernard Elias

Favorite Hike series #1) *9:00 AM

(strenuous)

Hike 5+, Drive 140, 1700 (or more) ft. ascent,

Rated C-A

Ted Snyder, 864-638-3686,

tedsnyderjr@bellsouth.net

***Form carpools at Westgate, stop at Pisgah Forest Bi-Lo at 9:35 AM for additional hikers and meet leader at Community Bank in Cashiers (left onto NC 107, right at next traffic light and go 100 yards) at 10:30 AM.** This mostly off-trail hike ascends steeply through thick underbrush to a rock face giving 180 degree views of Whiteside Mtn. and Fowler Creek cirque. An alternate return with a side trip to Bearpen Mtn. may be added, dependent upon weather conditions. The extension would add two miles and include a 1100 ft. descent of a rock face. Hikers with a fear of heights should avoid this hike. Topo: Cashiers

SUNDAY NO. A1002-060 **May 2**

Pilot Mtn. – Farlow Gap *8:30 AM

(moderate)

Hike 8, Drive 80, 1900 ft. ascent, Rated B-A
Ashok Kudva, 828-698-7119,
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 Mtn., 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 graveled forest road. There will be several stops for photography along the way. Topo: Shining Rock; also NatGeo. map #780

SATURDAY NO. A1002-288 **May 8**
Kanuga Conference Center *9:00 AM

Hike 8.5, Drive 60, 800 ft. ascent, Rated B-C
Rich Bowerman, 828-808-2891,
pcdbowerman@hotmail.com
***Form carpools at Westgate, and meet leader at parking lot at rear of Mountain Bank, corner of US 25 & White St. in Hendersonville at 9:40 AM.** We have been fortunate to receive permission to hike at Kanuga Conference Center for this pleasant hike over varied terrain. We will hike over well-maintained trails including the Doug Stirling/Wolf Mtn. Trail to the Wolf Mtn. overlook, then to our lunch spot on scenic Eagle Rock. Topo: Horseshoe; also Kanuga Trails map

ALL DAY NO. A1002-216 **May 9**
AT: Sams Gap to Devil Fork Gap 9:00 AM

Lenny Bernstein, 828-236-0192, lsberns@att.net
Hike 8.5, Drive 90, 1400 ft. ascent, Rated B-B
This section of the AT features magnificent wildflower displays and 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 NC and the southbound hiker is actually traveling north. Car shuttle. Topo: Sams Gap

SUNDAY NO. A1002-678 **May 16**
An Edge of Panthertown *8:30 AM

Hike 7.5, Drive 110, 2600 ft. ascent, Rated B-AA
Dave Wetmore, 828-884-7296,
dwetmore@citcom.net
***Form carpools at Westgate, and meet leader at Bi-Lo in Pisgah Forest at 9:05 AM.** Hopefully we'll have better weather than when this hike was first offered in January. This lollipop hike begins with a long gradual ascent along the west fork of the French Broad, mostly on old roads, to the viewpoint near the bottom of the Devil's Elbow Ridge. We'll climb the old Shelton Pisgah trail to our second viewpoint. From there a short cross-country descent to another old road will take us back to our trail and to the trailhead. Time permitting, there will be a short detour to Aunt Sally's Falls. There are a couple of rock hops on the first part of the hike. Topo: Lake Toxaway

SATURDAY NO. 1002-008 **May 22**
Bee Tree Gap

to Rattlesnake Lodge 10:00 AM
Hike 6.2, Drive 40, 1300 ft. ascent, Rated B-B
Kathleen Hannigan, 828-230-4883,
Kathleen.hannigan@pgnmail.com
A pleasant spring hike on the MST over Lane Pinnacle and through the Rattlesnake Lodge site, featuring excellent views, interesting rock formations and many wildflowers. There are several steep but short ups and downs and a long, well-graded descent. 6-mile car shuttle. Join the hike leader for wine and cheese after the hike. **Second meeting place: Craven Gap at 10:20 AM.** Topo: Craggy Pinnacle

ALL DAY NO. A1002-151 **May 23**
Big East to Shining Rock

via Old Butt 8:00 AM
(strenuous)
Hike 8.5, Drive 60, 3100 ft. ascent,
Rated B-AA+
Les Love, 828-658-1489, leslove@charter.net
SB6K, P400 We will hike from the Big East parking lot up the steep Chestnut Ridge trail over Dog Loser and Old Butt knobs to lunch at Shining Rock (6040 ft.) with its exceptional views. We'll return via a steep descent to the North Fork of Shining Creek. **Wilderness area hike limited to ten people; please contact leader for reservations.** Topo: Shining Rock; also NatGeo. PRD map #780

ALL DAY NO. A1002-470 **May 30**
Fork Mtn. – Birdstand Mtn. 8:00 AM

Hike 9, Drive 85, 600 ft. ascent, Rated A-C
Charlie Ferguson, 828-625-2677,
ccf108@gmail.com
P400 For the P400 fans, here is a chance to bag a remote trail from the Black Balsam parking lot down to NC 215. Be prepared for a 3200 ft. descent, with only a short climb up Birdstand Mtn. There will be a wet-foot crossing of the West Prong of the Pigeon River at the end of the hike. Car shuttle. Topos: Shining Rock, Sam Knob; also NatGeo. map #780 and USFS Shining Rock & Middle Prong Wilderness map

MEMORIAL DAY NO. A1002-237 **May 31**
Plott Balsams 8:00 AM

Hike 9, Drive 90, 3400 ft. ascent, Rated A-AA+
Becky Smucker, 828-298-5013,
bjsmucker@gmail.com
SB6K Our annual joint hike with the Smoky Mtns. Hiking Club this year takes us to the Plott Balsams. We'll climb four SB6K peaks while enjoying spectacular views and May flowers. From Waterrock Knob (6292 ft.), we'll follow a very rough, steep trail to Lyn Lowry (6240 ft.) and Plott Balsam (6088 ft.), then retrace our steps to the trailhead and hike to Yellowface (6032 ft.) and back. Expect a rough, uneven trail and climbing over and under blowdowns on steep slopes. Wear long sleeved shirt and pants. **Second**

meeting place: Rest area beyond Waynesville on US 23/74 at 8:30 AM. Topos: Hazelwood, Sylva North

SUNDAY NO. A1002-516 **June 6**
Lakeshore Loop 8:30 AM

(moderate)
Hike 8, Drive 145, 800 ft. ascent, Rated B-C
Danny Bernstein, 828-236-0192,
danny@hikertohiker.org
900M Starting at the Lakeshore tunnel, we'll do an easy loop, consisting of the Lakeshore, White Oak Branch and Forney Creek Trails. We'll lunch at the Fontana Lake shoreline, and then return on the Lakeshore trail and back on the bypass trail. We'll see house sites, a creek and cemeteries and the historic "Road to Nowhere". **Second meeting place: Rest area beyond Waynesville on US 23/74 at 9:00 AM.** Topo: Noland Creek; also Nat Geo map #229

SUNDAY NO. A1002-693 **June 6**
Tusquitee Bald (Bernard Elias

Favorite Hike series #2) *8:00 AM
(strenuous)
Hike 8, Drive 210, 2100 ft. ascent, Rated B-AA
Ted Snyder, 864-838-3686,
tedsnyderjr@bellsouth.net
***Form carpools at Westgate, stop at rest area beyond Waynesville on US 23/74 at 8:30 AM, and meet leader at jct. of US 19/74 and SR 1310 (Nantahala River Put-in) at 10:00 AM.** Up Big Tuni Creek on the Chunky Gal Trail to Tusquitee Bald where we join the Fires Creek Rim Trail and follow a ridge to County Corners, and then down Old Road Gap Trail. Glorious views from Tusquitee Bald. Short car shuttle. Topo: Tipton; also NatGeo map #784

SATURDAY NO. A1002-570 **June 12**
Dupont Forest –

Corn Mill Shoals P.L. #2 *10:00 AM
Hike 7, Drive 80, 300 ft. ascent, Rated B-C
Kathleen Hudson, 828-698-5208,
mstish1325@gmail.com
***Form carpools at Westgate, and meet hike leader at Hooker Falls parking lot in DuPont Forest at 10:45 AM.** Several trails will take us to the top of the rushing waters of Bridal Veil Falls for lunch, and a close up view and walk behind the falls. Start at Corn Mill Shoals Road parking lot and we'll be on Burnt Mountain Trail, Little River Trail and Bridal Veil Falls Trail. Topo: Standingstone Mtn.; also DuPont Forest trail map

SUNDAY NO. A1002-674 **June 13**
Wayah Bald – Wesser Bald 7:30 AM

Hike 12.6, Drive 175, 2087 ft. NB ascent, 3450 ft. SB ascent, Rated AA-AA
Jacob Cox, 828-584-0395,
jcox@mfgnc.com and Carroll Koeplinger,
828-667-0723, carrollkoepp@bellsouth.net

LTC Note early start time. This great AT hike will visit two lookout towers, each with 360 degree views of the mountains. Strenuous hike. Key-swap hike. Optional supper at Jarrett House after the hike. **Second meeting place: Rest area beyond Waynesville on US 23/74 at 8:00 AM, but call a leader first.** Topos: Wayah Bald, Wesser; also NatGeo map #785

SUNDAY NO. A1002-370 **June 20**
South Mills River 8:00 AM

Hike 12.5, Drive 75, 1100 or 750 ft. ascent, Rated AA-B or AA-C
Stu English, 828-883-2447,

stuengo@citcom.net, and Charlie Ferguson,
828-625-2677, ccferguson108@gmail.com

P400 *Form carpools at Westgate, and meet leaders at Pisgah Ranger Station at 8:35 AM. This is another of the P400 hikes that is scheduled during a summer month because of its nine stream crossings. Plan to wear water shoes for the section between Cantrell Creek and Wolfe Ford. Two hiking poles are recommended for the stream crossings. The trail follows the old logging railroad grade, so look for old trestles at stream crossings. This hike will be done as a key swap. Topo: Pisgah Forest

SATURDAY NO. A1002-401 **June 26**
Laurel Mtn. – Slate Rock Creek 8:30 AM

Hike 9, Drive 70, 2500 ft. ascent, Rated A-AA
Brent Martin, 828-369-7084,

brent_martin@twos.org

P400 We'll hike up Laurel Mtn. trail to Sassafras Gap, then drop down to the Slate Rock Creek trail and follow this beautiful trail back to FS 1206. Short car shuttle. Topo: Dunsmore Mtn.; also NatGeo map #780

SUNDAY NO. A1002-566 **June 27**
Roans in Bloom 8:30 AM

Hike 8, Drive 150, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated B-B
Tom Sanders, 828-252-6327,

tomary.avl@gmail.com

SB6K A beautiful AT hike with some of WNC's finest views. Expect rhododendrons and flame azaleas to be in bloom, with perhaps an early Gray's Lily. From Carver's Gap we'll go north past Grassy Ridge (6160 ft.) to a scenic overlook for lunch, then double back south to Carvers Gap. From here we'll drive up to see the Rhododendron Gardens and the vista from Roan High Bluff (6287 ft.) (small fee to enter garden area). Topo: Carvers Gap; also NatGeo. map #783

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 Lucy Prim, 32lucette@gmail.com, 828-693-6580. Driving distance is round-trip from Asheville. All hikes assemble at the east end of the Westgate Shopping Center near Exit 3B off I-240 UNLESS

OTHERWISE NOTED. Some hikes will have second meeting places as described in hike listings.

HALF-DAY NO. H1002-685 **Apr. 4**
North Slope Loop Trail *12:30 PM

Hike 4.5, Drive 65, Rated C-C

Nonmembers, call leader, Lucy Prim,
828-693-6580, 32lucette@gmail.com

P400 *Form carpools at Westgate, and meet hike leader at Pisgah Ranger Station, US 276 at 1:15 PM. A short, pleasant hike starts at the Pisgah Ranger Station, goes up the North Slope Ridge, and back along the Davidson River.

HALF-DAY NO. H1002-675 **Apr. 11**
Jones Gap S.P. – Rainbow Falls *12:30 PM

Hike 4.6, Drive 120, 1200 ft ascent, Rated C-B
Nonmembers, call leader, Sawako Jager,

828-687-2547, baiko70@aol.com

P400 *Form carpools at Westgate, and meet leader at Cracker Barrel, I-26 exit 53 at 1:00 PM. We will follow the Jones Gap trail along the Middle Saluda River then follow the Rainbow Falls Trail uphill to beautiful Rainbow Falls. Return the same way.

HALF-DAY NO. H1002-431 **Apr. 18**
Chestnut Cove to MST 12:30 PM

Hike 5, Drive 20, 900 ft. ascent, Rated C-C

Nonmembers, call leader, Tom Crook,
828-670-7251, tmc3017@gmail.com

This loop hike begins with a moderately steep climb from the Bent Creek Gap Road to the MST, but is otherwise an easy walk. **Second meeting place: Ingles parking lot across from Biltmore Square Mall on NC 191 at 12:45 P.M.**

HALF-DAY NO. H1002-490 **Apr. 25**
Craven Gap to Folk Art Center *1:00 PM

Hike 5.4, Drive 11, 750 ft. ascent, Rated C-C

Nonmembers, call leader, Bonnie Allen,
828-645-0357, bonnie@allencats.com

***Note that the only meeting place is the back parking lot of the Folk Art Center.** A pleasant hike along the Mountains-to-Sea Trail, with a gradual 1640 ft. descent. Car shuttle.

HALF-DAY NO. H1002-436 **May 2**
Mt. Pisgah from Pisgah Inn 1:00 PM

Hike 4.5, Drive 36, 950 ft. ascent, Rated C-C

Nonmembers, call leader, Jane Laping,
828-277-7342, janelaping@sbcglobal.net

View beautiful scenery from the top of Mt. Pisgah on this in-and-out hike. **Second meeting place: Pisgah Inn parking lot at 1:35 PM.**

HALF-DAY NO. H1002-603 **May 9**
Big Ivy *12:30 PM

Hike 5.5, Drive 55, 700 ft. ascent, Rated C-C

Nonmembers, call leader, Marcia Bromberg,
828-505-0471, mwbromberg@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 Exit 19 off I-26 in Weaverville at 12:45 PM.**

HALF-DAY NO. H1002-347 **May 16**
Twin Falls *12:30 PM

Hike 6, Drive 80, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated B-B
Nonmembers, call leader, Lee Belknap,

828-698-9394, rivergypsy@sprintmail.com

P400 *Form carpools at Westgate, and meet leader at Pisgah Ranger Station at 1:10 PM. This is a moderate hike in the Pisgah National Forest, starting on the Buckhorn Gap Trail, taking the Twin Falls Bypass to view two nice waterfalls and completing a loop on a Forest Service road and the Clawhammer Cove Trail with its beaver dam.

HALF-DAY NO. H1002-403 **May 23**
DuPont Forest–Reasonover Trail *12:15 PM

Hike 6, Drive 80, Rated B-C

Nonmembers, call leader, Kathleen Hudson,
828-698-5208, kathudson47@gmail.com

***Form carpools at Westgate, and meet leader at Hooker Falls Parking Lot in DuPont Forest at 1:00 PM.** This pleasant loop hike in the DuPont Forest includes the Fawn Lake, Corn Mills Shoals, Bridal Veil Falls, Lake Julia and Reasonover Creek Trails and features views of waterfalls.

HALF-DAY NO. H1002-009 **May 30**
Ox Creek Road *1:00 PM

to Rattlesnake Lodge

Hike 4.4, Drive 30, Rated C-C

Nonmembers, call leader, Jim Ariail,
828-505-0443, jimariail@yahoo.com

P400 *Note that the only meeting place is the back parking lot of the Folk Art Center. This in-and-out hike along the MST will feature the historic Rattlesnake Lodge site.

HALF-DAY NO. H1002-573 **June 6**
Devil's Courthouse from FS 816 *12:00 PM

Hike 5, Drive 75, Rated C-C

Nonmembers, call leader, Becky Elston, 828-749-1886, cell phone 828-606-0583, belston@tds.net

P400 *Form carpools at Westgate, and meet leader at Cold Mountain Overlook (BRP M.P. 412) at 12:40 PM. The hike will differ slightly from #573 but will be nice and cool at 5000 feet and afford great views from Devil's Courthouse. Topo: Sams Knob.

HALF-DAY NO. H1002-294 **June 13**
Picklesimer Fields 1:00 PM

Hike 5, Drive 65, Rated C-B

Tom Sanders 828-252-6327,
tomary.avl@gmail.com

The Bernard Elias Favorite Hikes Series

Bernard is a past president of the club, our oldest member, and was a prolific innovator of new and exciting hikes. The *Let's Go* article on Bernard Elias's favorite hikes has inspired one of our members to lead them all. Ted Snyder, past president of the



Bernard Elias

Sierra Club and a veteran CMC hike leader has taken on this somewhat daunting task. Bernard's favorite hikes are all challenging and many haven't been done in years. The first two will be done in the second quarter and are listed in the Hike Schedule for all day Sunday hikes in this issue. They will be listed as the *Bernard Elias Favorite Hike Series*.

On May 2, Ted will lead a hike up Terrapin Mountain in Macon County. Although relatively short, this will be a strenuous hike. Bernard comments, "Near the summit of the mountain, there is a short rocky climb, which some hikers find perilous, but the views of Whiteside Mountain and other surroundings are worth the slight risk. Terrapins abound on top."

On June 6, Ted will lead the Tusquitee

Bald Hike. This hike involves a long drive as it is west of Franklin. Tusquitee Bald is a 5240 foot peak with a spectacular panoramic view. Bernard had this to say about the hike: "This strenuous historic hike is highly recommended. It was a

favorite at the multi club meet formerly held near Labor Day weekend at the Appletree Group Camp. There are tremendous views as far away as Brasstown Bald, highest mountain in Georgia."

That leaves eleven more of these hikes in the future.

CMC on Facebook

We have recently established a page on the social network Facebook.



At the moment we have over 200 fans and are still growing. If you have a PC and go on line, simply Google Facebook, set up an account with your email address, then go to the search box at the top of the page. There type in Carolina Mountain Club and hit the enter key. When our page comes up, click on Become a fan. You will find many of your friends there, as well as some new potential friends. Our fans are using Facebook exactly as it should be used. They are describing hikes, posting pictures of hikes, talking about gear, and generally catching up with each other. One of our members/fans posted an

interesting article about snakes and snakebites. One hike leader posted a last minute cancellation of a hike due to weather. The leader did what he was supposed to do and went to both meeting places, but he undoubtedly saved several people an unnecessary trip to the meeting places.

Facebook was invented by Mark Zuckerberg when he was a student at Harvard. It appeared on line in 2006. There are currently over 400 million active users world wide. There are controversies surrounding Facebook over privacy issues. But Facebook offers several ways to present personal information with varying limits. In other words you can limit the number of people who see your information. The CMC fan page is administrated by Danny Bernstein and Stuart English.

CMC offers map course

The biennial CMC Map Course will be held on Saturday, April 17th. It will be a one-day course, half classroom, half field work. New this year will be the coverage of fundamental GPS techniques.

Whether you have a GPS unit or not, this course will give you basic map-reading skills and the techniques needed to stay found.

Enrollment will be limited to 12 people. To enroll or learn more about the course, contact the instructor, Dave Wetmore, at dwetmore@citcom.net or 828-884-7296.

Registration closes on April 10.



Yes, you can hike in the snow!

In and out hike from the Fish Hatchery. We'll take Butter Gap Trail and see how far we get. **Second meeting place: Fish Hatchery at 1:45 PM.**

HALF-DAY No. H1002-453

June 20

Max Patch Ramble

12:30 PM

Hike 5.5, Drive 104, 800 ft ascent, Rated B-C
Nonmembers, call leader, Gail Lamb,
828-275-4500, galmb46@bellsouth.net

Awesome panoramic views and summer wildflowers make this moderate hike a favorite. We will go to the top of Max Patch, then a combination of Appalachian and Buckeye Ridge trails. This will take us north through meadows, woods and across a small stream. We will break at the AT shelter and return on the AT. **Second meeting place only if I-40 is open: Pilot Truck Stop at exit 24 at 1:00 PM.**

HALF-DAY NO. H1002-002

June 27

MST: NC 128 to Balsam Gap

***12:30 PM**

Hike 5, Drive 60, 1500 ft ascent, Rated C-B
Nonmembers, call leader, Joe Burchfield,
828-398-8413, burchfield@niu.edu

***Note that the only meeting place is the back parking lot of the Folk Art Center.** This scenic portion of the MST features great views, rocky climbs, and hiking through a dark spruce forest as it crosses Blackstock Knob (6320 ft). Although only 5 miles long, this hike ascends 1500 feet. Hikers must be capable of this amount of climbing. Topo: Montreat; also NatGeo. map #779; also MST Profiles pp 62-63.

Carolina Mountain Club

P.O. Box 68
Asheville, NC 28802

Return Service Requested

NEXT CMC COUNCIL MEETING

When: Thursday, May 6, 2010

Where: West Asheville Library meeting room

Time: 6:00 - 9:00 PM

Info: Call Barth at 299-0298 if you would like to attend.
All CMC members are welcome.

HIKING INFORMATION: CMC hikes are open to all and we welcome guests, but hikers are expected to join CMC after participating in a few hikes. Non-members need to call or e-mail 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.carolinamtclub.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. 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 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 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.

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Deadline next issue: May 15, 2010

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