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.

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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 northeastern 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 westward. 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.

North Shore Road settlement accepted by Swain

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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 support 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.

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 send to: CMC
   PO Box 68
   Asheville NC 28802
5. 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 sections maintain crews on their own schedule.

Monday
Barth Brooker, barthb@bellsouth.net

Wednesday*
John Soldati, jrs4152@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, leslove@charter.net

MST and AT sections*
Don Walton, donwalton@bellsouth.net

HIKE SCHEDULE
Second Quarter 2010

Hike Ratings

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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, pjbar@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, pjbar@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.amn@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 are 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@cable.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: Dusmone Mtn.; also NatGeo map #780

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-AAA+
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 8:00 AM. We’ll take the Sugar Cove Trail head 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 Mt. Overlook (M.P. 412) at 8:40 AM. Topo: Sam Knob

SUNDAY 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 (leslove@charter.net) to verify date.
SUNDAY NO. A1002-053  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
Jim Reel, 828-738-0751, jimr57@yahoo.com
SUNDAY NO. A1002-053  May 2
Terrapin Mtn.
Favorite hike series #1  *9:00 AM
(strenuous)
Hike 5+, Drive 140, 1700 (or more) ft. ascent, Rated C-A
Jim Reel, 828-738-0751, jimr57@yahoo.com
**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, pedbowerman@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, lsburns@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: 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. Topo: 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 (6085 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 NatGeo 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

**SUNDAY NO. A1002-570 June 12**
**DuPont Forest** *(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 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@mgnc.com and Carroll Koepplinger, 828-667-0723, carrollkoepp@bellsouth.net
This great AT hike will differ slightly 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 fl. ascent, Rated AA-B or AA-C Stu English, 828-883-2447, stuen@citcom.com, and Charlie Ferguson, 828-625-2677, ccferguson108@gmail.com

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

HALF-DAY NO. H1002-675 Apr. 11 Jones Gap S.P. – Rainbow Falls *12:30 PM Hike 4.6, Drive 120, 1200 fl. ascent, Rated C-B Nonmembers, call leader, Sawako Jager, 828-687-2547, baiko70@aol.com

HALF-DAY NO. H1002-431 Apr. 18 Chestnut Cove to MST *1:00 PM to Sleepy Gap to Explorer Trail Hike 5, Drive 20, 900 fl. ascent, Rated C-C Nonmembers, call leader, Tom Crook, 828-670-7251, tmc3017@gmail.com

HALF-DAY NO. H1002-423 Apr. 25 Craven Gap to Folk Art Center *1:00 PM Hike 5, Drive 11, 750 fl. ascent, Rated C-C Nonmembers, call leader, Bonnie Allen, 828-645-0357, bonnie@allencats.com

HALF-DAY NO. H1002-417 May 12 Camelot II to Sassafras Gap *1:00 PM Hike 5.9, Drive 70, 1250 fl. ascent, Rated C-B Nonmembers, call leader, Becky Elston, 828-749-1886, cell phone 828-606-0583, belston@ids.net

HALF-DAY NO. H1002-416 May 2 Mt. Pisgah from Pisgah Inn 1:00 PM Hike 4.5, Drive 36, 950 fl. ascent, Rated C-C Nonmembers, call leader, Jane Laping, 828-277-7342, jane@bsgbglobal.net

HALF-DAY NO. H1002-410 May 9 Big Ivy *12:30 PM Hike 5.5, Drive 55, 700 fl. ascent, Rated C-C Nonmembers, call leader, Marcia Bromberg, 828-505-0471, mwbr@bromberg@yahoo.com

HALF-DAY NO. H1002-398 May 16 Twin Falls *12:30 PM Hike 6, Drive 80, 1000 fl. ascent, Rated B-B Nonmembers, call leader, Lee Bellnap, 828-698-9394, rivergypsy@sprintmail.com

HALF-DAY NO. H1002-420 May 23 DuPont Forest – Reasenover Trail *1:15 PM Hike 6, Drive 80, Rated B-C Nonmembers, call leader, Kathleen Hudson, 828-698-5208, kathudson47@gmail.com *Form carpool to Westgate, and meet leader at Hooker Falls Parking Lot in DuPont Forest at 1:00 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. H1002-408 May 30 Ox Creek Road to Rattlesnake Lodge *1:00 PM Hike 4.4, Drive 30, Rated C-C Nonmembers, call leader, Jim Ariail, 828-505-0443, jimariai@yahoo.com

HALF-DAY NO. H1002-400 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@ids.net

HALF-DAY NO. H1002-375 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 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.
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**
**Max Patch Ramble**
**June 20**
**12:30 PM**
**MST: NC 128 to Balsam Gap**
**June 27**
**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 MSTMST: NC 128 to Balsam Gap

- **HALF-DAY NO. H1002-002**
- **Max Patch Ramble**
- **June 20**
- **12:30 PM**
- **MST: NC 128 to Balsam Gap**
- **June 27**
- **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 MSTMST: NC 128 to Balsam Gap

**CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT:** CMC hikes are open to all and we welcome guests, but hikers are expected to join CMC after participating in a few hikes. Nonmembers 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.

Hikes 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.

**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 CMC Conservation Committee 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.

**FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT:**
www.carolinamtnclub.org

**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.

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

**Carolina Mountain Club Officers**

President: Barth Brooker, 299-0298, barthb@bellsouth.net
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Secretary: Kathleen Hannigan, 298-4591, Kathleen.Hannigan@pg@gmail.com
Treasurer: Don Gardner, 754-4067, gardner@bellsouth.net
Immediate Past President: Becky Smucker, 298-5013, bj-smucker@gmail.com
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Councilor for Trail Maintenance: Jeff Dektor, 274-4254, julek@bellsouth.net
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**Editor:** Stuart English, 883-2447, stuenko@cicom.com
**Deadline next issue:** May 15, 2010