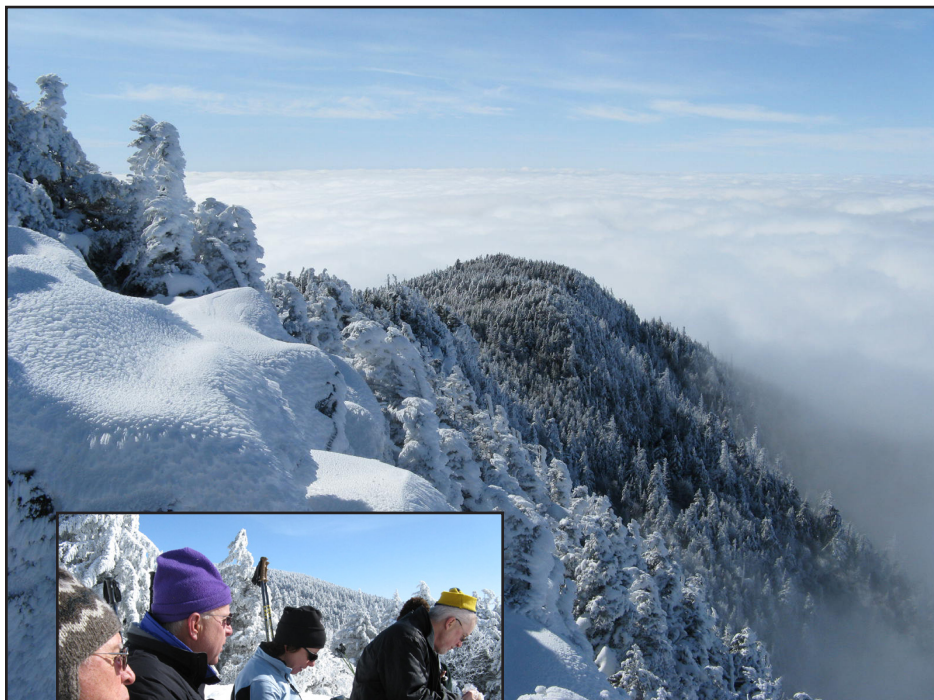


LET'S GO!

SECOND QUARTER 2011
Quarterly News Bulletin
and Hike Schedule



P.O. Box 68, Asheville, NC 28802 • www.carolinamtclub.org • e-mail: cmcinfo@carolinamtclub.org



Top, winter scene on Roan Mountain. Inset, CMC hikers enjoy lunch after snowshoeing the Roans. Photos by Paul Benson.

Winter Hiking

The last two winters here have been the worst in years in terms of snow, ice and bitter cold. Many hikes have been canceled or changed because of weather or road conditions to the trailhead. We thought it would be interesting to investigate some of the experiences our hikers have had dealing with those conditions this winter.

Kathleen Hudson was going to lead a hike to Raven Cliff Falls and the suspension bridge and back. She, instead, backtracked to the DuPont State Forest because Caesar's Head State Park was closed. Lee Belknap led a hike around John Rock on which nearly everyone wore traction devices on their shoes and necessarily so. Mary Beth Gwynn was going to lead the Seniard Ridge-Case Camp Loop hike but had to change because Headwaters Road, which led to the trailhead, was closed due to ice and snow. She hiked on John Rock also, but Michael and Kathy Cornn decided to do the scheduled hike and walked in from the closed road, adding at least two miles to the hike.

There are some though, who welcome the extreme weather and see it as a challenge and an experience. Paul Benson, Jim Reel, and Lisa Hart have scheduled snowshoe hikes this year, which might be the first time in club history this has been done. Paul often organizes his own hikes and has snowshoed on LeConte, Roan Mountain, and Soco Gap. Many will tell you it's tougher, but the rewards are great. How many chances do you get to see the high country covered in snow?

COUNCIL CORNER



When I was in the Navy I also worked in Communications as a Radioman. One of the things we used to say was that we were like garbage collectors; nobody appreciated what we did unless we didn't do it.

The website is one of things we take for granted. For several years now, Becky Smucker, Charlie Ferguson, and Tim Carrigan, have been working in relative obscurity to bring us a new website and it will soon be unveiled and open for the public. I have been fortunate enough to see parts of it and it is

going to be bright, all inclusive and much more user friendly. The website software uses the latest technology that allows joining and renewing online, allows many leaders and members to easily add and modify content as well as allowing for future enhancements.

All websites are works in progress and your patience is appreciated as we develop phase 1 and work out the kinks. We like to think that it will be the website that all hiking club websites will be measured against; just as our club is the one to which others are compared. It is coming soon and soon you can happily take it for granted also. Thanks again to Don Walton for pioneering the way for all this.

— Stuart English

2011 Spring Social

The sixth annual Spring Barbeque will be held in the beautiful NC Arboretum on Saturday, April 23, from 2:30 until 8:30. This year, our own member, Dwight McCarter, retired Great Smokies National Park Ranger and author of *Lost!*, will be our after dinner speaker. CMC members, their families, and friends are welcome. You do not have to be a member to attend.

At 2:30 there will be casual hike around Lake Powhatan led by Carol and Ken Deal.

At 3:00 a wildflower hike on the Arboretum trails will led by Becky Smucker.

The dinner at 6:00 will again be catered by Bubba Q. The menu will include barbeque pork and chicken, sides and dessert. Vegetarian lasagna will also be available. At 7:00 Dwight McCarter, retired Great Smokies NP Ranger and author of *Lost!*, will speak.

This has been, since its inception, one our most popular events. Come and see all your old friends and make some new ones.

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

Hike Leaders' Dinner

by Bobbi Powers

Forty-seven CMC hike leaders gathered in the St. Andrews Room at the Orchards of Broadmoor on February 25 for laughter, an exceedingly tasty buffet dinner, and some “food for thought.”

After a lively social hour, everyone enjoyed a buffet prepared by the new Broadmoor chef, a recent graduate of the A-B Tech Culinary program. Each choice, including a delectable black bean dish, cheesy pasta, chicken, and an unusually good tomato-zucchini salad, was beyond the usual buffet fare. However, a Flourless Chocolate Torte stole the show!

A loop slide show provided moments of beauty and triggered conversations that often began, “Oh, I remember that day!”

The very capable Charlie Ferguson MC'd the evening's business meeting. He demonstrated the new



Winter scenes: Above, High Falls, with snow. Below, a view from John Rock. Photos by Bruce Bente.



website and said, “As of today, the main website is finished. Now it's time for committees to add content.”

Several leaders spoke on various aspects of hike leading. Charlie talked about procedures for canceling hikes. Carroll Koepplinger discussed the problem of losing hikers and prevention of this very serious concern. (The 10% rule was discussed but dismissed – this is the running joke that hike leaders are allowed to lose 10% of their hikers on a hike. Therefore, if there were 10, only one could be sacrificed. If there were 20, two could be lost. On a hike of 25, 2 and ½ people would not be missed.)

Bruce Bente's topic was hikers who leave a hike for various reasons. He stressed, “We must offer a partner to go with them.” The final speaker, Jim Reel, talked about ways of dealing with fast and slow hikers. Several lively discussions broke out during the presentations. All hike leaders appreciated these reminders.

Door prizes closed out the evening. Bonnie and Chris Allen, award-winning photographers in the club, donated 4 framed photos. Diamond Brand donated two \$20 gift cards.

At 9 p.m. all leaders hiked back to their cars after an excellent evening.

How to Join the Carolina Mountain Club

1. Go to www.carolinamtn.club.org
 2. Click on "How to Join" (upper left)
 3. Print out "CMC Application Form"
 4. Fill it out, write a check for your 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*

Skip Sheldon, shelhalla@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 sections

Barth Brooker, barthb@bellsouth.net

Les Love, lesrlove@charter.net

Pete (A) Petersen,

arpetersen11@morrisbb.net

Larry Sobil, lsobil@bellsouth.net

AT sections

Tim Carrigan, tim@newprisim.com

HIKE SCHEDULE Second Quarter 2011

Hike Ratings

First Letter Distance	Second Letter 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, 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, suejackf@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 Wednesday 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. W1102-731 **Apr. 6**

Baxter Creek &

Big Creek Wildflower Hike 8:30 AM

Hike 8, Drive 110, 1400 ft. ascent, Rated B-B
Marianne Newman, 828-257-2136, marianneln@att.net

900M, WC100 This new hike goes 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 at I-40, Exit 24 at 9:00 AM, but call leader first.** Topo: Cove Creek Gap

WEDNESDAY NO. W1102-732 **April 13**

Eastatoe Creek Heritage Preserve – Twin Falls

***8:30 AM**

Hike 5, Drive 140, 1200 ft. ascent, Rated C-B
Jack Fitzgerald, 828-685-2897, suejackf@bellsouth.net

WC100 *Form carpools at Westgate, and meet leader at Cracker Barrel (near Upward Rd.) at Exit 53 of I-26 at 9:00 AM. Visit beautiful, hidden gorge with a waterfall in Eastatoe Creek Heritage Preserve. Maybe see Oconee Bells in bloom. Then on to Twin Falls. Stop at Bob's Place on way home, an authentic Biker Bar. Topo: Eastatoe Gap

WEDNESDAY NO. W1102-128 **April 20**

Chestnut Bald & Sam Knob via MST and Flat

SATURDAY WORK DAY

For the Saturday MST Trail Building Work Days in 2011, we've decided to skip the breakfast and meet instead at 8:30 at the Home Depot at the Enka-Candler Exit 44 off of I-40. The dates are: March 19, April 30, June 4 (National Trails Day), September 18 and October 22. As in the past, we will be back in Asheville by 3:00. Call Les Love at 828-658-1489 (lesrlove@charter.net) to verify date.

Laurel Creek Trails 8:30 AM

Hike 9.8, Drive 90, 1500 ft. ascent, Rated A-A
Barbara Morgan, cell: 828-460-7066, bcmorg@hughes.net

SB6K, P400 Trail begins where MST crosses NC 215. Follow MST north, bushwhack up Chestnut Bald, continue on MST to/on FS 816, climb Sam Knob, return via Flat Laurel Creek, Little Sam Knob, and MST to start, making a wide loop. **Second meeting place: Trailhead at 9:45 AM, but contact leader first.** Topos: Sam Knob, Shining Rock. Also NatGeo #780.

WEDNESDAY NO. W1102-164 **Apr. 27**

Hawkbill Flower Hike 8:00 AM

Hike 8.4, Drive 54, 2870 ft. ascent, Rated B-AA
Carroll Koeplinger, 828-667-0723, CarrolKoepp@bellsouth.net

LTC This great wildflower hike follows a rough trail up alongside Hawkbill Creek to the top of the cove, then a very steep 400 ft bushwhack up to Hawkbill Rock. Then hike along the ridge line to site of Little Snowball Tower and follow old roads and trails down to the trailhead. The wildflowers and ramps have been spectacular every time CMC has done this hike. Topo: Craggy pinnacle

WEDNESDAY NO. W1102-076 **May 4**

Craggy to Little Snowball 8:30 AM

Hike 7.2, Drive 38, 2630 ft. ascent, Rated B-AA
Brenda Worley, 828-684-8656, CLWorley@bellsouth.net

Hike from Bee Tree Gap, then right onto Snowball Trail over High Rock (Hawkbill Mtn) to the Little Snowball tower site and great views. Hopefully, we will also be viewing beautiful wildflowers this time of year. Topo: Craggy Pinnacle

WEDNESDAY NO. W1102-033 **May 11**

Ramsey Cascades 8:00 AM

Hike 8, Drive 165, 3055 ft. ascent, Rated B-AA
Janet Martin, cell: 502-494-9309, jaykaymartin@msn.com

900M, WC100 This hike meanders through diverse forest and features abundant wildflowers in late April and early May. A group of old growth tulip trees remains near the mid-point of the trail. The sixty-foot drop of Ramsey Cascades is a popular destination in the Smokies. **Second meeting place: Pilot Truck Stop off Exit 24 of I-40 at 8:30 AM.** Topo: Mt. Guyot; also NatGeo map #317

WEDNESDAY NO. W1102-249 **May 18**

hike #1: Buckeye Gap and

Haywood Gap Trails Circuit 8:00 AM

Hike 9, Drive 85, 1600 ft. ascent, Rated A-B
Jim Arial, 828-505-0443, jimarial@yahoo.com

P400 Starting east on the MST, we make a left onto Buckeye Gap Trail, a steep descent onto Haywood Gap Trail, and proceed to our lunch spot at river. We then climb the Haywood Gap Trail back to the MST and back to the starting point. **NOTE: Wilderness area, hike limited to 10 hikers; contact leader to reserve a space.** Hiking poles

and long pants recommended. **Second meeting place: Cold Mountain Overlook on the BRP at 8:40 AM.** Topo: Sam Knob

WEDNESDAY NO. W1102-275 **May 18**
hike #2: Roundtop Ridge and AT ***9:00 AM**
Hike 9, Drive 70, 1800 ft. ascent, Rated A-A
Tish Desjardins, 828-380-1452,
desraylet@aol.com

***Form carpools at Westgate, and meet leader at corner of US 25/70 and NC 208 at 9:40 AM.** From Tanyard Gap we will hike south on the AT to Hot Springs, then up beautiful Roundtop Ridge, then down the AT to Tanyard Gap. *Please e-mail leader to let her know if you plan to do this hike.* Topo: Hot Springs

WEDNESDAY NO. W1102-636 **May 25**
Coontree – Bennett Gap –
Pressley Cove Lollipop ***9:00 AM**
Hike 8.4, Drive 75, 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 Ranger Station at 9:35 AM. This hike goes up Coontree loop then follows Bennett Gap and Pressley Cove Trails, returning on right branch of Coontree Loop. Pace will be below average, faster hikers may proceed up to the next trail intersection. Topos: Shining Rock, Pisgah Forest; also NatGeo map #780

WEDNESDAY NO. W1102-367 **June 1**
Art Loeb, Grassy Cove Ridge
to Bridges Camp Gap **8:30 AM**
Hike 8.5, Drive 65, 1650 ft. ascent, Rated B-A
Laura Frisbie, 828-337-5845,
laurafrisbie@charter.net

P400, SB6K Beginning with a climb up to Black Balsam (6214 ft.) we'll follow the ridgeline to Tennent Mtn (6040 ft.) and Ivestor Gap. Then we'll hike down Grassy Cove Ridge to the Big East Fork of the Pigeon River. Two stream crossings, one or both of which may be wet. End at Bridges Camp Gap. Car shuttle. *This is a Wilderness area hike limited to ten people; please contact hike leader to reserve your place.* **Second meeting place: BRP Cold Mountain Overlook at 9:10 AM.** Topo: Shining Rock; also NatGeo map #780

WEDNESDAY NO. W1102-071 **June 8**
Turkey Pen – Squirrel Gap Loop ***9:00 AM**
Hike 9.2, Drive 50, 1500 ft. ascent, Rated A-B
Charlie Ferguson, 828-625-2677,
cell: 828-778-2431, ccf108@gmail.com

P400 *Form carpools at Westgate, and meet leader at Boylston Baptist Church at 9:30 AM. From Turkey Pen trailhead, we will hike down to and across the S. Mills River, up to Mullinax Gap and then do a loop including Laurel Creek, Bradley Creek and Squirrel Gap Trails. Four wet stream crossings – wear water shoes. Topo: Pisgah Forest; also NatGeo map #780

WEDNESDAY NO. W1102-566 **June 15**
The Roans ***8:30 AM**
Hike 7, Drive 130, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated B-B
Adrian Lotherington, 828-484-9132,
jaloth@charter.net

SB6K *ONLY MEETING PLACE is Rose's car park (opposite McDonald's), off Exit 19B of 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 ½ mile to see the view from Roan High bluff (small fee). Topo: Carvers Gap

WEDNESDAY NO. W1102-447 **June 22**
MST: Mt. Pisgah
to Beaver Dam Overlook ***9:00 AM**
Hike 9, Drive 45, 1700 ft. ascent, Rated B-A
Bruce Bente, 828-692-0116, cell: 828-699-6296,
bbente@bellsouth.net

P400 *Form carpools at Westgate, and meet leader at BRP French Broad Overlook at 9:15 AM. This moderate hike will start with a round trip up and down Mt. Pisgah, and will then follow the MST eastbound to Beaver Dam Overlook. Expect good views along the route. Short car shuttle. Topos: Cruso, Dunsmore Mtn.; also NatGeo. map #780 & MST Profiles, pg. 53-55

WEDNESDAY NO. W1102-459 **June 29**
MST: NC 128 to Greybeard overlook 8:00 AM
Hike 8.9, Drive 80. 2000 ft. ascent, Rated A-A
Ann Gleason. 828-859-9387,
gleason.ann@gmail.com

We will head up into the cool old-growth Balsam and Spruce forests south of Mt Mitchell. There are several scenic overlooks and we will stop for lunch on one of them. Car Shuttle. **Second meeting place: Craven Gap on BRP at 8:30 AM.** Topos: Mt Mitchell, Montreat., Also MST profiles,p. 66-69.

ALL DAY SATURDAY AND SUNDAY HIKES

All-day hikes submitted by Bruce Bente, 828-692-0116, bbente@bellsouth.net. 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 starting times may vary. *Times listed are departure times - arrive early.*

SUNDAY NO. A1102-719 **Apr. 3**
Mackey Creek / Buckeye Knob **8:00 AM**
Hike 9, Drive 75, 2000 ft. ascent, Rated A-AA
Jim Reel, 828-738-0751, jimr57@yahoo.com and
Lisa Hart, 828-450-6986, tiw.south@gmail.com

The Mackey Mtn. / Buckeye Knob Area was part of the first purchase of national forest land under the Weeks Act of 1911 and is designated "Mountain Treasure" by the Wilderness Society.

Hike from Curtis Creek Road and 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. At Lead Mine Gap we take the Buckeye Knob Trail. Several ups and downs along the trail across Buckeye Knob as we follow the ridge line back to the trailhead. Optional dinner at Fatz in Marion after the hike **Second meeting place: Ingles parking lot off Exit 64 of I-40 at 8:20 AM.** Topo: Old Fort

WEEKEND NO. A1102-i **Apr. 15-17**
Cades Cove Weekend

Janet Martin, 502-494-9309,
jaykaymartin@msn.com
Bid goodbye to ole man winter and welcome spring with a CMC weekend at a group campground in Cades Cove. Tent sites are reserved from 1:00 PM Friday to noon on Sunday. Campers need to bring their own food, beverages, tents and personal gear. Flush toilets and cold water are available but not showers. Contact the leader to register and for info about meeting location and time. Topos: Cades Cove, Thunderhead Mtn., Wear Cove; also NatGeo map #316

At this time, CMC members plan to lead the following three hikes. Hike plans are subject to change based on weather, participants, or conditions:

SATURDAY NO. A1102-720 **Apr. 16**
Scott Mtn.

Hike 11, 2300 ft. ascent, Rated A-AA
Janet Martin
This hike starts with a level warm-up along Rich Mtn. Loop followed by a steep climb up Crooked Arm Ridge mostly along a creek, then along a gentle grade down Scott Mtn. Trail, and a rolling walk along Schoolhouse Gap to access Turkeypen Ridge Trail down to Laurel Road. Car shuttle.

SATURDAY NO. A1102-721 **Apr. 16**
Anthony Creek – Russell Fields loop

Hike 13.2, 3100 ft. ascent, Rated AA-AA
Bob Hysko
This hike goes up Anthony Creek and Russell Field Trails to the AT, north on the AT, and then down Bote Mtn and Anthony Creek Trails to the trailhead.

SUNDAY NO. A1102-722 **Apr. 17**
Chestnut Top – Schoolhouse Gap

Hike 6.4, 1300 ft. ascent, Rated B-B
Janet Martin
This hike will climb steadily along Chestnut Top Trail and then take Schoolhouse Gap Trail to Laurel Road. Car shuttle.

SUNDAY NO. A1101-631 **Apr. 10**
Dupont Forest Buck Forest P.L. #2
(3 Falls & 2 Lakes) ***8:30 AM**

Hike 9, Drive 80, 1500 ft. ascent, Rated B-B
Ashok Kudva, 828-698-7119 cell:828-674-1374,
ashok.kudva@att.net

WC100 *Form carpools at Westgate, and meet leader at Pisgah Forest Bi-Lo at 9:05 AM. This hike goes to three of the best waterfalls and two lakes in the Dupont State Forest. We will be going to Triple and High Falls and then to Lake Dense. We will use Conservation Road to get to the south part of the Little River, then cross the dam to Lake Julia. After lunch at Lake Julia we hike to the old airstrip, horse barn and then the beautiful cascade of water over Bridal Veil Falls. Car shuttle. **Second meeting place: Bi-Lo at Pisgah Forest at 9:05 AM.** Topo: Standingstone Mtn.; also DuPont State Forest Map

SUNDAY NO. A1102-215 **Apr. 24**
Mt. Cammerer via Low Gap and Lower Cammerer Trails ***7:30 AM**
Hike 15.5, Drive 140, 2600 ft. ascent,
Rated AA-AA
Jeff McGurk, cell: 864-921-6469,
jbsbestfan@hotmail.com

900M, LTC *Note earlier starting time. This is a beautiful but tough hike from Cosby campground, first climbing to the AT, then following the AT to Mt. Cammerer. After our lunch stop on the summit, we will return down the Lower Mt. Cammerer Trail to our starting point. This long hike will end late and we'll probably stop for supper on the way back. **Second meeting place: Pilot Truck Stop at Exit 24 off I-40, at 8:00 AM.** Topos: Luftee Knob and Hartford; also NatGeo map #317

SATURDAY NO. A1102-723 **Apr. 30**
Sugarland Mountain Trail **7:30 AM**
Hike 11.9, Drive 200, 800 ft. ascent, Rated A-C
Mike Knies, 828-628-6712, knies06@att.net
900M This spectacular hike will feature a dramatic seasonal change and abundant wildflowers as we descend from 5900 ft. to 2300 ft. Great views of Mt. LeConte and Chimney Tops. Hikers must register with leader beforehand so that car shuttle arrangements can be made. Long car shuttle (or key swap if anyone volunteers to climb 3500 ft.) Topos: Clingmans Dome, Mt. LeConte, Gatlinburg; also NatGeo maps #317 and 316

SUNDAY NO. A1102-724 **May 1**
Blackrock Mtn. and Yellowface via Rocky Face ***8:40 AM**
(Bernard Elias Favorite Hike Series #9)
(strenuous)
Hike 7, Drive 105, 2650 ft. ascent, Rated B-AA
Ted Snyder, 864-638-3686,
tedsnyderjr@bellsouth.net

SB6K *Form carpools at Westgate, and meet leader at rest area beyond Waynesville on US 23/74 at 9:15 a.m. Short distance but a steep climb up the face of the Plott Balsam escarpment, on a new location for Bernard's original route. If access road is muddy, add one mile and 760 feet

of ascent. Then we curl around the bowl of a high watershed, in open woods. Short off-trail segment. Glorious 360 degree views from exposed rock summit (5810 ft.). Exit on knife-edge ridge with abrupt ups and downs, topping Yellow Face (6032 ft). Short car shuttle. Topo: Sylva North; also NatGeo map #785

SUNDAY NO. A1102-725 **May 1**
Birding at Tesentee Farm ***7:00 AM**
(easy)

Hike 2+, Drive 150, minimal ascent, Rated C-C
Becky Smucker, cell: 828-231-2198,
bjsmucker@gmail.com and Brent Martin,
828-587-9453, brent_martin@tws.org
***Note early start time.** This mild meander will take birders along Tesentee Creek and the Little Tennessee River for outstanding birding. It occurs on the Land Trust for the Little Tennessee's 64-acre farm about ten miles west of Franklin, and will finish by noon. One of the best birding spots in western North Carolina. Possible afternoon hike on nearby Bartram Trail. **Second meeting place: Franklin Bi-Lo at 8:30 AM.** Topo: Franklin

SUNDAY NO. A1102-355 **May 8**
AT: 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 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.** Hike along nine of the most scenic miles on the A.T., featuring two shelters, a historic gravesite and beautiful views from atop Big Butt. After Jerry's Cabin, the hike then goes down Fork Ridge trail to Carmen. Car shuttle. Topos: Flag Pond, Greystone; also NatGeo. map #782

SATURDAY NO A1102-611 **May 14**
Big Ivy - Walker Ridge Loop **10:00 AM**
Hike 8.2, Drive 34, 1950 ft. ascent, Rated B-A
Marcia Bromberg, 828-505-0471,
mwbromberg@yahoo.com

We'll start our hike on the Walker Creek and Perkins Trails. Most of the altitude gain is accomplished during the first hour of the hike. The ascent will be at a moderate pace. Our next two miles is a stroll on the meadow-like Laurel Gap Trail, before heading back down to the cars, using the Bear Pen and Staire Creek Trails. 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. Topo: Mt Mitchell, Craggy Pinnacle, Montreat; also South Toe/Big Ivy FS map RG355 and NatGeo map #779

SUNDAY NO. A1102-726 **May 15**
Tanbark Tunnel to Folk Arts Ctr. ***9:00 AM**
Hike 9.9, Drive 16, 1500 ft. ascent, Rated A-B
Kathleen Hannigan, cell: 828-230-4883,
Kathleen.hannigan@pgnmail.com
***Only meeting place is back parking lot of Folk Arts Center.** After a short climb up to the historic Rattlesnake Lodge site, this hike will be a generally moderate stroll on the MST through nice woodlands. After the hike, hikers are invited to join the leader for wine and cheese at her home. Car shuttle. Topo: Craggy Pinnacle

SATURDAY NO. A1102-727 **May 21**
Wilderness Walk-through **8:00 AM**
Hike 8, Drive 77, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated B-B
Paul Dickens, 828-476-0010,
psdicken@charter.net

We'll hike south to north through the Shining Rock Wilderness to check trail conditions and introduce CMC members to wilderness trail maintenance work and standards. This hike will do no work other than clearing minor blowdowns and collecting trash. Starting at the Black Balsam parking lot at end of FS 816 off BRP, we'll hike Investor Gap Trail (FS 101) to Ivestor Gap, then Greasy Cove Trail (FS 362) down to Pigeon River, and out Big East Fork Trail (357) along Pigeon River to the Big East Fork parking lot. Two stream crossings may be wet crossings. Car shuttle. *Wilderness area hike, limit ten; contact leader for reservation.* **Second meeting place: BRP Cold Mtn. Overlook at 8:40 AM.** Topos: Sam Knob, Shining Rock; also NatGeo map #780

SUNDAY NO. A1102-218 **May 22**
Cataloochee Divide **8:00 AM**
Hike 12, Drive 85, EB: 1800 ft. ascent, Rated AA-A, or WB: 2800 ft. ascent, rated AA-AA
Lisa Hart, 828-450-6986, tiw.south@gmail.com
and Paul Benson, 828-251-1909,
pdbenson@charter.net

900M If it is clear, we will experience some of the most spectacular views in WNC as we hike over Hemphill Bald and the Swag. Wildflowers should be wonderfully abundant. Key swap hike, with half the group starting from each end. **Second meeting place: K-Mart parking lot in Waynesville at 8:30 AM, but call leader beforehand.** Topos: Cove Creek Gap, Dellwood, Bunches Bald; also NatGeo. Map #316

SUNDAY NO. A1102-444 **May 29**
Avery Creek Loop ***8:00 AM**
Hike 10, 1700 ft. ascent, Drive 80, Rated A-A
Michael and Kathy Cornn, cell: 828-458-1281 or
828-458-1282, mcornn@aol.com

P400 *Form carpools at Westgate, and meet leader at Pisgah Forest Bi-Lo at 8:35 AM. A scenic hike featuring waterfalls and beaver dam. We'll climb to Buckhorn Gap via Twin Falls, then follow the Black Mtn. Trail to Club Gap, with our return on the Avery Creek Trail. Topos: Pisgah Forest, Shining Rock; also NatGeo. map #780

MEMORIAL DAY NO. A1102-728 **May 30**
Chimney Tops Loop
(Joint hike with SMHC) ***7:45 AM**
Hike 11.5, Drive 150, 2700 ft. ascent, Rated A-AA
Becky Smucker, cell: 828-231-2198,
bjsmucker@gmail.com

900M *Note earlier start time. From the Chimney Tops Trailhead, we will climb 3.3 miles to the AT via the Chimney Tops and Road Prong trails, a historic route formerly part of the Oconaluftee Turnpike which was heavily used during the Civil War. Along the way we will pass a reported Indian cemetery, Beech Flats, Indian Grave Flats, several waterfalls, and a few stream crossings. After 2.5 miles along the AT, we will turn down the Sugarland Mountain trail. At 3.2 miles down this trail, we will take the unmaintained Chimneys Manway 0.4 miles over to the Chimney Tops. After enjoying the views from here, we will take the Chimney Tops Trail back to the trailhead. **Second meeting place: back of Maggie Valley Post Office lot at 8:30 AM, but contact leader first.** Topos: Clingmans Dome, Mt. LeConte; also NatGeo map #317

SUNDAY NO. A1102-729 **June 5**
Up and Over Grandfather Mountain 8:30 AM
(Bernard Elias Favorite Hike Series #10)
Hike 7, Drive 170, 2100 ft. ascent, Rated B-AA
Ted Snyder, 864-638-3686,
tedsnyderjr@bellsouth.net

Expect steep trails both going up and down as we hike from the BRP over Grandfather Mtn. to NC 105. Parts of five trails and all of a sixth will be used. After a warm-up on the cusp of Boone Bowl, we head for Calloway Peak (5946 ft.), the highest point on Grandfather Mtn. Wilson Creek Wild and Scenic River extends to the south from its headwaters below Calloway Peak. Enough long distance views to satisfy everyone, and ladders for the squeamish. Car shuttle. **Second meeting place: Ingles parking lot at Exit 64 off I-40 at 8:50 AM.** Topo: Grandfather Mtn.; also NatGeo map #783

SATURDAY NO. A1102-229 **June 11**
Mills River O/L to
Chestnut Cove O/L **10:00 AM**
Hike 7.9, Drive 38, 1200 ft. ascent, Rated B-B
Lenny Bernstein, 828-236-0192, lsberns@att.net
P400 This is a pleasant MST hike, mostly downhill, with one climb over Ferrin Knob. **Second meeting place: BRP French Broad Overlook at 10:15 AM.** Topo: Dunsmore Mtn; also NatGeo map #780

SUNDAY NO. A1102-730 **June 12**
Mills River, Cantrell,
Mullinax Loop ***9:00 AM**
Hike 9, Drive 50, 1500 ft. ascent, Rated A-B
Rich Bowerman, cell: 828-808-2891,
pcdbowerman@hotmail.com
P400 *Form carpools at Westgate, and meet leader at Turkey Pen trailhead at 9:30 AM.

From Turkey Pen, we will do a loop on the S. Mills River, Cantrell Creek, Squirrel Gap and Mullinax trails. Topo: Pisgah Forest; also NatGeo map #780

SUNDAY NO. A1102-657 **June 19**
Carvers Gap – Yellow Gap **8:00 AM**
Hike 8, Drive 130-140, 2300 ft. (SB), 1100 ft. (NB) ascent, Rated B-AA (SB) or B-B (NB)
Bruce Bente, 828-692-0116,
bbente@bellsouth.net and Carroll Koeplinger,
828-667-0723, carrollkoepp@bellsouth.net
SB6K Key swap hike. From Carvers Gap, hike north on the AT through open meadows featuring spectacular 360° views and rhododendrons and azaleas in bloom, with a side trip over Grassy Ridge Bald (6160 ft.) to a scenic lunch spot. We'll then return to the AT and follow it north past the AT shelter barn, and turn down to our cars at the end of Roaring Creek Rd. Reverse for other direction. **Second meeting place: Burnsville McDonalds at 8:40 AM.** Topos: Carvers Gap, White Rocks Mtn.; also NatGeo. Map #783

SATURDAY NO. A1102-599 **June 25**
Daniel Ridge-Caney Bottom –
Cove Creek Falls Loop ***8:40 AM**
Hike 10, Drive 80, 1800 ft. ascent, Rated A-A
Brenda Worley, 828-684-8656, cell:
828-606-7297, clworley@bellsouth.net
P400, WC100 *Form carpools at Westgate, and meet leader at Pisgah Ranger Station at 9:15 AM. We'll start with the 4-mile Daniel Ridge Loop, ending at Toms Springs Falls, a 100 foot falls. From these falls, we'll follow an old FS road, down an unmapped trail to Caney Bottom Trail. Here we'll loop around to Cove Creek Trail and 60-foot Cove Creek Falls, to Caney Bottom Loop and back to our cars on Davidson River Road (FS 475). Topo: Shining Rock; also NatGeo. map #780

SUNDAY NO. A1102-135 **June 26**
Mt. Mitchell – Cattail Peak **10:00 AM**
Hike 7, Drive 70, 1900 ft. ascent, Rated B-A
Bev MacDowell, 828-684-1000,
bevmacdowell@charter.net
SB6K We will enjoy the great views as we hike the Black Mountains Crest Trail as far as Cattail Peak for lunch, and return via the same route, then walk the Balsam Nature Trail. Optional supper at the Mt. Mitchell Restaurant after the hike. **Second meeting place: Craven Gap at 10:20 AM.** Topo: Mt. Mitchell; also South Toe/Big Ivy FS map RG355 and NatGeo map #779

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 Bonnie Allen, 828-645-0357. 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 off I-26 unless otherwise noted. Some hikes will have second meeting places as described in hike listings. *Times listed are departure times - arrive early.*

HALF-DAY NO. H1102-346 **Apr. 3**
Folk Art Center to
Haw Creek overlook ***12:30 PM**
Hike 5, Drive 0, 500 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
Nonmembers, call leader: Lucy Prim,
32lucette@gmail.com
***Only meeting place: back parking lot of Folk Art Center.** A pleasant walk in the woods and a nice overlook at the turn-around point. Topo: Oteen

HALF-DAY NO. H1102-384 **Apr. 10**
FS 816 to Skinny Dip ***12:30 PM**
Hike 5.3, Drive 70, 500 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
Nonmembers, call leader: Tom Joyce,
828-885-2152, topminbrevard@webtv.net
P400 *Form carpools at Westgate, and meet leader at Cold Mtn. Overlook at 1:10 PM. Good views at high elevations along the MST. Car shuttle. Topo: Shining Rock; also NatGeo map #780 and MST Profiles, pg. 36-37

HALF-DAY NO. H1102-434 **Apr. 17**
Laurel Mountain Trail ***12:30 PM**
Hike 5.4, Drive 70, 950 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
Nonmembers, call leader: Greg Goodman,
828-684 9703, greggoodman@bellsouth.net
P400 *Form carpools at Westgate and meet leader at N. Mills River Rec. area parking lot at 1:00 PM. This loop hike will start at FS 1206, go along a ridge trail toward Black Mountain, and return via the Laurel Mountain Trail. There should be good views of the Mills River Valley. Topo: Dunsmore Mtn.; also NatGeo map #780

HALF-DAY NO. H1102-603 **Apr. 24**
Big Ivy - Perkins,
Laurel Gap & Bear Pen **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. **Second meeting place: Rose's car park off Exit 19 of I-26 at 12:45 PM.** Topos: Mt. Mitchell, Montreat

HALF-DAY NO. H1102-049 **May 1**
Big Creek in the Smokies **12:00 PM**
Hike 6, Drive 110, 500 ft. ascent, Rated B-B
Nonmembers, call leader: Renate Rikkers,
828-298-9988, reriokers@aol.com
900M, WC100 Big Creek, a spectacular mountain stream in the Smokies, offers hikers and walkers

Meet our new membership database co-managers

Many of you know the indefatigable Marcia Bromberg and of the many hats she wears at CMC – e.g., Vice-President, hike leader and Database Manager. She has decided to give up one of those hats, Database Manager, and it has taken TWO people to replace her. One is Gale O'Neal, a recently retired RN from the Asheville



Gale O'Neal

VA hospital. She moved here five years ago from the east coast of Florida and has been a CMC member for two years. Gale loves to travel and is occasionally gone for long periods of time, so it was decided that a back-up person was needed.

That person is Charly Lee, a retired mechanical engineer who also does the database managing for the A.T. Charly lives in Little Sandy Mush with his wife, Dorothy. Charly volunteers at the ATC office in Asheville. He just volunteered to manage the Lemon Gap to Bluff Mtn. section of A.T. Charly has been an A.T. section hiker since 1966. He has currently reached Bennington, VT, and is heading north. He hopes to finish in 2011 or 2012. Charly and Dorothy have two grown children, three dogs, two cats, two cows, and three guinea pigs.



Dorothy and Charly Lee

Gale O'Neal's email is gogalemail@gmail.com

Charly Lee's email is clee@buncombe.main.nc.us

an opportunity to slow down and appreciate the wild beauty of this part of the park. The comfortable roadbed meanders along rushing rapids, a waterfall, huge boulders, and deep swimming holes. A beautiful forest and wildflower environment makes for a special experience. An easy in-and-out hike. Bring your camera! **Second meeting place: Pilot Truck Stop, off I-40 at Exit 24 at 12:30 PM.** Topos: Luftee Knob, Cove Creek Gap; also NatGeo map #317

HALF-DAY NO. H1102-102 **May 8**
Coontree Loop *12:30 PM
 Hike 3.7, Drive 65, 1100 ft. ascent, Rated C-B Nonmembers, call leader: Ashok Kudva, 828-698-7119, cell: 828-674-1374, ashok.kudva@att.net

P400 *Form carpools at Westgate, and meet leader at the Pisgah Ranger station at 1:05 PM. Moderate loop hike going along Coontree Creek and over Coontree Mtn. Hike is steep in places. Topo: Shining Rock

HALF-DAY NO. H1102-101 **May 15**
Lower Big Laurel Creek 12:30 PM
 Hike 6, Drive 60, 286 ft. ascent, Rated B-C Nonmembers, call leader: Tom Crook, 828-545-8545, tmc3017@gmail.com

Stroll along a beautiful stream with white water, rocks and surrounding high cliffs. Over 250 species of vascular plants have been identified along this trail, including five endangered species. Topo: Hot Springs

HALF-DAY NO. H1102-718 **May 22**
Little Sam Loop from Black Balsam Parking Lot *12:00 PM
 Hike 4, Drive 75, 650 ft. ascent, Rated C-C Nonmembers, call leader: Lee Belknap, 828-698-9394, rivergypsy@sprintmail.com
P400 *Form carpools at Westgate, and meet leader at BRP Cold Mtn. Overlook at 12:40 PM. We will start at the Black Balsam Parking lot, hike across the MST to Little Sam trail and return via Flat Laurel Creek trail. Topo: Shining Rock; also NatGeo map #780

HALF-DAY NO. H1102-196 **May 29**
Vineyard Gap Loop *12:30 PM
 Hike 4.5, Drive 55, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated C-C Nonmembers, call leader: Charlie Ferguson, 828-625-2677, ccf108@gmail.com

P400 *Form carpools at Westgate, and meet leader at NC 280 / Turkey Pen Rd. intersection at 1:00 PM. A loop hike on the Vineyard Gap and Riverside trails, including a trail along the S. Mills River. There is a steep 400 ft. climb near the end of the hike. Topo: Pisgah Forest; NatGeo #780

HALF-DAY NO. H1102-002 **June 5**
NC 128 to Balsam Gap 11:00 AM
 Hike 5, Drive 70, 1610 ft. ascent, Rated C-A Nonmembers, call leader: Jane Laping, 828-277-7342, janelaping@sbcglobal.net

SB6K MST over Blackstock Knob. Varied trail, views and unusually fine rock work in trail building. **Second meeting place: Craven Gap at 11:20 AM.** Topo: Montreat

HALF-DAY NO. H1102-717 **June 12**
Sunburst to Waterfalls *10:40 AM
 Hike 6.2, Drive 70, 600 ft. ascent, Rated B-C Nonmembers, call leader: Bobbi Powers, 828-667-5419, bobbipowers@live.com
P400 *Form carpools at Westgate, and meet leader at Dollar General store on US 19/23 off Exit 37 of I-40 at 11:00 AM. A new hike which starts near Sunburst Campground. It's mostly on a grassy forest service road, with 2 side trips to waterfalls. Topos: Waynesville, Sam Knob

HALF-DAY NO. H1102-453 **June 19**
Max Patch Loop 12:30 PM
 Hike 5.5, Drive 104, 800 ft. ascent, Rated C-C Nonmembers, call leader: Gail Lamb, 828-338-0443, galmb@bellsouth.net
 Awesome 360 degree panoramic views from summit of Max Patch make this a favorite hike. **Second meeting place: Pilot Truck Stop off Exit 24 of I-40 at 1:00 PM.** Topo: Lemon Gap

HALF-DAY NO. H1102-465 **June 26**
Flat Laurel Creek, Little Sam Knob, MST Loop 12:30 PM
 Hike 5, Drive 80, 1200 ft. ascent, Rated B-B Nonmembers, call leader, Joe Burchfield, 828-338-0443, Burchfield@niu.edu
P400, SB6K Beginning at the Sam Knob parking lot, hike Sam Knob Trail to Little Sam Knob Trail, with a side trip up Sam Knob (6040 ft.). Left onto Flat Laurel Creek Trail to trailhead. **Second meeting place: BRP Cold Mtn. Overlook at 1:10 PM.**

Meet our new half-day hike scheduler

by Bobbi Powers

When the call went out in the 4th quarter 2010 *Let's Go* for a Sunday half-day hike scheduler, Bonnie Allen heeded that call. Bonnie's job is to schedule 12 hikes each quarter and serve as the liaison to the club's Hiking Committee. With Bonnie's coordination, leaders choose dates and hikes. She is available to suggest hikes and assist members in leading successful hikes. Since many new CMC members get their



Bonnie Allen

start with the Sunday half-day hikes, Bonnie knows it is important to balance the geography and difficulty level to encourage new hikers and keep long-time hikers interested.

Bonnie, a retired librarian and avid photographer, has learned many trails by hiking with the CMC the past six years. She enjoys shorter, slower hikes so she can stop and snap photos.

She and husband Chris, who leads hikes and is also an avid shutterbug, will be vacationing on the island of Kauai in March, hiking and using their photography skills.

If you are interested in leading a half-day hike, please contact Bonnie at 828-645-0357.

Carolina Mountain Club

P.O. Box 68
Asheville, NC 28802

NEXT CMC COUNCIL MEETING

When: May 5, 2011
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 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. 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

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

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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