

CMC Annual Dinner and Meeting

A record 147 members gathered at the Chariot in Hendersonville October 24 for our annual dinner. The Chariot opened up new rooms to accommodate all of us.

Becky Smucker gave the current state of the club address and introduced the new council for 2010. Walt Weber launched his new MST profiles book and sold many copies. Awards were presented and Ron Sullivan gave a fascinating talk on the history of logging in Western North Carolina.

Dick Johnson was presented an honorary life membership for his leadership of the Pisgah Friday Maintenance Crew. Dick was also president of the club in 1995 and 1996, as well as being an active hike leader for many years.

Carroll Koepplinger and Piet Bodenhorst were given the Distinguished Service Award. Carroll was Treasurer of the club and on the council for many years and is an active hike leader. Piet has been active in maintenance, is the leader of the Asheville Friday Crew, was the first Councilor for Maintenance, and is co-

leader of the Extension of the MST. Walt Weber was given the Award of Appreciation for all the work this

year completing his new book. It was a landmark evening for our ever growing club.



Left to right: Charlie Ferguson, Councilor for Hiking; Jim Reel, Councilor at Large; Ashok Kudva; Councilor of Membership; Tish Desjardins, Councilor for Conservation; Kathleen Hannigan, Secretary; Marcia Bromberg, Vice President; Stuart English, Councilor for Communications; Nan Needs, Councilor for Education, Don Gardner, Treasurer; Danny Bernstein, Councilor at Large; Barth Brooker, President; Becky Smucker, Immediate Past President.

COUNCIL CORNER



Ever since I was a child I have wanted to be the President of the Carolina Mountain Club. I look forward to the next two years as President of our club. However, I want to emphasize

that there is only so much the council can do without feedback from the membership. Obviously, the areas of hiking and trail maintenance will be our prime concerns and will be the two main areas

for which we will welcome both feedback and help. We are only as strong as the energy and involvement of our many volunteers. We have several committees: Communication, Conservation, Education, Hiking, Membership, and Trail Maintenance. If you are a new member, or a non-involved member, any one of these committees could use your help. Pick one you are interested in and contact the Councilor for that committee.

Remember, you are welcome to attend council meetings to present your ideas and check on how your council members are doing.

– Barth Brooker

A record year for Challenges

By Peter Barr

2009 proved to be a record-setting year for CMC Challenge completers. Nine people completed the South Beyond 6000 challenge, including Allison Barr, Brian Bockhahn, Jeff Rinehart, Rod Bosse, Jr., Christopher Kienzle, and Stephen Schoof. Anne Lundblad, Rebekah Trittipoe, and Jenny Anderson also completed SB6K, setting the women's speed record by completing all forty peaks in just over

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Sara Davis receives honor

By Becky Smucker

Sara Davis was recently recognized (again) by the Appalachian National Scenic Trail for her many years of volunteer service. She has been an AT maintainer with CMC almost continually since she moved here with her parents, Jack and Evelyn Davis, in 1967, and currently maintains a Max Patch section with her husband, Dwayne Stutzman. She was also President of CMC in 1984-85.

Maybe you already knew those things about Sara, but did you know that she was on the ATC Board of Managers as Board member and Vice-Chair from 1983 to 1995, and then as Secretary from 1995 to 1999? In 1984 she was appointed for several years to the legislatively created Appalachian National Scenic Trail

Advisory Committee when the AT became the first National Scenic Trail. This was a group of federal and state officials and AT folks that met to create a high-level dialogue to establish the Appalachian Trail Conference as a government-sanctioned management group for the AT. This was the first time that a volunteer-based group was to play an official role in the maintenance of a National Park unit. Sara was made an Honorary Member of the ATC in 1999.

These days Sara stays busy working as an attorney specializing in bankruptcy law. In 2006 the NC State Bar Board of Legal Specialization established the Sara H. Davis Excellence Award in her honor. Sara ranks way up there as one of our valued long-time members.



Sara Davis with the plaque she received from the Appalachian National Scenic Trail. Photo by Becky Smucker.

Ted Connors wins Tutor of the Year

We have published articles about our members' involvement with the Blue Ridge Literacy Council. Recently, Ted Connors was given an award for his work tutoring students. The following are the actual notes from the BRLC meeting.

At the Annual Meeting of the Blue Ridge Literacy Council on September 28, the G'Anne Sparks award for Outstanding Tutor was presented to Ted Connors. Ted's student, John Swygert, refers to him as his "angel from heaven." Gaining holy status has not stopped this tutor from doing more. This year, Ted helped

develop an observation form for Wilson tutors, and has been observing tutor-student pairs. He then gives the tutor verbal and written feedback. He is supporting our tutors, and getting ideas on how BRLC can better support tutors and students. The retired engineer and his student have been meeting regularly for four years using Wilson, a methodical, effective reading program. Ted and John have also volunteered their time to promote the Blue Ridge Literacy Council in workshops, meetings and in a nationally-broadcast promotional video.



Ted Connors

Let's make Walt Weber a bestselling author —

Help sell books for CMC

Walt Weber's new MST Profiles book (this one in color and with corresponding topo maps) was launched at the annual meeting in October. Over 100 books were sold at this event.

Club members can now sell the book for \$12 (cash or check, no tax). Les Love will be keeping the supply of books and can distribute to hike leaders or other club members who think they can sell some on hikes or anywhere they like. You

will be responsible for mailing the money to Les and he will keep track of the sales and who still has unsold books.

The club will make around \$4.50 per book if they are sold this way (they retail for \$14.95 plus tax in bookstores and we get \$1.50 on those), so take five or six books and help get Walt's name on the bestseller list.

Please write lesrlove@charter.net if you can help with this.



Walt Weber (right) signs his new book at the Annual Meeting. Les Love assists him.

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 First Quarter 2010

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, 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

Wednesday hikes submitted by Charlie Ferguson, ccf108@gmail.com. Driving distance is round-trip from Asheville. All Wednesday hikes assemble at 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 vary. Please phone the hike leader if you are not sure of the meeting location.

WEDNESDAY NO. W1001-438 Jan. 6

Rich Mountain, Round Top Trail and Lovers Leap

8:30 AM

Hike 9.5, Drive 70, 2200 ft. ascent, Rated B-AA
Tom Sanders, 828-252-6327, tomary.avl@gmail.com

LTC From Tanyard Gap we will go north on the AT to the beautiful views from Rich Mountain, then descend to Hot Springs via Round Top Ridge Trail, culminate the day with a short climb to Lover's Leap, and finish on the AT in Hot Springs. **Second meeting place: Tanyard Gap at 9:15 AM.** Topo: Hot Springs; also FS Hot Springs Harmon Den map; NatGeo map # 782

WEDNESDAY NO. W1001-677 Jan. 13

Swannanoa River/ Warren Wilson College

8:30 AM

Hike 9, Drive 27, 100 ft. ascent, Rated B-C
Mary Beth Gwynn, 828-254-2042, Cell: 828-545-6487, mbgcmc@gmail.com
We hike along the Swannanoa River and on Dams Pasture trails passing through a bamboo grove and by the old dam. From the old dam we take Anthony's Loop and return back to Owen Park where the hike began. **Second meeting place: Owen Park at 8:50 AM.** Topo: Oteen; also Warren Wilson College Trails Map

WEDNESDAY NO. W1001-399 Jan. 20

Loop around John Rock and Cedar Rock Mtn.

8:30 AM

Hike 9, Drive 70, 1500 ft. ascent, Rated B-A
Sawako Jager, 828-687-2547, Baiko70@aol.com
P400 Follow Horse Cove Trail around John Rock to Cat Gap, then follow the Art Loeb Trail through Sandy Gap and circle around Cedar Rock Mtn. to Butter Gap. Return via Grogan Creek and Picklesimer Fields. Possible side trip to the summit of John Rock or Cedar Rock. **Second meeting place: Pisgah Forest Bi-Lo at 9:00 AM.** Topo: Shining Rock; also NatGeo map # 780

SATURDAY WORK DAY

Here is a great chance to learn what is involved in trail maintenance. We will meet on March 20 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. W1001-599 Jan. 27

Daniel Ridge-Caney Bottom Cove Creek Falls Loop

*8:30 AM

Hike 10, Drive 80, 1800 ft. ascent, Rated A-A
Stuart English, 828-883-2447, stuengo@citcom.net

P400, WC100 *Form carpools at Westgate, and meet leader at Pisgah Forest Ranger Station at 9:05 AM. We'll start with the 4-mile Daniel Ridge Loop, ending at Toms Springs Falls, a 100 foot falls. From there we'll follow an old FS road and go down an unmapped trail to Caney Bottom Trail. Here we'll loop around to Cove Creek Trail and 60 foot Cove Creek Falls, then back to Caney Bottom Loop and eventually back to our cars on Davidson River Road (FS 475). Topo: Shining Rock; also NatGeo map #780

WEDNESDAY NO. W1001-279 Feb. 3

Montreat Trestle Grade- Pot Cove Trail

8:30 AM

Hike 8, Drive 35, 1900 ft. ascent, Rated B-A
Joe Burchfield, 828-298-8413, Burchfield@niu.edu
This is a partial loop hike over Lookout Rock and along the East Ridge and Trestle Road Trails to Pot Cove. We'll return along the Mitchell Road and Trestle Road Trails. A moderately strenuous beginning followed by a very gentle return. Good winter views. **Second meeting place: Ingles parking lot at Exit 64 of I-40 in Black Mountain at 8:50 AM.** Topo: Montreat; also Montreat Trail Map.

WEDNESDAY NO. W1001-041 Feb. 10

Sugar Cove Rd to Mackey Mountain

8:30 AM

Hike 11.5, Drive 87, 2900 ft. ascent, Rated A-AA
Ames Tryon, 828-669-3805, tryonaf@charter.net
We'll take Sugar Cove Creek trail to Mackey Mountain Trail and then on Mackey Mountain Trail to Mackey Mountain and return the same way. **Second meeting place: Ingles parking lot at Exit 64 of I-40 at 8:50 AM.** Topo: Old Fort; also NatGeo map #779

WEDNESDAY NO. W1001-504 Feb. 17

Lane Pinnacle from Bull Gap

8:30 AM

Hike 10, Drive 30, 2900 ft. ascent, Rated A-AA
Bob Hysko, 828-243-3630, rhysko@yahoo.com
This will be a challenging winter hike on the MST, past the Rattlesnake Lodge site, and up to good views from our lunch stop at Lane Pinnacle. Due to the substantial altitude change, we may find snow at the higher end. **Second meeting place: Bull Gap at 9:00 AM.** Topo: Craggy Pinnacle; also MST Profile book pg. 63-64

WEDNESDAY NO. W1001-304 Feb. 24

Shut In Trail to Garenflo Gap to Hot Springs

*8:30 AM

Hike 8.6, Drive 90, 2100 ft. ascent, Rated B-AA
Tish Dejardins, 828-656-2191, desraylet@aol.com
*Form carpools at Westgate, and meet leader

at junction of US 25 and NC 208 at 9:15 AM. We'll start by hiking up the East Fork Shut-in Creek trail to the AT, doing 16 stream crossings and then a pleasant AT hike down Deer Park Mtn. Possible brief wet feet depending on stream level. 5 mile car shuttle. Topo: Lemon Gap, Spring Creek, Hot Springs; also NatGeo map #782

WEDNESDAY NO. W1001-335 **Mar. 3**
Green Ridge and Fork Ridge Trail on the AT **8:30 AM**

Hike 10.5, Drive 90, 2000 ft. ascent, Rated A-AA Brent Martin, 828-369-7084, brent_martin@tws.org

This strenuous hike in the Shelton Laurel-Carmen area climbs alongside Dry Creek with an attractive waterfall. You will be surrounded by beautiful woods and mountains while you climb up to the AT. We will see the Shelton gravesites, the views from Big Butt and maybe a few early AT thru-hikers. After lunch at Jerry Cabin Shelter, we'll descend via the Fork Ridge Trail. **Second meeting place: Jct US 25/70 & NC 208 at 9:15 AM.** Topo: Greystone, Flag Pond; NatGeo map #782

WEDNESDAY NO. W1001-458 **Mar. 10**
Moonshine Cave Falls and Dismal Trail **8:30 AM**

Hike 10, Drive 95, 1800 ft. ascent, Rated A-A Barbara Morgan, 828-738-3395, bcmorg@hughes.net

WC100 An in-and-out hike on Raven Cliff Falls Trail to the Dismal Trail and on to an interesting waterfall. Mostly level with some rolling ups and downs. Only climb is the Dismal Trail. (NOTE: \$2 fee per person for park entry). **Second meeting place: Raven Cliff Falls Parking on US 276 at 9:30 AM.** Topo: Table Rock; also Mountain Bridge Wilderness map

WEDNESDAY NO. W1001-676 **Mar. 17**
DuPont Forest: Hooker Falls P.L. #3 – Forest Circular Hike **8:30 AM**

Hike 9.5, Drive 95, 1200 ft. ascent, Rated B-B Danny Bernstein, 828-236-0192, danny@hikertohiker.com

WC100 This hike takes in four waterfalls, three lakes, and two cemeteries in one wonderful place – Dupont Forest. Scenes from *Last of the Mohicans* were filmed here. If you haven't hiked in Dupont lately, you'll be pleasantly surprised at the improvements. **Second meeting place: Pisgah Forest Bi-Lo at 9:00 AM.** Topo: Standingstone Mountain; also Dupont State Forest map published by Friends of Dupont Forest

WEDNESDAY NO. W1001-352 **Mar. 24**
Jones Gap Trail/Coldspring Loop **8:30 AM**

Hike 10, Drive 80, 1600 ft. ascent, Rated A-A Keiko Merl, 828-628-2396, ccf108@gmail.com We'll hike up Jones Gap and Tom Miller Trails past two waterfalls to US 276, then return via Coldspring Trail with several creek crossings. A hiking stick will be helpful. One short but steep

climb. **Second meeting place: NE corner of Cracker Barrel parking lot at Exit 53 of I-26 at 9:00 AM.** Topo: Standingstone Mtn., Cleveland SC; also Mountain Bridge Wilderness map

WEDNESDAY NO. W1001-398 **Mar. 31**
Sunburst – Green Knob – Haywood Gap Trails ***8:30 AM**

Hike 7, Drive 95, 2000 ft. ascent, Rated B-AA Charlie Ferguson, 828-625-2677, ccf108@gmail.com

P400 This very strenuous and difficult hike will start with an initial very steep mile (up to 39 degree incline) to Green Knob and its spectacular views. Then we'll do a short bushwhack down to the Grassy Ridge Branch trail. We'll return on the seldom-hiked lower Haywood Gap Trail returning to the Sunburst Campground. There are two wet crossings. **Wilderness area limited to ten people. Call leader for reservation.* **Second meeting place: Trailhead at Sunburst at 9:30 AM, but call leader first.** Topo: Sam Knob; also NatGeo map #780

ALL DAY SATURDAY AND SUNDAY HIKES

All-day hikes submitted by Bruce Bente, 828-692-0116, bbente@bellsouth.net. All Saturday and Sunday hikes assemble at Westgate Shopping Center near I-240 exit 3B unless noted otherwise. Some hikes have a second meeting place. Driving distance is round-trip from Asheville.

NEW YEARS DAY NO. A1001-281 **Jan. 1**
Green River Gamelands ***8:00 AM breakfast, 9:15 AM hike**

Hike 6.5 or 8, Drive 70, 1300 or 1500 ft. ascent, Rated B-B

Bruce Bente, 828-692-0116, bbente@bellsouth.net

***Meet at Westgate at 7:30 AM to form carpools and meet leader at times above at the NE corner of the Cracker Barrel parking lot in Hendersonville (exit 53 on I-26).** After breakfast, we'll do our traditional New Year's Day hike on a series of trails around the Green River Gamelands. We'll hike down to and along the Green River, with a late lunch at the big rocks on the Green River, and then hike up and out on the Pulliam Creek trail. Short car shuttle. Topo: Clifffield Mtn.; also Map of the Green River Gamelands Trails

SUNDAY NO. A1001-276 **Jan. 3**
Street Gap to Big Bald **8:30 AM**

Hike 8, Drive 80, 2300 ft. ascent, Rated A-A Jay Bretz, 828-658-1220, jbretz1220@gmail.com In-and-out hike on the Appalachian Trail, heading north. We will have panoramic views of the Blacks, Smokies and other ranges once we reach Big Bald as well as the Wolf Laurel area enroute. Topos: Sams Gap, Bald Creek

SUNDAY NO. A1001-186 **Jan. 10**
Little Pisgah Mountain **8:30 AM**

Hike 9, Drive 40, 1500 ft. ascent, Rated B-B Don Walton, 828-654-9904, donwalton@bellsouth.net

A pleasant hike, close to home for our coldest month. We'll hike from Hickory Nut Gap through part of the Florence Preserve and up into an open meadow to the summit of Little Pisgah Mtn. If the weather is clear, the view doesn't get any better. Topo: Bat Cave

SATURDAY NO. A1001-172 **Jan. 16**
John Rock Loop **10:00 AM**

Hike 6, Drive 72, 1300 ft. ascent, Rated C-B Victoria Tripp, 828-348-4505, torrose@gmail.com

P400 A moderate loop hike starting at the Fish Hatchery and hiking via Picklesimer Fields and Cat Gap, with good views from John Rock. **Second meeting place: Fish Hatchery parking lot, off FS 475 at 10:40 AM.** Topo: Pisgah Forest; also NatGeo map #780

SUNDAY NO. A1001-678 **Jan. 17**
An Edge of Panthertown ***8:00 AM**

Hike 8, Drive 110, 2300 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 8:30 AM.** This new hike for the Club begins with a long gradual ascent on an old road to a gap followed by an equally gradual descent to the viewpoint near the bottom of the Devil's Elbow Ridge. We'll climb the old trail up the ridge to our second viewpoint. From there a short cross-country descent to another old road will take us back to our gap and from there back to the trailhead. Time permitting, there will be a short detour to Aunt Sally's falls. The old roads are all open and have foottrails on them. There are a couple of easy rock hops near the trailhead. Topo: Lake Toxaway

ALL DAY NO. A1001-532 **Jan. 24**
Sassafras Mtn. **8:30 AM**

Hike 9, Drive 140, 2400 ft. ascent, Rated A-AA Lenny Bernstein, 828-236-0192, lsberns@worldnet.att.net

SATURDAY NO. A1001-019 **Jan. 30**
Winter Plant ID hike **9:00 AM**

Hike 8, Drive 20, 1200 ft. ascent, Rated B-B Becky Smucker, 828-298-5013, bjsmucker@gmail.com

P400 This moderate-paced hike is designed for identification of plants in the winter. Bring magnifying glasses if you have them. We'll hike the MST between the French Broad River Overlook and a little beyond Walnut Cove, stopping often to look at various plants along the way. Limited to 12 people; contact leader for reservation. Topo: Skyland; also NatGeo map #780 and MST Profiles book, pg. 57

This is a pleasant hike from US 178 up to the highest peak in South Carolina, following the Foothills Trail. **Second meeting place: NE corner of Cracker Barrel parking lot at Exit 53 of I-26 at 9:00 AM.** Topo: Eastatoe Gap; also Guide to Foothills Trail, sections A4 to A2.

SUNDAY NO. A1001-596 **Jan. 31**
Foothills Trail: Laurel Fork Gap to Lake Jocassee ***8:00 AM**

Hike 10.8, Drive 103, 1400 ft. ascent, Rated A-B
Michael and Kathy Cornn, 828-458-1281,
mccornn@aol.com

***Form carpools at Westgate, and meet leaders at Bi-Lo in Pisgah Forest at 8:30 AM.** We'll hike the Foothills Trail in SC, from Laurel Fork Gap to Lake Jocassee. This in-and-out hike along Laurel Fork Creek features a beautiful stream, waterfalls, great bridges, and a scenic lakeside lunch spot. Topos: Eastatoe Gap, Reid; also Foothills Trail map

SUNDAY NO. A1001-093 **Feb. 7**
Graybeard Mountain **8:00 AM**
(strenuous)

Hike 11, Drive 35, 2700 ft. ascent, Rated A-AA
Tom Sanders, 828-252-6327,
tomary.avl@gmail.com

An exciting ridgetop manway along the middle mountain is our path to the summit. Return to Montreat via Walker Knob and Pot Cove Gap. There'll be good views, a delightful hike and a good workout. The first mile is very steep. **Second meeting place: Ingles parking lot at Exit 64 of I-40 at 8:20 AM.** Topo: Montreat; also Montreat Trails Map

SUNDAY NO. A1001-104 **Feb. 7**
Wolfe Ford and High Falls ***9:00 AM**
(moderate)

Hike 7.3, Drive 80, 900 ft. ascent, Rated B-C
Rich Bowerman, 828-808-2891,
pcdbowerman@hotmail.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. Two small stream crossings. Topo: Pisgah Forest; also NatGeo. map #780

SATURDAY NO. A1001-679 **Feb. 13**
Elk Pasture Gap - Mt. Pisgah via MST **10:00 AM**

Hike 7, Drive 45, 1500 ft. ascent, Rated B-B
Paul Dickens, 828-476-0010,
psdicken@charter.net

P400 We will hike the MST from the NC 151/BRP junction to Buck Springs Gap, then up to the summit of Mt. Pisgah. Our return will be on the closed Blue Ridge Parkway. Pack for wind and cold. Trip is dependent on weather and ability to reach the top of NC 151 by car. If heavy snow or

ice occur during the preceding week or if a storm is forecast for the hike day, an alternate hike will be chosen. Topo: Dunsmore Mtn.

SUNDAY NO. A1001-592 **Feb. 14**
ALT - Butter Gap - Long Branch Loop **8:00 AM**

Hike 10, Drive 80, 2000 ft. ascent, Rated A-A
Stu English, 828-883-2447,
stuengo@citcom.net

P400 *Form carpools at Westgate, and meet leader at the side parking lot of the Pisgah Forest Bi-Lo at 8:30 AM. This hike will start at Gloucester Gap and follow the Art Loeb Trail over Chestnut Mt. to Butter Gap. At the gap, we'll turn downhill onto the Butter Gap Trail, then the Long Branch Trail and Cemetery Loop past the McCall Cemetery. There will be a short side trip to a beautiful, but rarely visited waterfall. We'll finish with a short road walk back to the trailhead. Topo: Shining Rock; also NatGeo map #780

SUNDAY NO. A1002-558 **Feb. 21**
Round Top Ridge Trail to Rich Mtn., AT to Hot Springs **8:00 AM**

Hike 11.7, Drive 70, 3000 ft. ascent, Rated A-AA
Paul Benson, 828-251-1909,
pdbhenson@charter.net

From Hot Springs we climb to the lookout tower on the summit of Rich Mountain via the Round Top Ridge Trail, then descend on the AT through Tanyard Gap, Pump Gap and Lovers' Leap Ridge back to Hot Springs. An option to enjoy a relaxing post-hike soak in the natural hot spring waters is offered. If interested contact the leader by Feb. 17 for reservations. Topo: Hot Springs

SATURDAY NO. A1001-680 **Feb. 27**
Lost Cove in Tennessee **8:00 AM**

Hike 8, Drive 90, 2200 ft. ascent, Rated B-AA
Les and Catherine Love, 828-658-1489,
lesrlove@charter.net

On this new CMC hike, we'll explore the old settlement near the banks of the Nolichucky River that still has three houses standing and old cars in the yard. Optional supper at Farmer's Daughter in Chuckey. **Second meeting place: Rose's in Weaverville at 8:15 AM, but call leader first.** Topos: Hunt Dale, Chestoa; also NatGeo map #783

SUNDAY NO. A1001-502 **Feb. 28**
Deep Creek - Sunkota Ridge **8:00 AM**

Hike 13, Drive 135, 2000 ft. ascent, Rated AA-A
Bob Hysko, 828-243-3630, rhysko@yahoo.com
900M We will hike alongside Deep Creek, one of the beautiful streams on the east side of the Smokies, and then climb up to and down Sunkota Ridge, which will have good winter views. **Second meeting place: Rest area beyond Waynesville on US 23/74 at 8:30 AM.** Topos: Bryson City, Clingman's Dome; also NatGeo map #229

SUNDAY NO. A1001-221 **March 7**
Newton Bald via Mingus Creek and Thomas Divide Trails ***8:00 AM**
(strenuous)

Hike 11, Drive 130, 2500 ft. ascent, Rated A-AA
Cindy & Scott McJunkin, 828-213-9701,
mcjfive@aol.com

900M, WC100 *Form carpools at Westgate, and meet leaders at rest stop beyond Waynesville on US 23/74 at 8:30 AM. From Ela (near Bryson City) we will ascend by the Mingus Creek Trail to the neighborhood of Newton Bald, then descend by the Thomas Divide Trail. On the connector Deeplow Gap Trail we will see beautiful Little Creek falls. Topo: Clingmans Dome; also NatGeo map #229

SUNDAY NO. A1001-681 **March 7**
Foothills Trail: NC 281 to Fish Hatchery Rd. ***8:10 AM**
(moderate)

Hike 8.8, Drive 140, 1500 ft. ascent, Rated B-B
Brent Martin, 828-369-7084,
brent_martin@tws.org

***Form carpools at Westgate, and meet leader at US 64 / NC 281 south intersection at 9:00 AM. Stop for additional hikers at Pisgah Bi-Lo at 8:30 AM.** A moderate two-state hike on the Foothills Trail in SC. A diverse section of the FHT with good views of the Piedmont. Topos: Cashiers, Tamasee; also Foothills Trail Guide, pg. 46-48

SATURDAY NO. A1001-682 **March 13**
Green River Gamelands from Green Cove Road **10:00 AM**

Hike 7, Drive 70, 1200 ft. ascent, Rated B-B
Marcia Bromberg, 828-505-0471,
mwbromberg@yahoo.com

Expect to see early wildflowers as we loop through the following trails of the Green River Gamelands, beginning and ending at Green River Cove Road: Bluff, Stair Step Falls; Long Ridge; Bear Branch; Pulliam Creek and Green River Cove. The hike begins with a challenging 700 ft. uphill in the first mile **Second meeting place: NE corner of Cracker Barrel parking lot, at Exit 53 of I-26 at 10:30 AM.** Topo: Clifffield Mtn.; also Map of the Green River Gamelands Trails

SUNDAY NO. A1001-683 **March 14**
DuPont Forest: Hooker Falls P.L. #2 - Five Falls Loop ***9:00 AM**

Hike 11.2, Drive 95, 1250 ft. ascent, Rated A-B
Danny Bernstein, 828-236-0192,
danny@hikertohiker.com

***Note that this is the first day of Daylight Savings time.** This hike takes in five outstanding waterfalls, including some that were sites for *The Last of the Mohicans*. On the way, we'll climb to a ridge in the Forest that gets few visitors. If you haven't hiked in Dupont lately, you'll be pleasantly surprised at the improvements. **Second meeting place: Bi-Lo in Pisgah Forest at 9:30**

AM. Topo: Standingstone Mtn.; also DuPont State Forest map

SUNDAY NO. A1001-684 **March 21 Mackey Mtn.**

and Sugar Cove Creek Trail *8:00 AM
Hike 12, Drive 70, 2700 ft. ascent, Rated A-AA+
Jim Reel, 828-738-0751, jimr57@yahoo.com

***Form carpools at Westgate, and meet leader at US 70/Curtis Creek Rd. intersection at 8:45 AM. A stop will be made at the Ingles parking lot at Exit 64 of I-40 for additional hikers.** Mackey Mtn. 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. We will hike from the end of Sugar Cove Road up to the Mackey Mountain Trail. We'll have great winter views and do a short bushwhack to the summit and then bushwhack on a seldom used section of trail. This hike ends on private property with access permission for only this CMC hike. Topos: Marion West, Old Fort

SATURDAY NO. A1001-398 **March 27 Sunburst – Green Knob –**

Haywood Gap Trail *8:30 AM
Hike 7, Drive 95, 2000 ft. ascent, Rated B-AA
Charlie Ferguson, 828-625-2677, ccf108@gmail.com

P400 This very strenuous and difficult hike will start with an initial very steep mile (up to 39 degree incline) to Green Knob and its spectacular views, then we'll do a short bushwhack down to the Grassy Ridge Branch trail. We'll return on the seldom-hiked lower Haywood Gap Trail returning to the Sunburst Campground. There are two wet crossings. **Wilderness area limited to ten people. Call leader for reservation.* Topo: Sam Knob; also NatGeo map #780

SUNDAY NO. A1001-051 **March 28 Hickey Fork – Whiteoaks Flats –**

Pounding Mill *9:00 AM
Hike 8, Drive 85, 1900 ft. ascent, Rated B-A
Tish Desjardins, 828-656-2191, desraylet@aol.com

Thanks to the Forest Service building a splendid new footbridge over Hickey Fork, CMC is able to schedule this hike which we have not done in 10 years. A nice loop hike using three different trails and finishing on the newly and heavily rebuilt Hickey Fork Rd. ***Form carpools at Westgate, and meet leader at US25/NC208 intersection at 9:45 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.** Topos: White Rock, Greystone; also NatGeo map #782

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 listings.

HALF-DAY NO. H1001-685 **Jan. 3 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. H1001-434 **Jan. 10 Laurel Mountain Trail *12:30 PM**

Hike 5.4, Drive 40, 700 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 the North Mills River parking area 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.

HALF-DAY NO. H1001-052 **Jan. 17 Warren Wilson College *12:30 PM**

Hike 5, Drive 6, Rated C-C
Nonmembers, call leader, Bobbi Powers, 828-667-5419, bobbip@netzero.net
***Only meeting place: Folk Art Center back parking lot at 12:30 PM.** We'll do two in-and-out strolls, each beginning and ending at the Swannanoa River Bridge on the Warren Wilson Campus. We'll hike both the River Trail to Old Farm School Road and the Upper River Trail, ending at the Charles D. Owen Park. We'll see a grove of giant bamboo and the College farm, as well as enjoy the scenic river.

HALF-DAY NO. H1001-347 **Jan. 24 Twin Falls Bypass *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 two nice waterfalls and completing a loop on a Forest Service road and the Clawhammer Cove Trail with its beaver dam.

HALF-DAY NO. H1001-686 **Jan. 31 Shopes Creek *1:30 PM**

Hike 5, Drive 25, Rated C-C
Nonmembers, call leader, Gail Lamb, 828-350-0450, galmb46@bellsouth.net
This is a short ride for a winter walk in the woods, partly along Shopes Creek in the Riceville Rd. area. It has been recently opened to hikers and has some unmarked trails, some of which are near, but not to the Parkway.

HALF-DAY NO. H1001-640 **Feb. 7 Walker's Knob - Montreat *12:00 PM**

Hike 5, Drive 40, 1800 ft. ascent, Rated C-A
Nonmembers, call leader, Renate Rikkers, 828-298-9988, reriokers@aol.com
***Form carpools at Westgate, and meet leader at Ingles parking lot at Exit 64 on I-40 at 12:20 PM.** We shall hike Greybeard Trail up to Walker's Knob and back. The hike is a steady 1800 ft. climb with a wonderful view of Montreat and Black Mountain Valley at Walker's Knob.

HALF-DAY NO. H1001-295 **Feb. 14 Lover's Leap/Pump Gap Loop *12:30 PM**

Hike 5.1, Drive 80, 1200 ft. ascent, Rated C-B
Nonmembers, call leader, Marcia Bromberg, 828-505-0471, mwbromberg@yahoo.com
(If you are coming from Weaverville, call hike leader about possible second meeting place). Beginning at the NOC parking lot on the French Broad River, hike the Appalachian Trail to Lover's Leap and views of the river and mountains beyond Hot Springs, then continue to intersection with Pump Gap Trail. Return to starting point via Pump Gap Trail and Silvermine Road.

HALF-DAY NO. H1001-687 **Feb. 21 Chambers Mountain *1:30 PM**

Hike 5, Drive 50, Rated C-A
Nonmembers, call leader, Bruce Bente, 828-692-0116, bbente@bellsouth.net
LTC We shall hike up an old Jeep road to the tower on this prominent peak near Clyde. On a clear day, expect some of the best views in western North Carolina. Topo: Clyde

HALF-DAY NO. H1001-628 **Feb. 28 Big Ridge Overlook *1:00 PM**

Hike 4, Drive 35, 1100 ft. ascent, Rated C-B
Nonmembers, call leader, Tom Sanders, 828-252-6327, tomary.avl@gmail.com
P400 This in-and-out hike along the MST near milepost 403 of the Blue Ridge Parkway is a good one for beginners. It will feature good views. **Second meeting place: French Broad Overlook at BRP M.P. 393 at 1:10 PM.**

HALF-DAY NO. H1001-602 **Mar. 7 North Carolina Arboretum *1:00 PM**

Hike 5, Drive 15, 300 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
Nonmembers, call Tom Crook, 828-545-8545, tmc3017@gmail.com
A loop hike through the Arboretum. **Second meeting place: Ingles parking lot across from Biltmore Square Mall at 1:10 PM.**



From left to right: Allison Barr, Jennifer Booker, Jack Fitzgerald, Michael Booker, Don Gardner, Steven Covert, Jacob Cox, Danny Bernstein.

A record year for Challenges

continued from page 1

six days in one continuous run. Daniel Johnson and Steven Covert completed the Pisgah 400, the program's first completions in over three years. With six completers, the club's new challenges proved very popular. Jacob Cox, Don Gardner, Peter Barr, Michael Booker, and Jennifer Booker each completed the new Lookout Tower Challenge. Jack Fitzgerald was the first completer of the new Waterfall & Cascades 100. Additionally, four club members, Don Gardner, Peter Barr, Danny Bernstein, and Sharon McCarthy, completed the Smokies 900. In total, the CMC had twenty-one challenge completions in 2009!

Bernard's favorite hikes

Bernard Elias, our oldest living member, past president, and icon of the club, has led many hikes. Recently, Bernard sent us a list of a Baker's dozen hikes that he considers his favorites. This is going to be a cliffhanger, because in future issues, Bernard will relate some of his thoughts about each one.

Not all of these hikes are done anymore. Some are considered too dangerous, some involve very long drives, some involve private land issues, and some trails, like Three Forks in the Smokies, are no longer maintained. But the very names of them add to the legendary aura of the club and signify what formidable hikers Bernard Elias and his fellow hikers were.

High Falls of Thompson River (*Gorges State Park*)
 Maddron Bald (*GSMNP near Cosby Campground*)
 Grandfather Mountain
 Tuckaseegee Gorge (*Panthertown*)
 Terrapin Mountain (*Near Highlands, Macon County*)
 Three Forks (*GSMNP*)
 Blackrock Mountain (*Jackson County*)
 Ramsey Cascades (*GSMNP*)
 Siler's Bald (*GSMNP*)
 Tusquitee Bald (*Clay County near Andrews*)
 Duckhawk Rock (*GSMNP off Alum Cave Trail*)
 Hawksbill (*Linville Gorge*)
 Cold Mountain from Sorrell Creek

Trail building with CMC

For several years, the Carolina Mountain Club has been extending the Mountains to Sea Trail toward the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The ultimate destination for our commitment is Heintooga Road. Recently construction stopped at Scott Creek Overlook south of Balsam Gap. The section following that was flagged for later construction due to difficult rock work to be done up to Waterrock Knob. In the meantime, construction of the trail will continue from Soco Gap north to Waterrock

Knob. These pictures are of the Asheville Friday crew working on a section from Waterrock to Fork Ridge. Always remember our hard-working trail crews when you hike.



Trail building: Jeff Dektor, Allen Frank, Ken Deal, Jim Ariail, and Howard McDonald are going out to extend the MST south beyond Waterrock Knob. In the photo on the left, Bob Bond works on new tread. Photos by Don (Jeff) Jeffries.

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.



HALF-DAY NO. H1001-403

DuPont Forest – Reasonover Trail

Hike 6, Drive 90, Rated B-C
Nonmembers, call leader, Becky Elston,
828-749-1886, belston@cytechusa.com

***Form carpools at Westgate and meet hike leader at Hooker Falls Parking lot in DuPont Forest at 12:45 PM.** Nice hike along Reasonover Creek with a break at the picnic tables at Lake Julian. Some small waterfalls.

**Mar. 14
*12:00 PM**

HALF-DAY No. H1001-009

Ox Creek Road to Rattlesnake Lodge

Hike 5, Drive 30, 540 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
Nonmembers, call leader, Bonnie Allen,
828-645-0357, bonnie@allencats.com

This loop hike will feature the historic Rattlesnake Lodge site. **Second meeting place: Folk Art Center back parking lot at 1:10 PM.**

**Mar. 21
1:00 PM**

HALF-DAY NO. H1001-688

Camp High Rock

Hike 4, Drive 85, 600 ft ascent, Rated C-C
Nonmembers, call leader, Tom Joyce,
828-885-2152, tominbrevard@webtv.net

***Form carpools at Westgate, and meet leader at Pisgah Forest Bi-Lo at 1:00 PM.** This loop hike will explore the 1000 acre grounds of Camp High Rocks, beginning at 3200 ft. and climbing to the Rich Mtn. utility tower at 3782 ft. where we will enjoy 360 deg. views of the surrounding countryside.

**Mar. 28
*12:30 PM**

Carolina Mountain Club
P.O. Box 68
Asheville, NC 28802

Return Service Requested

NEXT CMC COUNCIL MEETING

When: Thursday, February 11, 2010
Where: Botanical Gardens 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.carolinamtnclub.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: February 15, 2010

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