



Carolina Mountain Club

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Alan (Pete A) Memorial Fund Transfer to the The Pisgah Conservancy

by Pete Petersen



Pictured are John Cottingham, Executive Director of The Pisgah Conservancy, Randy Fluharty, President of the Carolina Mountain Club, and Richard "Pete" Petersen, a long time CMC member and member of TPC's Advisory Council.

The Pisgah Conservancy will facilitate the installation of special trailhead signage with funds given in memory of Alan "Pete" Petersen through Carolina Mountain Club. These engaging signs will be a fitting tribute to a man who loved Pisgah and spent many hours working to improve and maintain the trails with his CMC trail crew.

Lucky Number 13 by Bobbi Powers

Saturday, April 21 was a sunny, warm, glorious day to celebrate Earth Day weekend at the 13th annual CMC Spring Social.

The Arboretum was bustling with visitors, including two weddings, as well as our group. Les Love was in his usual chair, welcoming attendees and then presiding over the evening festivities. Thank you, Les, for organizing yet another successful gathering!

Half the attendees, 40 to be exact, participated in either the Lake Powatan hike or the wildflower hike (34 varieties spotted).

After the convivial social hour, Bubba was in his usual place serving up his delicious BBQ and all the

fixins'.

The program was all about Waterrock Knob and included two speakers. First up was Dawn Leonard, a community planner with the Blue Ridge Parkway, who focused on the 5,000 acres around Waterrock Knob coming to the BRP through purchases and land donations. These acres are comprised of spruce-fir forest, the second-most endangered forest habitat in the U.S. Three thousand of these acres are old-growth forest. We are fortunate to have the MST meandering through such a rare habitat.

Next up was Larry Blythe, a member of and former vice Chief of the Eastern Band of the Cherokee Nation. His career in forestry within the Qualla Boundary gave him a deep love for the land. He was part of the group that resolved property issues that allow the MST to cross tribal land. He also reminisced about the power and influence of Cherokees of the 18th and early 19th Centuries and how the rugged terrain and their vast trail system allowed many of the tribe to avoid capture and the resulting forced march to Oklahoma along the Trail of Tears. He closed with a statement of how the beauty of Waterrock Knob is a joyful and powerful reminder of the glories of nature.

Final note: Les mentioned that the NC Arboretum's usual fee is \$1200 for such an event as ours, but they charge the CMC \$500 because they believe in our mission. Let's show our appreciation by supporting the Arboretum.

New CMC hike/workshop, Preparedness for Hike Leaders is a fun experience for all! Submitted by Jan Onan, CMC Education & Outreach

CMC's first Hike Leader Preparedness workshop Part I held April 6 and 14 was an amazing learning experience. Bill Sanderson taught this free hands-on workshop which was offered first to CMC hike leaders. Bill, a CMC maintainer, has over 25 years of experience teaching safe hiking and wilderness survival courses. He also has volunteered many years with Black Mountain Fire and Rescue and is a natural teacher.

We had three separate outdoor "classrooms." Beginning with an introduction, we hiked to our first learning site to learn how to safely build fires. Bill had all the tools we needed to practice each skill from sawing to lighting. A bunch of other skills were slipped in before we headed to the second site to learn more about sun protection and hydration. At the third site, we saw the benefit of being able to build a shelter. The rain came just as we began to eat lunch, but we were all dry and cozy under our lean-to! After learning a few knots and types of shelters, we headed out for a surprise at site four. You will have to take the hike/workshop yourself to find out what we learned.

Take advantage of an upcoming opportunity to sign up when we offer it again by contacting Gregory Bechtel at gabechtel@gmail.com to be added to the list. The skills workshop is limited to 12 participants in each session. Bill's hands-on fun approach will definitely make you feel more confident when you are leading or hiking on your own should you be faced with a challenging situation. It also readies you to take on the more in-depth courses like Wilderness First Aid and Map Navigation. Look for these classes coming soon. Leader Preparedness and Map Navigation skills workshops are a collaborative effort between the Education/Outreach Council and the Hiking Council as part of an ongoing effort to promote collaborative efforts among the CMC Councils and strengthen hike leader preparedness.

Since the response was so positive, Bill has offered to teach a Part II! Those of you who participated in Part I may sign up for the next level offered June 12, 2018. Check your email soon for info. And be sure to let Gregory Bechtel know you are interested.

Urban Trail in Hendersonville

by Kathy Kyle

Greenways are getting more support in Henderson County. The county has created a Greenway Master Plan Committee that will work with the planning staff to develop a comprehensive county plan to extend greenways in the area. The plan will be completed this fall.

Currently, Hendersonville's 3.5 mile Oklawaha Greenway winds through wetlands, meadows and forests to connect four parks. It takes its name from a Cherokee word meaning "slowly moving muddy waters" because much of the Greenway runs along Mud Creek, a key part of the Henderson County watershed. The Audubon Society recently named the Greenway as a birding "hot spot" because of the wide variety of birds it attracts. Wildflowers, native trees and small mammals abound. The fully paved Greenway is a five-minute drive from downtown Hendersonville and easily accessible from five convenient parking areas.



To read more about the greenways in Henderson County [click here](#) to access the Friends of the Oklawaha Greenway's first newsletter.

Member Benefit - Upcoming Hikes Scheduled (At-a-Glance)

by James Magura

A calendar view of future hikes coming up regardless of the day of the week is now available on the CMC member site. To see the upcoming hikes at a glance, log on to the member site, then click on Hiking and then click on the Hike Calendar icon and select the month at the top of the page. A listing of all hikes in a calendar format will be shown.

You can click on each hike in the calendar for details. Looking ahead, just select another month or the previous or next icon.

Once you identify a hike that works for you, enjoy a day on the trail with your fellow hikers!

Help Wanted: Appalachian District of the Pisgah National Forest

The Appalachian District of Pisgah National Forest (near Mars Hill) is looking for someone to fill in part time while their front office person is on maternity leave. The job would be part-time June to August. If interested, contact Richard Thornburgh at rthornburgh@fs.fed.us



The eNews is published on the first Friday of each month. Articles are due on the last Friday of the previous month. Send your news to eNews@carolinamountainclub.org. Please limit articles to no more than 1,000 words. You may send up to two photos as jpg attachments.

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