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

FONTANA SUCCESS OF 2003 PROMPTS REPEAT

Two years ago, 50 CMCers spent a relaxing September weekend at Fontana Village, NC, hiking nearby trails in the Smokies and enjoying a boat trip and tour of an abandoned town and the old Eagle Creek copper mine. We plan to schedule a similar trip this year. So set aside the weekend of Sept. 30 – Oct. 2 to join us. Additional information will be posted in the future in the eNewsletter as plans develop. Please contact Bruce Bente at bbente@cytechusa.com or 828-692-0116 for any questions or suggestions that you have about this trip.

MCN COUNCIL VOTING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

COUNCIL VOTING COMMITTEE meetings are open to the entire membership and are held quarterly. Our next meeting is scheduled for September 19-21, 2003. All voting members are encouraged to attend. Please contact your voting representative for details. If you have questions or suggestions, please contact either of the two officers listed below.

COUNCIL VOTING COMMITTEE OFFICERS
President: Mike Waddell 284-4000 Vice President: Bruce Bente 828-692-0116
Secretary/Treasurer: Bruce Bente 828-692-0116
Assistant Secretary: Mike Waddell 284-4000

MCN COUNCIL VOTING COMMITTEE
9309 Rhythm Lane, Asheville, NC 28805
Telephone: 828-452-4385
Fax: 828-452-4384
E-mail: cmcinfo@carolinamtnclub.org

MOUNTAINEERING INFORMATION
Consult the trip leader for additional information regarding a particular hike. Hikes may be cancelled due to adverse weather or dangerous road and trail conditions. Please call hike leader if weather conditions are questionable.

Visitors are cordially welcome but should select trips within their endurance. When reservations are required as listed in the hike schedule, the leader must be called to reserve a space. Hikers will be dropped off at the meeting points to trailheads and back. Passengers are expected to contribute $5 per mile to the driver’s operating expenses.

CLOTHING & EQUIPMENT, ETC...
Footwear comes first. Hikers start a mountain trip in brand new footwear. Hiking boots are recommended. Clothing of any substantial type will do. Carry a sweater, even in summer, and some kind of rain wear.

Equipment for all-day trips should be a lunch, plenty of water, first aid kit, cell phone if available and personal medication including allergy medication.

CLUB TRIP REGULATIONS: Both members and visitors are expected to abide absolutely by club regulations and by instructions of the leader. Visitors should make themselves known to the leader on arrival at assembly place and start for the trip. No one is to start out of the leader without definite permission, or lag unreasonably far behind the group.

MEMBERSHIP: Everyone is eligible for Club membership by completing a Membership Application Form and paying dues. Annual dues are $20 for individuals and $30 for families, and should be sent to the Carolina Mountain Club, P.O. Box 68, Asheville, NC 28802. Prepayment non-member participants in Club hikes are expected to join the Carolina Mountain Club. All members are encouraged to participate in one of the Club’s many trail maintenance efforts. Contact a Club officer for details.

The Carolina Mountain Club invites all to participate in this year’s Great Smoky Mountain Prudential Ride Across the Mountains event to be held on September 19-21, 2003. For more information contact Lazer Koepplinger at (828) 224-0346 or email him at laker@charlotte.bluewater.net.

Let’s Go!!
Quarterly News Bulletin and Hike Schedule

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

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The President’s Corner

You will notice this issue of the Let’s Go is now eight pages instead of six. This is a test in response to a probable recommendation of the Communications Task Force. Early implementation of this change will give us all a chance to see how it works. With the advent of the Internet as a communications tool, and the development of our web page, the club finds itself in strange new territory when it comes to relating our news to members. Some say we could save lots of money by eliminating Let’s Go, but the Council has vetoed that... and properly so. All members, regardless of their Internet connectedness, should have access to the news of the club. Printed newsletters and hike schedules still have their place in a world where not everybody is connected to the Net. We estimate that more than 50 or 60% of the club has an Internet connection. Clearly it is becoming an increasingly significant part of the fabric of our lives. Who can say what the future will hold down the line? For now, it looks like club communications will continue in its dual mode.
MAP READING COURSE REVIEW

Do you know where you are on the trail? Do you know where you have been and most importantly, do you know where you are going? On the map reading course led by Dave Wemore and Tom Bedrich, these were not just philosophical questions but practical ones. Eight students (all hikers/leaders) met to learn how to answer these questions. Becky Johnson from the Smoky Mountain News also attended. Armed with compasses and a Forest Service edition of the Danumbore Mtn. topo map, the group met at Earthtime for a classroom lecture. It examined contour lines, ridgelines, grade lines, and how the instructions emphasized the need to stop and think when orienteering.

For the practical side of the course, both groups did the same mini hikes. As we walked, Dave kept posing questions and sometimes told us that we had our head in the map too often and we were not looking at our compasses enough. We stopped often and tried to predict what the trail ahead would look like. Would it be steep? Where would the creek cross? When the group got back to the cars, it was decided that the course had been definitely worthwhile. If you didn’t get to attend this map reading course, Dave and Tom say they may repeat it later.

– Danny Bernstein

THE CMCS SMOKIES CAMPING TRIP WAS A SUCCESS

A diverse group gathered in Townsend, TN to hike, talk, sing, eat and drink. The weather was great - blue skies and shorts and t-shirt temperatures. The campgrounds gave us our own tenting area and the flowers were at their peak, various types of trilliums, stonecrop, pink lady slippers, and more.

The hiking was concentrated on the far western end of the Smokies at the Abrams Creek and Gold Mine entrances, areas not normally hiked by the club.

Saturday, Bruce Bente led the moderate hike to Abrams Falls from Abrams Creek. Linda Beps and Don Gunulet led the strenuous hike as a keystop, one group from Ace Gap and the other from Gold Mine.

Sunday, Linda led the strenuous hike through various trails in the Abrams Creek area. After about eight miles, there was a challenging water crossing. We all managed to cross without falling in. Bruce and his group went to Cades Cove to do the Rich Mountain Loop.

Information was distributed about the traffic issues in Cades Cove which affect us all as hikers. The National Park Service is proposing several alternatives to handle the bumper to bumper traffic in the Cove and is soliciting input from the interested public.

See http://www.cadescoveplanning.com and click on the newsletter for the summary of the alternatives.

– Danny Bernstein

COUNCIL TO CONSIDER CMC-BY-LAWS REVISION

CMC’s current bylaws were first approved in 1957. While they have been amended several times since then, our Club has changed dramatically in the last 50 years, and our bylaws no longer reflect the way we operate. Since the beginning of the year, a Committee chaired by Penny Bernstein has been working on updating our bylaws. The Committee will present a draft set of bylaws to the Council at its July 12 meeting. If the Council approves the draft, it will be presented to the membership for approval at our Annual Meeting. If you’d like more information, plan on attending the Council meeting, or contact Penny at leberna@worldnet.att.net or (828) 236-0192.

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CMC HIKE FEATURED IN BACKPACKER MAGAZINE

The Carolina Mountain Club will be part of Backpacker Magazine’s regional hiking section. Starting with the May issue, Danny Bernstein will provide Backpacker with a local hike or short backpack every two months. This issue, she writes about the Deep Creek Trail in the Smokies. The short write-up includes directions to the trailhead and map and guide information to the area. The CMC website is highlighted so we should get more web traffic on our site with large, regional exposure. This is a club effort so if you have a favorite hike you want to publicize, send it to Danny at danny@hikerbaker.org or call (828) 236-0192.

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS SOUGHT

The CMC is seeking nominations for the club’s Distinguished Service Award and Award of Appreciation for 2005. Please send an email or a letter with your nomination and your reason for your selection to Carroll Keopplinger, carrollkeopplinger@bellsouth.net or to his home: 3306 Idle Hour Drive, Asheville, NC 28806.

American Hiking Society (AHS) seeks nominations for this year’s Volunteer of the Year award. AHS will be awarding nine regional awards and one of these nine regional winners will be chosen “National Volunteer of the Year.” The work for which he is being nominated must benefit hikers and/or the hiking experience. For more details or to nominate your volunteer go to www.americanhiking.org/events/ntv/awards.html. If you have questions please contact Shirley Heam at 1-800-972-8608, ext. 206 or by shades@americanhiking.org.

Don’t let good deeds go unnoticed; nominate someone for these three positions today!

MIKE ELLIS TO TAKE OVER AS WEBMASTER

Mike Ellis, a relatively new member and native of North Carolina who resided here October last year, has volunteered to become the club’s Webmaster following the resignation of Don Walton from this post.

Mike is a software developer, consultant, and entrepreneur. He was co-founder of IREX Process Technology, a venture-funded startup in Lowell, MA that employed neural network technology to semiconductor process control. He is currently interested in developing low-cost software tools for collaboration and group decision making and negotiation.

He says that if the Council approves, he has several goals that he will be working on as he assumes responsibility for our site:
1. Build on the excellent foundation that’s already in place.
2. Make it easy for CMC members collaborate and contribute to the site.
3. Update the layout and organization of the site.
4. Improve site’s appeal to potential members.
5. Add capability for online member surveys.

CMC MAKES HISTORY WITH EXTENSION OF MST

The Carolina Mountain Club, in recognition of Trail Day, on March 19, 2005, undertook to extend the MST another 1000 ft towards the Smokies. With the Saturday Work Crew led by Lea Love as a nucleus and the enthusiastic participation of The Hayward Hikers, Hendersonville Friday Crew, Waynesville MST Sect. Maintainers and the Asheville Crews, an invasion of 43 eager workers attacked the slopes of the Parkway by the Cascade Overlook. After six hours of hard work and great fellowship, a new piece of the MST was put into the History Books.

Great job!!! Many thanks to all who participated!!!

– Piet Bodenhoo

DON WALTON ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF AT’S DEEP SOUTH REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE (RPC)

Don Walton is the CMC representative to the Appalachian Trail Conference Deep South RPC. At their last meeting, Don was elected Chairman of the organization, and as a result has begun seeking out some of the many jobs he has done for CMC over the past few years in order to devote more time to his new duties there. Some of the jobs still without replacements are MST Coordinator, E-Newsletter Editor, Hike Database editor, Trail Condition Report Editor, and Trail Work Supervisor for MST Roy Taylor Forest area near Rt. 215. Anyone interested in taking on one of these, contact the president or anyone on the Council. Let’s Go salutes Don in his new position.

BARTH BROOKER APPOINTED MST SECTION LEADER

Barth Brooker, 828-299-0298, has volunteered to accept the position of Section Leader of the MST from the Folk Art Center to the Black Mountain Campground. He succeeds George Manzo who resigned the position recently. The job involves supervising some 10-12 sections maintainers in keeping this section of the MST in good hiking condition. It is one of the most beautiful sections of the MST.

Barth retired to Asheville over a year from a long career with IBM that included living in Hawaii. Barth has been working with the CMC Monday crew for about a year and has recently been leading that crew. Let’s welcome Barth and support him in his new responsibilities.
**HIKE SCHEDULE**

**First Letter Ratings**

- **AA**: Over 12 miles
- **A**: 9-12 miles
- **B**: 6-9 miles

**Second Letter Ratings**

- **C**: 6 miles
- **D**: Under 6 miles

**Distance** at Michigan Point:

- **1.50 AM**: 1 mile
- **3.20 PM**: 1 mile

**Elevation Gain**

- **1.50 AM**: 1 mile
- **3.20 PM**: 1 mile

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**Hike Ratings**

- **AA**: Over 2,000 ft.
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PUGSLEY Ridge (circuitous) 8:00 AM  
Hike 11, Drive 20, 000 ft, Rated A
Mike Ellis, 826-658-1818, michael.mellor@hotmail.com
SIEB  
This popular distributed hike features beautiful Douglas (Cutter Creek) Falls, a scenic up and down hike, and a scenic and last notch to the BRG Greyscale overlook. Optional climb to complete the last climb.
Sat 8:00 AM  
Meet at the Putney Store in one hour.
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