CMC members gathered on Halloween Eve to socialize, dine, elect new officers, bestow some awards, and discuss club business. The dinner/meeting was held again at the Chariot in Hendersonville.

Council nominations for 2011 were Don Gardner, Treasurer, Stuart English, Communications, and Tish Desjardins, Conservation; all of these were second term nominations. New nominations were Danny Bernstein for Secretary, Alan “Pete” Peterson, Maintenance, and Peter Barr, Councilor at Large.

Houck Medford, founder and former Executive Director of the Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation, presented the Club with a check for $4,000 as the result of a grant request to help with a new website.

New council member, chair of the Challenge Committee, and new employee with Carolina Mountain Land Conservancy, Peter Barr was our guest speaker. Peter gave a presentation on his 2010 thru-hike of the Appalachian Trail. With both words and slides, Peter painted an indelible image of the physical, spiritual, and emotional ups and downs of this undertaking. All in all, it was a memorable occasion celebrating the past along with the future.

CMC Annual Meeting attended by 112 members

COMMUNICATIONS is what keeps CMC ticking. If we didn't know where a hike started, when the next trail building day was or how to register for the annual dinner, we wouldn't have a club.

For the longest time, Let's Go was the only way for members to learn about club doings. There was also a separate hike schedule; both publications neatly typed out and probably mimeographed. Then the two merged into the newsletter we get in the mail today. For many members, that's their main link to CMC.

Then in the mid-1990s, Don Walton experimented with a website. By then, most of us had email and knew the power of instant communication. The website allowed CMC to make accessible such information as the hike database, hiking schedule and SB6K challenge rules. If you weren't part of an in-group or not willing to spend a whole evening on the phone, you could still find the information.

In 2003, Walton created an electronic newsletter which was sent to every member with an email address and (and that was extremely clever) anyone else who wanted to subscribe. Over 1,500 people now get the eNews. Two years later, I took over the eNews and expanded it to include more information of our surrounding parks, forests, and conservation organizations.

These communications vehicles are still top down. Now with 500 members of CMC’s Facebook page, members can now talk back, recall a great hike, or ask about a trail to explore.

But nothing can beat a face to face conversation. Come out on a hike or a maintenance workday and communicate in person. See you on the trail!

– Danny Bernstein
Meet our speaker for the 2011 spring social by Bobbi Powers

Dwight McCarter is a mountain man through and through. He knows wildflowers, black bears, and trails. Although Dwight is rather new to Carolina Mountain Club, he is not new to the outdoors, having retired from a 30-year career as a ranger in Great Smoky Mountains National Park. He spent 5 days/week and 20 miles/day canvassing the back trails of the park and interacting with its 1.1 million annual back country hikers.

I met Dwight when he started attending the Sunday afternoon hikes. Who was this man with the booming baritone voice and cackling laugh? Who was this man who tells tales of bears eating squaw corn as a laxative to get their systems going after hibernation? Who was this man who knows Cherokee home remedies? Turns out Dwight is an expert on these mountains and a natural entertainer.

Dwight is a lifelong resident of Townsend, on the western border of the Smokies. Because of the distance and his hiking “business,” we see him infrequently. Dwight leads hikes and is a story teller for The Blackberry Inn (Oprah has stayed there, as have sheiks and their entourages). Reese Witherspoon stayed at the inn this past spring, and Dwight served as guide for her and her family. He also hikes with several Tennessee groups. In his free time he has penned three books, two dealing with the national park: *Lost*, about 115 children lost in GSMNP, kids he has personally found with his tracking skills; and *Mayday*, detailing the 54 airplanes that have crashed in GSMNP. Dwight has visited all crash sites except for one cargo plane in Cataloochee that has never been found. His third book, *Meigs Line*, details the “story of his and his co-author’s discovery of a two-century old disputed boundary between the U.S. & Cherokee Nation.” These authors used their tracking skills to find and follow the exact boundary.

Dwight’s presence on a hike leads to learning and laughter for the other hikers. Dwight says, “I always enjoy the CMC hikes because they are so well organized and the hikers are so friendly. I just love ‘em to death.”

Dwight will be the featured speaker at the 2011 spring social on May 23, 2011, when he will tell us the reason he declined to help search for Eric Rudolph, tales of forest fires he fought, and the time he had to pull his gun on a GSMNP visitor.

Two complete thru-hike of AT

Two CMC members recently returned from successful completions of Appalachian Trail thru-hikes in 2010. Peter Barr (aka Whippersnap), of Hendersonville, and Rod Bosse Jr. (aka Lorod), of Seneca, SC, became 2,000 milers this summer.

Peter Barr finished his thru-hike on August 29. His hike lasted 161 days.

Rod Bosse Jr. completed his thru-hike on September 8. His hike lasted 160 days. Rod and Peter have now completed both the AT and South Beyond 6,000. Congratulations to them for finishing their long journeys!

Challenge Finishers Sawako Jager, Rich Sampson, Key Shurtleff, Jacob Cox, and Matt Kirk.

Record challenge year: new speed record and most ever completers

Congratulations to challenge completers in 2010! More hikers completed CMC challenge programs this year than ever before. Fifteen CMCers finished challenges. There was at least one completion in each challenge program. Completing South Beyond 6,000 were Jacob Cox, Jesse Boyd, Bill and Ginger Dora, Gus Jerdee, Rich Sampson, Jack Claywell, and James Rains Jr. Completing the Lookout Tower Challenge were Gary Neibert and Michael Miller. Completing the Waterfall & Cascade 100 were Kay Shurtleff, Sawako Jager, and John Meisenhelder.

Bud Haas completed the Pisgah 400.

Matt Kirk, of Marion, also completed South Beyond 6,000 this year. Matt completed all 40 peaks in one continuous journey that lasted only 4 days, 14 hours, and 38 minutes. This time broke the previous speed record, set by Ted "Cave Dog" Keizer (of Oregon) in 2003, by over nine hours! Thanks, Matt, for bringing the record back to the CMC and North Carolina!

How to join the CMC

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 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, shelhall@bellsouth.net
Friday Pisgah
Pete (R) Petersen, roap@aol.com
Saturday bimonthly*
Becky Smucker, bjsmucker@gmail.com
Saturday quarterly*
Les Love, leslove@charter.net
MST sections
Barth Brooker, barthb@bellsouth.net
Les Love, leslove@charter.net
Pete (A) Petersen, artpetersen11@morrisbb.net
Larry Sobil, lsobil@bellsouth.net
AT sections
Tim Carrigan, tim@newprisim.com

HIKE SCHEDULE
First Quarter 2011
Hike Ratings
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Contact the hike leader if you have questions or if the weather on the hike day is questionable. It's not possible for a hiker to go on the regular schedule, 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

SATURDAY WORK DAY
Here is a great chance to learn what is involved in trail maintenance. We will meet on March 19 at the Moose Cafe at the Farmer's Market on Rt. 191 at 8 AM for breakfast. We will return to Asheville around 3:30 PM. Call Les Love at 828-658-1489 (leslove@charter.net) to verify date.

LTC For hiking all 24 lookout towers in WNC. Contact Peter Barr, pjbar@unc.edu
WC100 For hiking the 100 best waterfalls in the mountains of WNC, SC and the Smokies. Contact Jack Fitzgerald, 828-685-2897, sue-jackfitz@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 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. W1101-305 Jan. 5
DuPont Forest North Loop 8:30 AM
Hike 12, Drive 82, 2000 ft. ascent, Rated A-AA
Jay Bretz, 828-658-1220, jbretz1220@gmail.com
This low-altitude hike will traverse a loop on the northern side of Dupont Forest, from Lake Imaging to Stone Mtn., including Grassy Falls, the Thomas Cemetery and Wintergreen Falls.
Second meeting place: Pisgah Forest Bi-Lo at 9:05 AM. Topo: Standingstone Mt.

WEDNESDAY NO. W1101-001 Jan. 12
Case Camp – Seniardi Ridge Loop 8:30 AM
Hike 8, Drive 90, 2000 ft. ascent, Rated B-A
Mary Beth Gwynn, 828-545-6487, mbgcmc@gmail.com
P400, WC100 This loop hike is scheduled for our coldest month to see 50-ft. frozen cascades along the closed BRP. We’ll do a 2 mile climb up to the MST and some gentle MST hiking before our lunch spot with great views of the mountains.
After lunch, we’ll hike downhill through beautiful woods on the Seniard Ridge trail. Second meeting place: Pisgah Forest Bi-Lo at 9:05 AM. Topo: Standing Rock; also pg. 36-39 of MST Trail Profiles book and NatGeo. map #780

WEDNESDAY NO. W1101-550 Jan. 19
Paris Mountain State Park *8:00 AM
Hike 9, Drive 130, 2000 ft. ascent, Rated A-A
Kathleen Hudson, 828-698-5208 (Cell: 828-329-221. Hike on MST to N Fork of Catawba River, park on Good Road in McDowell County off US 221. Hike on MST to N Fork of Catawba River, Traveler’s Rest and Greenville, Paris Mountain State Park is one of the oldest protected areas in South Carolina. Originally, the lakes were the source of Greenville’s water supply. We will walk on well-maintained trails, enjoying good views of Greenville. $2 per person entrance fee. Topo: Paris Mtn.

WEDNESDAY NO. W1101-031 Feb. 2
South Mountains Loop 8:00 AM
Hike 9.3, Drive 170, 2000 ft. ascent, Rated A-AA
Charlie Ferguson, 828-625-2677, ccf108@gmail.com
WC100 South Mountains State Park south of Morganton has outstanding views, a beautiful waterfall, and a new visitor center. We’ll climb to Jacob Fork River Gorge Overlook and then continue to Chestnut Knob Overlook, a rocky outcropping with outstanding views toward the Kings Mountain Range and on a clear day, Charlotte’s skyline. Later after another climb, we’ll reach the top of High Shoals Waterfall – truly awesome. Awesome too is the wooden staircase and platform, which allows a close look at the falls and the jumble of rocks in Jacob Fork. Since this is a state park, the trails are meticulously maintained. Possible supper after the hike.
Second meeting place: Ingles parking lot at Exit 64 of I-40 at 8:20 AM. Topo: Benn Knob; South Mountains SP map

WEDNESDAY NO. W1101-236 Feb. 9
Dupont Forest- Fawn Lake & Bridal Veil Falls 8:30 AM
Hike 8, Drive 95, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated B-B
Paula Massey, 828-299-0226, massey.paula@gmail.com
WC100 A moderate hike featuring beautiful waterfalls and lakes. We’ll see Corn Mill Shoals, Bridal Veil Falls, Lake Julia and Fawn Lake, hiking at an easy pace. Second meeting place: Pisgah Forest Bi-Lo at 9:05 AM. Topo: Standingstone Mt.; also Dupont Forest trail map

WEDNESDAY NO. W1101-374 Feb. 16
Good Road to Bald Knob 8:30 AM
Hike 9.5, Drive 90, 2500 ft. ascent, Rated A-AA
Barbara Morgan, cell: 828-460-7066, bcmorg@hughes.net
Park on Good Road in McDowell County off US 221. Hike on MST to N Fork of Catawba River,
cross bridge, and ascend to top of Bald Knob. A steep hike, but spectacular winter views. Return by same route. Second meeting place: Ingles parking lot at Exit 64 of I-40 at 8:50 AM. Topo: Little Switzerland

WEDNESDAY NO. W1101-271 February 23

Chestnutwood Mountain 8:00 AM

Hike 9, Drive 70, 2700 ft. ascent, Rated A-AA

Rich Sampson, 704-453-9059, sampson.r@bellsouth.net

We will do our major climbing before lunch on this pleasant hike past streams, two nice cascades, a glimpse of the Black Mtns., and a 20 yr. old timber harvest in the Grandfather District. Some bushwhacking and hiking on over-grown trails. Short car shuttle. Second meeting place: Ingles parking lot at Exit 64 of I-40 at 8:20 AM. Topo: Old Fort

WEDNESDAY NO. W1101-278 March 2

Kitsumak Peak & Old Rt. 70 8:10 AM

Hike 10, Drive 60, 2000 ft. ascent, Rated A-A

Ken & Carol Deal, 828-281-4530, cnkdeal@charter.net

Our hike up Young's Ridge offers great views of Greybeard, Green Knob and the Mt. Mitchell area. We will start from the picnic area near Old Fort. Also we'll enjoy a grandstand view of the Swannanoa valley from our lunch spot. We will return on old US 70, now blocked off to traffic, where we will see the railroad and numerous tunnel portals. Note: The last half of this hike is on pavement. Second meeting place: Ingles parking lot at Exit 64 of I-40 at 8:30 AM. Topos: Old Fort, Black Mtn.

WEDNESDAY NO. W1101-471 March 9

Wagon Road Gap, MST to Big East Fork 8:00 AM

Hike 9, Drive 75, 1500 ft. ascent, Rated A-A

Tom Sanders, 828-252-6327, tomary.avl@gmail.com

Starting at Wagon Road Gap, we will follow the MST south to the connector to the Big East Fork Trail and follow that down to US 276. Short car shuttle. *Wilderness area hike, limited to ten hikers — call leader for reservations. Second meeting place: Cold Mtn. overlook (BRP M.P. 412) at 8:40 AM. Topo: Shining Rock; also NatGeo map #780

WEDNESDAY NO. W1101-515 March 16

AT - Brown Gap to I-40 8:00 AM

Hike 10, Drive 100, 2000 ft. ascent, Rated A-A

Bob Hysko, 828-243-3630, rhysko@yahoo.com

Starting at Brown Gap on the AT, we'll go over Deep Gap, Turkey Gap, Wildcat Top, a great view from Snowbird Mtn. and a long descent into the Pigeon River Gorge. Car shuttle. Second meeting place: Pilot Truck Stop at Exit 24 of I-40 at 8:30 AM. Topos: Lemon Gap, Waterville.

WEDNESDAY NO. W1101-420 March 23

Allen Gap to Tanyard Gap 8:30 AM

Hike 8.8, Drive 80, 2700 ft. ascent, Rated B-AA

Tish Desjardins, 828-380-1452, desrayet@aol.com

*No limit to number of hikers, but call leader first. Form carpools at Westgate, and meet leader at parking lot on US 25 at intersection with NC 208 at 9:10 AM. Great views from Rich Mt. tower, a visit to Spring Mt. shelter and one of the prettiest sections of the AT in our area highlight this pleasant hike. Car shuttle. Topo: Hot Springs

WEDNESDAY NO. W1101-713 March 30

Bent Creek Experimental Forest 8:30 AM

Hike 6, Drive 20, 800 ft. ascent, Rated B-C

Lenny Bernstein, 828-236-0192, lsberns@att.net

*P400 Ever wonder what kind of research they do at Bent Creek? This is your chance to find out. We'll start with a one-to-two hour outdoor tour led by a member of the Forest Service staff, and then take a short hike from the Hard Times Trailhead. This hike was originally scheduled for last October, but cancelled by the Forest Service. Map: USFS Bent Creek Trail Map
Hike 8.4, Drive 75, 1900 ft. ascent, Rated B-A
Bob Hysko, cell: 828-243-3630, rhysko@yahoo.com

**P400** This hike is an extension of the popular half-day Coontree Loop hike. We ascend the left branch of Coontree trail, proceed in and out on Bennett Gap and Pressley Cove trails and descend on the right branch of Coontree trail to the cars. We will visit an old homestead chimney, a remnant of the farming community between Pressley Cove and Maxwell Cove. Topo: Pisgah Forest; also NatGeo. map #780

**SUNDAY NO. A1101-256** Feb. 12
**Moore Cove Figure-8 Loop**
*10:00 AM*
Hike 7, Drive 70, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated B-B
Jan Onan, cell: 828-606-5188, janonan@bellsouth.net

**P400** *Form carpool at Westgate, and meet leader at Pisgah Forest Bi-Lo at 10:35 AM.*
This moderate double-loop trail follows two old USFS paths. There are a couple of short steep sections and two minor creek crossings. There is one good view of Looking Glass Rock, several waterfalls, and other views visible only in the winter.
Topo: Shining Rock; also NatGeo. map #780

**SUNDAY NO. A1101-535** Feb. 13
**Indian Creek – Sunkota Ridge loop**
*7:30 AM*
Hike 12, Drive 135, 2000 ft. ascent, Rated A-A
Mike Knies, 828-628-6712, knies06@att.net

**900M, WC100** *Note early start time.*
We’ll make a loop using Indian Creek and Martin’s Gap trails, then down Sunkota Ridge and Deep Creek Trails, admiring three waterfalls and winter views of Noland and Thomas Divides.
Second meeting place: US 23/74 rest area past Waynesville at 8:00 AM. Topo: Bryson City, Clingman’s Dome; also Nat Geo. Map #317

**P400** Hike up to Pine Mtn. from the Bent Creek side via Explorer loop, Chestnut Cove Trail and MST. Bushwhack through open woods to our scenic lunch stop atop Pine Mtn., then down to MST, Ruth’s Ridge and the Lower Sidehill Trail to cars. Second meeting place: Ingles parking lot across from Biltmore Sq. on NC 191 at 9:15 AM. Topos: Enka, Dumphreys Mtn.; also NatGeo. map #780

**SUNDAY NO. A1101-056** Feb. 27
**Turkey Pen Roller Coatner**
8:00 AM
Hike 9.4, Drive 60, 3200 ft. ascent, Rated A-AA
Michael & Kathy Corno, cell: 828-458-1281, mcorin@aol.com

**P400** This great winter hike starts at Turkey Pen parking area, then over Sharpy Mtn. and around Black Mt., ending at the Pisgah Maintenance parking lot. A long uphill, but with good views from our lunch spot at Black Mtn. Car shuttle.
Second meeting place: Intersection of NC 280 and Turkey Pen Rd. at 8:30 AM. Topo: Pisgah Forest; also NatGeo. map #780

**SUNDAY NO. A1101-235** March 6
**Chastee Creek – Hughes Ridge – Bradley Fork**
*7:30 AM* (strenuous)
Hike 14.4, Drive 115, 2800 ft. ascent, Rated AA-AA
Don Gardner, 828-754-4067, gardog3@bellsouth.net

**900M** *Note early start time.* This will be a strenuous loop from the Smokemont campground up the Chastee Creek and Hughes Ridge trails, and then down the Bradley Fork trail. Expect snow at the higher elevations.
Second meeting place: contact leader. Topo: Smokemont; also NatGeo map #317

**P400** *Form carpool at Westgate, and meet leader at Pisgah Forest Bi-Lo at 9:05 AM.* This hike is a combination of old roads (some very old) and off-trail hiking. We’ll begin by going south-west from Gloucester Gap, then do an off-trail climb with two short but steep sections from the south to Pilot Mtn with its wonderful views. The return will be mostly on trails and old roads.
Topo: Shining Rock, also NatGeo map #780

**SUNDAY NO. A1102-691** March 12
**Upper Whitewater Falls – Round Mtn. Gap**
*9:30 AM*
Hike 7, Drive 120, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated B-B
Marcia Bromberg, 828-505-0471, mbromberg@yahoo.com

**WC100** We will follow the Foothills Trail west from the NC 281 parking lot to Round Mtn. Gap,
then follow the Round Mtn. trail back to the Whitewater Falls overlook. From here we will drop steeply on the Foothills Trail east, cross the Whitewater River bridge and later turn uphill on a short spur trail to the Bad Creek parking area. Short car shuttle. **Second meeting place: Pisgah Forest Bi-Lo at 10:05 AM. Topos: Cashier, Reid; also NatGeo map #785**

**SUNDAY NO. A1101-283 March 13 Montreat Ramble #2 *9:00 AM**
Hike 8, Drive 40, 1500 ft. ascent, Rated B-B
Danny Bernstein, 828-236-0192, danny@hikertohiker.com
*Note change to DST today. This will be a moderate loop hike starting in Montreat, climbing to the great view from Lookout Mtn. Then on to Pot Cove Gap and down the Graybeard Trail to our cars. If the weather is good, we might go up to Walker's Knob, another mile or so. **Second meeting place: Ingles parking lot at Exit 64 of I-40 at 9:20 AM. Topo: Montreat; also Montreat Trail Map**

**SUNDAY NO. A1101-684 March 20 Mackey Mtn. and Sugar Cove Creek Trail *8:00 AM**
Hike 12, Drive 70, 3000 ft. ascent, Rated A-AA+
Jim Reel, 828-738-0751, jimr57@yahoo.com, and Lisa Hart, 828-450-6986, tiw.south@gmail.com
*Form carpools at Westgate, and meet leader before the hike. Please phone the leader to coordinate what food to bring. Great views from Rich Mtn. tower, a visit to Spring Mtn. shelter and one of the prettiest sections of the AT in our area highlight this pleasant spring hike. Car shuttle. Topo: Hot Springs

**HALF-DAY SUNDAY HIKES**

**HALF-DAY NO. H1101-295 Jan. 9 Tanyard Gap/Pump Loop 12:30 PM**
Hike 5, Drive 66, 1200 ft. ascent, Rated C-B
Nonmembers, call leader: Tom Sanders, 828-252-6327, tomary.avi@gmail.com
Hike the AT from Tanyard Gap, then the whole Pump Loop Gap and back via AT.

**HALF-DAY NO. H1101-320 Jan. 16 Swannanoa River Stroll to Old Farm School Rd. *12:30 PM**
Hike 5, Drive 12, 100 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
Nonmembers, call leader: Bobbi Powers, 828-667-5419, bobbipowers@live.com
*First meeting place: Folk Hospital parking lot. This in-out hike begins at Owen Park and follows the Swannanoa River to Old Farm School Road, returning to the park. We will see the Warren Wilson College farm, a stand of giant bamboo, and enjoy the scenic river. **Second meeting place: Charles D. Owen Park at 12:50 PM. Topo: Oteen; also Warren Wilson College Trails Map**

**HALF-DAY NO. H1101-172 Jan. 23 John Rock Loop 12:30 PM**
Hike 5,7, Drive 73, 1300 ft. ascent, Rated C-B
Nonmembers, call leader: Lee Belknap, 828-698-9394, rivergypsy@sprintmail.com

**HALF-DAY NO. H1101-623 Jan. 30 Old Fort to Kitsuma Peak 12:00 PM**
Hike 6, Drive 60, 1800 ft. ascent, Rated C-A
Nonmembers, call leader: Renate Rikkers, 828-298-9988, rerikkers@aol.com
This popular but somewhat strenuous hike begins near Old Fort and ascends Young's Ridge to Kitsuma Peak, overlooking and continuing on to Ridgecrest. Outstanding views along the way. Car shuttle. **Second meeting place: Ingles parking lot at Exit 64 of I-40 at 12:20 PM.**

**HALF-DAY NO. H1101-431 Feb. 6 Chestnut Cove to MST to Sleepy Gap to Explorer Trail 12:30 PM**
Hike 5, Drive 20, 900 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
Nonmembers, call leader: Joe Burchfield, 828-298-8413, burchfield@nmu.edu
This loop hike begins with a moderately steep climb from the Bent Creek Gap Road to the MST, but is otherwise an easy walk. **Second meeting place: Ingles parking lot across from Biltmore Square Mall on NC 191 at 12:45 P.M. Topo: Dunsmore; also USFS Bent Creek Trail Map**

**HALF-DAY NO. H1101-182 Feb. 13 Green River Cove Trail *11:00 AM**
Hike 5,5, Drive 73, 500 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
Nonmembers, call leader: Marcia Bromberg, 828-505-0471, e798-9905, mwbrromberg@yahoo.com
*Note early start. This is a scenic winter hike along the lovely Green River. We'll begin with an early lunch/snack on the bank of the river, then hike as far as the junction with the Pinnacle Creek Trail. We'll return by the same route. This hike includes a few steep, but short uphills. **Second meeting place: Cracker Barrel at Exit 53 off I-26 at 11:30 AM. Topo: Clifffield Mt; also Green River Gamelands Map**

**HALF-DAY NO. H1101-686 Feb. 20 Shope Creek Ramble 12:30 PM**
Hike 5, Drive 25, 750 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
Nonmembers, call leader: Gail Lamb, 828-298-8413, galm846@bellsouth.net
This is a short ride for a winter walk in the woods, partly along Shope 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 connecting to the Parkway. Possible wet stream crossing. **Second meeting place: Ingles across from V.A. Hospital on Rt. 70, Tunnel Rd. at 12:45 PM.**

**HALF-DAY NO. H1101-534 Feb. 27 Turkey Pen, Pounding Mill, Mullinax Loop *11:00 AM**
Hike 5,5, Drive 55, 900 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
The Appalachian Trail Conservancy named CMC member Gary Eblen volunteer of the month for November 2010. Gary joins an elite list of volunteers from the nation who help maintain and promote the Appalachian Trail.

Gary has been a member of CMC’s SWEAT crew since 2007. He says that a Trail project in the Smokies is a “great way to spend a few days … like polishing the silver in a cathedral,” and adds that the work “takes you down to an elemental level that we all need to visit sometimes.” Though crew volunteers are all strangers to each other at first, the work creates a bond — there is “a whole lot of laughter” on a SWEAT crew, Gary said.

When he is not “outsmarting rocks” on the SWEAT crew or with CMC, Gary works with teachers from the Trail to Every Classroom program, where he serves as hike leader and Leave No Trace educator for the students. Gary also helps ATC’s southern regional office with special events.

Gary wants to do Trail work for as long as he can. He is fascinated by A.T. history and feels a link to the CCC crews and others who walked the Trail before him. The A.T. has “been around for a long time, and I want it to keep being around for a long time.”

Anyone who would like to nominate someone for ATC Volunteer of the Month should contact volunteer@appalachiantrail.org

— from an article on the Appalachian Trail Conservancy website, www.appalachiantrail.org

CMC award winners

One integral part of the annual dinner is the presentation of the Distinguished Service Award and Award of Appreciation. The Distinguished Service Award recognizes achievements over a long period. The Award of Appreciation awards exceptional service in the club during a calendar year.

Jorge Munoz received the Distinguished Service Award. Jorge has almost 4000 hours of trail maintenance since joining CMC in the 90s. In addition, Jorge has led many hikes and introduced many new members to the club.

Relatively new member Tim Carrigan received the Award of Appreciation for stepping up and helping the website task force. Tim is a professional software programmer and his help has been invaluable. Tim, an A.T. section maintainer, has also taken the job of A.T. Supervisor. Thanks to both of these members for advancing the goals of our Club.

Nonmembers, call leader: Charlie Ferguson, 828-625-2677, ccf108@gmail.com

HALF-DAY NO. H1101-171 March 6
Cat Gap Loop *12:30 PM
Hike 5, Drive 70, 1100 ft. ascent, Rated C-B
Nonmembers, call leader: Stan Endlich, 215-290-8299, sjemiata@gmail.com

HALF-DAY NO. H1101-639 March 13
Pretty Place from the North Carolina side
*12:30 PM
Hike 6, Drive 60, 600 ft ascent, Rated C-C
Nonmembers, call leader, Bruce Bente, 828-699-6296 (cell: 828-699-6296), bbente@bellsouth.net

HALF-DAY NO. H1101-675 *March 20
Rainbow Falls - Jones Gap S.P. 12:30 PM
Hike 4.6, Drive 90, 1200 ft. ascent, Rated C-B
Nonmembers, call leader: Sawako Jager, 828-687-2547 (cell: 828-674-4067), baiko70@aol.com

HALF-DAY NO. H1101-101 March 27
Lower Big Laurel River to Runion 1:00 PM
Hike 6, Drive 60, 300 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
Nonmembers, call leader: Jorge Munoz, 828-658-0606, jorgemunoz1927@hotmail.com
This in-and-out hike near Hot Springs follows a beautiful rushing stream to the historic logging camp at Runion. Second meeting place: Trailhead at intersection of US 25/70 at NC 208 at 1:45 PM. Topo: Hot Springs; also USFS Hot Springs Map.
Membership renewal policy changing

For folks who joined CMC after Jan. 1 of 2010, our new renewal policy will change the date your renewal is due. All members who joined before Jan. 1, 2010, will have a renewal date of Jan. 1, as in the past. Anyone who joins (joined) on or after Jan. 1, 2010, will be due to renew yearly on their date of joining.

Making this change will allow us to set things up the best we know how in the membership database that will be part of our new website. It will eventually smooth our income flow. It will also be fairer to those who join in summer or early fall, who in the past found themselves having to pay a renewal within a few months.

When we eventually get this process put online, you will be able to log in using your email address as your username and enter the renewal yourself, or you can continue to do it on paper as before if you prefer. Stay tuned, and thanks for your patience while we are making these changes.

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.

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 email 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 email 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.

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

Next CMC Council Meeting

When: February 10, 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.

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

Editor: Stuart English, 883-2447, stueengo@comporium.net
Deadline next issue: February 15, 2010
SECOND NOTICE – 2011 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL (1/1/11-12/31/11)

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The Carolina Mountain Club is a non-profit organization. Contributions above the $20.00 Individual or $30.00 Family member levels are tax-deductible. They may also qualify for Corporate matching funds.

Name(s)  
____________________________________________________________

Please Note Changes Below:

Address  
____________________________________________________________

Phones  
Home ___________________  Home ___________________

Cell ___________________  Cell ___________________

E-mail(s)  
____________________________________________________________

Please check your records to see if you have already renewed your membership for 2011. We receive many duplicate renewals. If you’re not sure of your membership status, contact Ashok Kudva (ashok.kudva@att.net; 828-698-7119) or Marcia Bromberg (mwbromberg@yahoo.com; 828-505-0471).

RENEW NOW TO MAINTAIN YOUR CMC MEMBERSHIP IN 2011