



Let's Go eNews

From The Editor

"We must go beyond textbooks, go out into the bypaths and untrodden depths of the wilderness and travel and explore and tell the world the glories of our journey." -John Hope Franklin

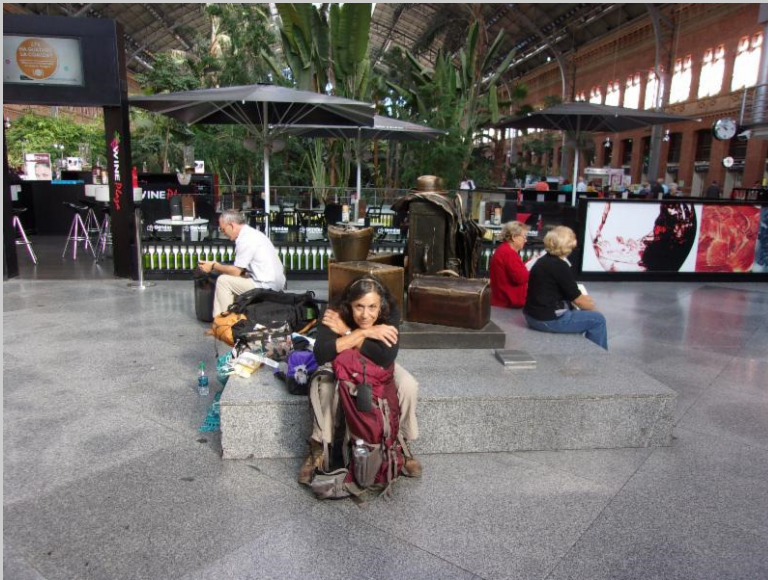
In this issue we start a series on CMC solo travel. If you have taken a solo trip, please share your story. Send the story or questions, to the email address below.

If anyone has any articles for the newsletter, send them

to eNews@carolinamountainclub.org The intention is to include all articles in the eNews, but sometimes that is not possible.

The newsletter will go out the last Friday of every month. The deadline to submit news is the Friday before it goes out.

Sincerely,
Kathy Kyle
Carolina Mountain Club



Solo Travel

Traveling Alone Was Not Original Plan

Editor's Note: This is the first in a series of solo travel by CMC members. If you have taken a hiking trip by yourself, share your story.

By Marcia Bromberg

Hike
Save Trails
Make Friends



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In February I took my first solo international trip-to a country where I don't speak the language. And I loved it! Traveling alone was not my original plan. When I started talking to friends and acquaintances about hiking a portion of the Camino de Santiago and visiting Barcelona there was a lot of interest in being part of the trip. However, as the months went by, one by one people expressing interest in joining me found reasons not to go. So on September 12th I set out alone for my Spain adventure.

Solo travel is not for everyone. I think this is especially true for women who worry more, and have more reason to worry, about personal safety. Having lived in what I consider to be a dangerous US City (New Orleans) I felt comfortable that I knew how to take proper precautions for my safety: stay in well-traveled areas; don't venture into threatening-looking neighbors; be discrete about what you wear and carry. I also don't mind being a little bit lost and have confidence that I'll find my way to where I need to be eventually.

Another concern about traveling alone is loneliness. And whether or not this might be in issue for someone is more personal. I'm very happy to spend long periods of time without a companion, confident that if I need personal contact I'll find someone with whom to strike up a conversation. And this was true on my Spain trip. I had already heard that you're never alone on the Camino and this was indeed the case. I talked to people from around the world. But even during my time in Barcelona and Madrid I found it easy to find people in restaurants, the metro, and waiting in lines who wanted to chat.

For me the real advantage of being by myself was the complete flexibility I had to do exactly what I wanted to do in the way I wanted to do it. For instance I wanted to take full advantage of my short stay in Barcelona so it spent a very active 2 ½ days doing everything I could-walking, jumping on and off the metro, and stretching out my days as long as I could. Not everyone enjoys that type of pace. Later on I changed my Camino hiking plans as circumstances dictated without worrying that a travel companion would not like my choices.

If you're adventuresome and have a place you'd like to visit but no companion to join you, I encourage

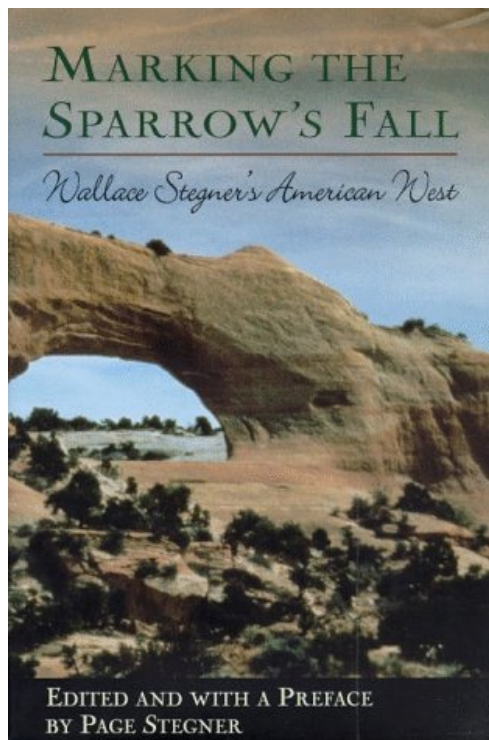
you to take the leap and travel by yourself. I think you'll be surprised by how much fun you can have on on your own!

Wallace Stegner

"Marking The Sparrow's Fall"

Review By Stuart English

After making two western trips in two years, I became fascinated with the west and because of this discovered one the greatest writers of the twentieth century. Wallace Stegner was a true westerner born in 1911 on the Saskatchewan-Montana border. When his family was forced to leave their hard scrabble farm, Stegner later grew up in Salt Lake City. Although not a Mormon, he came to see this city for what it was meant to be: a place of security in an arid desert. He later founded a graduate writing program at Stanford University.



His writings take in every aspect of the West and its history in fiction and non-fiction. He won the 1971 Pulitzer Prize for *Angle of Repose*, a novel about a Western family. But to people in the CMC his importance is that he was one of the great voices in conservation. He coined the famous phrase: "The Best Idea We Ever Had" about the national parks. He was an activist with

the Sierra Club and a proponent for the idea that true conservatism was not about saving someone else's money, but saving the planet.

Marking the Sparrow's Fall is a collection of his essays published posthumously by his son Page Stegner. I believe any hiker and traveler will love this book as much as I have. Here is the last paragraph from his famous "Wilderness Letter" published in 1960:

"These are some of the things wilderness can do for us. That is the reason we need to put into effect, for its preservation, some other principle than the principles of exploitation or 'usefulness' or even recreation. We simply need that wild country available to us, even if we never do more than drive to its edge and look in. For it can be a means of reassuring ourselves of our sanity as creatures, a part of the geography of hope." Very Sincerely Yours, Wallace Stegner

CMC Trail Maintainers Recognized At Annual Blue Ridge Parkway Luncheon

Photo By Ashok Kudva



Feb. 28

CMC Hike Leaders Dinner Scheduled

By Jim Reel

The 2014 Hike Leaders Dinner will be held from 6 - 9 pm on Friday, February 28th, in the Century Room at Packs Tavern. All leaders who have led a hike between January 2013 and March 2014 will be invited.



Past CMC presidents answered questions during the annual dinner.

Photo by Danny Bernstein

CMC Annual Dinner

Bernstein Selected President

By Stuart English

Over 100 CMC members gathered for a social hour, a dinner, a state of the club meeting, and an enjoyable program on November 1, 2013, at Pack's Tavern in Asheville. As many old friends enjoyed their meals, Peter Barr, Chair of the Challenge Committee, recognized many challenge completers. This was a special year for challenges since there were two special challenges for the 90th anniversary year: the 90 in 90 of the A.T. that we maintain and the 130 miles of the MST that we maintain.

Pete Petersen, Councilor for Trail Maintenance, recognized Lew Blodgett (also in his 90th year) for 6000 hours maintaining trails. Barth Brooker, Chair of the Nominations and Awards Committee, announced the new Council positions for 2014. Lenny Bernstein-President Barbara Morgan-Vice President Ann Hendrickson-Councilor at Large Kay Shurtleff-Councilor for Education Brenda Worley-Councilor for Hiking Lee Silver-Councilor for Membership Service Awards for the Club in 2013 were the Award of Appreciation, which went to Jim Ariail and Gale O'Neal for their efforts above and beyond the call of duty on the website and membership database. The Distinguished Service Award went to Lenny Bernstein for a long career, involving every aspect of CMC, including the Presidency. Outgoing President Marcia Bromberg looked to the future and the next 90 years. The evening ended with a panel of past CMC presidents that looked at the Club at different periods in our history.

Deadline January 15

ATC Nominations Sought

By Becky Smucker

Each year the ATC Southern Regional clubs give three awards to recognize folks who contribute significantly to the mission of the ATC: Volunteer Partner of the Year, Agency Partner of the Year, and Partner of the Year. Nominations for next year's awards are due to our office by January 15 to be voted on by RPC reps and SORO staff by Feb. 1, and will be presented at our SPM mtg. April 11-13.

NOMINATE NOW!

The links below are files of past awardees with selection procedures, and the nomination forms which contain brief descriptions of the purpose of each award. Please publicize and talk this up in your club and send your nominations to soro@appalachiantrail.org by Jan. 15. Help us make sure that our best folks are considered for these awards.

[Past awardees](#)

[Volunteer Partner of the Year](#)

[Agency Partner of the Year](#)

[Partner of the Year](#)

Deer Season In WNC For All Weapons Starts November 25 - Wear Orange!

It's that time of year to wear blaze orange to protect yourself in the woods until December 14. There is no hunting on Sundays.



France

Camino Presentation To Be Held Dec. 2

By Chris Slater

Monday, December 2, 2013, 7:00 p.m.

Avid hiker and guide book author Danny Bernstein will present her recent pilgrimage from Le Puy en Velay to Saint Jean Pied-de-Port, the most popular pilgrim route in France.

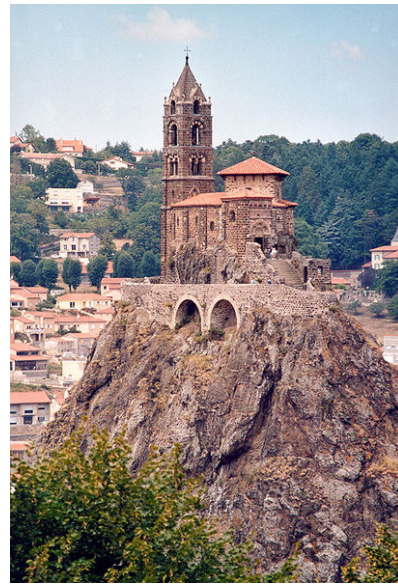
Asheville REI

31 Schenck Parkway

Asheville, NC 28803

828-687-0918

These events are free but (when event appears on the store calendar) a reservation is recommended to guarantee a seat.



Update On Challenges

Peter Barr will be working with certificates and patches for completers of the 2013 MST Challenge and the AT Challenge soon. For those completing their challenge(s) after the Annual Meeting on November 1, he can send out certificates after he has processed the challenge log. He will have the patches made up in January, since at that time he'll know exactly how many have completed each challenge. He'll mail those out once they are ready.

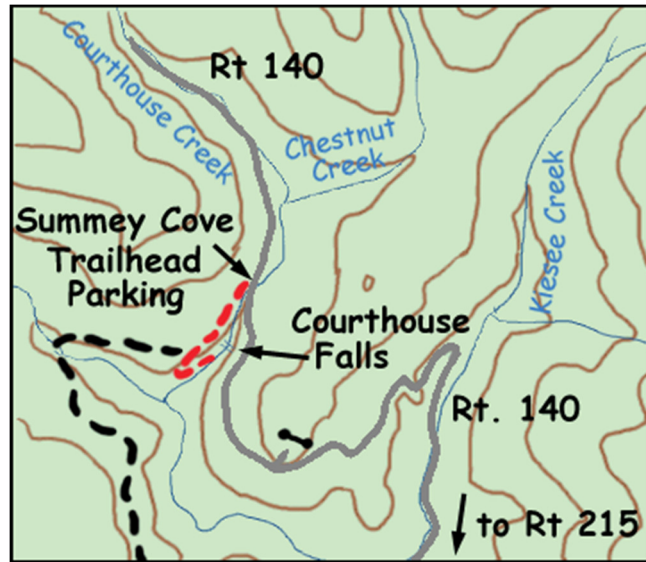


Conservation Committee Drafts Appeal

By Tish Desjardins

Here is a start for stating the CMC appeal to the Forest Service to not decommission the Summey Cove Trail (leads to Courthouse Falls):

We, the Carolina Mountain Club, are a hiking and trail maintaining club in Western North Carolina. We maintain hundreds of hiking trails throughout Pisgah National Forest. One of the trails that we routinely schedule a hike is the Summey Cove Trail which provides a scenic full day hike of beauty and solitude leading to Courthouse Falls. Carolina Mountain Club strongly disagrees with the Forest Service's decision to decommission the Summey Cove Trail. Thus, we are appealing that decision. The Summey Cove Trail is the only hiking trail on NC 215 that leads to scenic Courthouse Falls. Indeed, the parking is limited, but, our organization carools to reach a trailhead and thus minimizes the need to accommodate a multitude of vehicles.



The Small Print

The next issue will come out on Friday, December 27. Wednesday hike reports for the hike just before the eNews comes out will be published in the next eNews.

Hiker leaders, please send all your eNews hike reports and photos to hikereports@carolinamountainclub.org

So send your news by Friday evening at 9 P.M. before the newsletter comes out, that is, by Friday evening December 20 to Kathy Kyle at eNews@carolinamountainclub.org. Include your email address at the end of your story. Thank you.

The CMC Calendar is meant to answer the perennial question "When is this happening again?" It is also meant to prevent conflicts between competing CMC events. Please check it often.

Westgate parking - Park in the northernmost part of the lot - past EarthFare, in the last row of parking spaces.

How to join the Carolina Mountain Club

1. Go to www.carolinamountainclub.org
2. Click on "Join CMC" on the right side and follow the instructions

For CMC members only - Send all address and email changes to Gale O'Neal at gogalemail@gmail.com. Do not resubscribe yourself to the eNews. That will be done automatically.

If you are a non-member subscriber, you need to go back to the eNews and make the change yourself.

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