NEW SECTION OF A.T. OPENED AT SLAUGHTER CREEK

On Saturday January 17, volunteers from the Georgia Appalachian Trail Club opened a new section of A.T. near Slaughter Creek. The half mile of new Trail replaces the 0.9 mile of old A.T. between Slaughter Creek and Slaughter Gap in the Blood Mountain Wilderness. These changes will allow A.T. hikers to completely by-pass the heavily impacted area in Slaughter Gap. To compensate for the loss of the camping area in Slaughter Gap, a camping area with eight tent sites was constructed along the new section of A.T. Each site will accommodate up to three backpacking tents. Water is available at the Slaughter Creek Spring near the camping area. With a little relief from human impact, the denuded area in Slaughter Gap should gradually re-vegetate. Additional information can be found on GATC’s web site at: http://www.georgia-atclub.org/news.html

Firefly Camping, History and Hiking Weekend in the Smokies—June 18 to 20, 2004

Enjoy a weekend CMC camping trip in the Smokies. See the unusual mating ritual of the synchronous fireflies. Hike in an area of the Smokies that is too far from Asheville for a daytrip, offering both moderate and challenging hikes. Tour the Elkmont historic houses and learn the history of these houses and their controversial future.

For details, see the schedule in this issue. Register early as the number of campers is limited to 27.

The following activities are planned:

Friday evening: See the synchronous fireflies after dark. A part of their mating ritual, groups of fireflies flash on and off at the same time.
Saturday 8:30 AM: 900M Two different levels of hikes in the area will be offered; a moderate 6 to 9 mile hike and a challenging 12-mile hike.
Sunday morning: A tour of the historic houses in Elkmont with a knowledgeable amateur historian.
Sunday afternoon: 900M An unusual moderate half-day hike will be offered.

Announcing a new book

A new book entitled The Hiker’s Guide to Preparing Home-Cooked Meals on the Trail explores the subject of dehydrating, packaging, and rehydrating foods for use in the wilderness by any outdoor enthusiast wishing to carry lightweight, compact, and tasty meals. Some one hundred recipes are presented and one chapter explains how to build a lightweight oven to be used with a camp-stove to bake things like biscuits and pizza. The recipes are easy to prepare and allow the hiker to carry meals like those cooked at home at a greatly reduced weight. No longer will the hiker need to rely on nutrition-deficient, freeze-dried foods on the trail. Inquiries and orders can be placed at www.trafford.com.

AT Meeting with Morgan Sommerville

The CMC Council met with Morgan to give input and discuss the new plan the AT is implementing soon. We learned that the Appalachian Trail Park Office (ATPO) and the Appalachian Trail Conference (ATC) are restructuring and the Trail clubs along the AT will be included and affected by this change. The Trail Conference Board of Managers has adopted a bold and ambitious plan to restructure the organization to better protect and manage the Appalachian Trail. The plan emphasizes strategies to raise ATC’s profile with the hikers and the general public, better connect it to the volunteers in the affiliated clubs who handle most of the day-to-day, on-the-ground Trail work, and increase stable sources of future income to support its mission. Please refer to this link for more information: http://www.appalachiantrail.org/strategic/index.html

Saturday Workday May 29

Here’s a great chance to learn what is involved in trail maintenance. We will meet on May 29 at the Moose Café on 191 at 8:00 AM for breakfast. We will return to Asheville around 4:00 PM. Come join the fun. Call Les Love, 658-1489, for more information.
HIKE SCHEDULE
Second Quarter 2004

Hike Ratings

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P400: Indicates that this hike qualifies for the P400 award.
SB6K: Indicates that this hike qualifies for the SB6K award.

A list in the hike descriptions, the terms easy, moderate or strenuous reflect the overall trail conditions, the physical challenge and other factors influencing hike difficulty. If you have questions, CONTACT THE LEADER.

WEDNESDAY HIKES

Submitted by Paula McNabb, 828-274-0057, gcmcnabb@charter.net.

The meeting place for each hike will be designated by the hike leader and will appear in the hike description. Driving mileage will be listed, round trip, from the first designated meeting place.

ALL DAY No. W 0401-0315 A pril 7 Black Mountain Bushwhack Hike 8, Drive 1, Rated B-A Larry Ballard, 828-891-4318 leballard@cytechcis.net Eileen M C Gill, 828-891-4409 dolphins@ioa.com

P400: Starting on Yellow Gap Trail, we hike up FS 5051, then bushwhack up Black Mountain, on to Rich Gap, down to FS 5055, and back to Yellow Gap Road. Topo: Dunsmore Mountain; also Nat’l. Geographic Pisgah Ranger District map. Meeting Place: North Mills River picnic area.

ALL DAY No. W 0402-289 A pril 21 M ST: Glassmine Falls Overlook to Steppes Gap Hike 7, Drive 70, 2000 ft. ascent, Rated B-A Tom Sanders 828-252-6327 mel & tsp@main.nc.us

SB6K: Features 2 peaks over 6000, Blackstock Knob and M. G. Gibbes. This route has been worked out by Cive Dog and Tom, with a shortcut bushwhack off the MST around the North of Potato Knob and on to Clingmans Peak and Gibbes. Car shuttle. Topos: M. T. Mitchell and M. Omtrent. Meeting place: Westgate Shopping Center.

ALL DAY No. W 0402-033 A pril 28 Ramirez Cascades Hike 8, Drive 160, 2000 ft. ascent, Rated B-A Tommie Boston 828-686-5029 tambee2@aol.com

900M: This is one of the classic spring wildflower hikes in the Smokies. Sixty-foot high Ramirez Cascades is located in a rich forested glen with an amazing variety of wildflowers and a grove of old-growth Tulip trees. The drive and effort to reach this trail are a small price to pay for the reward. First meeting place: Westgate Shopping Center. Second meeting place: Pilot Truck Stop at exit 24 off I 40 at 8:30 A.M. Topo: Mt. Guyot

ALL DAY No. W 0402-276 M ay 5 AT: Streets Gap to Big Bald Hike 9, Drive 75, 1500 ft. ascent, Rated A-A Jay Bretz, 828-658-1220, williambretz1220@msn.com

Big Bald is one of the crown jewels of our section of the AT, with views of the Blakcs, Smokies, and other ranges in WNC and Eastern Tennessee. This is an in-and-out hike from the Tennesee side. Topos: Sams Gap and Bald Creek. Meeting place: Westgate Shopping Ctr.

ALL DAY No. W 0402-060 M ay 12 Pilot Mtn. from Gloucester Gap Hike 5-6, Drive 80, 2000 ft. ascent, Rated C-A Elisabeth and Heinz Feil 828-684-8719 hofeil@brinet.com

P400: This loop trail is part of the Art Loeb Tr. and the Alternate MST) starts at Gloucester Gap and climbs 2000 ft in two miles to the summit. We’ll take the Forest Service road back down to the car. Pinkshell azaleas should be in full bloom and maybe some rosy twisted stalk. Bring insect repellent - there are bugs at the top. Meeting place: Pisgah Ranger Station, U S 276

ALL DAY No. W 0402-340 M ay 19 3 Best waterfalls in South Carolina Hike 6, drive 160 (from exit 53), rated B-C Jack Fitzgerald, 828-685-2897, suejackfitz@brinet.com

Visit the 3 highest rated waterfalls in South Carolina on 3 in-and-out hikes: Best: Yellow Branch Falls, 3 miles, beautiful setting & falls. Next best: Issaquena Falls, great picnic lunch. A did a visit inside Stumphouse Tunnel. Final best: Lee Falls, 3 miles, several stream crossings, final quarter mile very strenuous rock hopping. Meeting place: Cracker Barrel at exit 53 (old exit 22) of I 26

ALL DAY No. W 0402-359 M ay 26 M ST - Balsam Gap to Bee Tree Gap, WILD FLOWER HIKE. Hike 8, Drive 46, Rated B-B Brad & Bee Van Diver, 828-669-2740, bravandi@cs.com

Car shuttle. A beautiful, moderate hike with wonderful views. Meeting place: lower lot at Folk Art Center.

ALL DAY No. W 0402-172 J une 9 John Rock Loop Drive 0, Hike 6.5, Rated B-B Paula McNabb, 828-274-0057, gcmcnabb@charter.net

P400: A repeat of the popular John Rock hike. Starting at the fish hatchery parking lot, we follow the Cat Gap Loop Trail, to John Rock Trail, to the summit. Beautiful views. Return via the connector. A moderate summer hike. Only meeting place: Fish Hatchery Parking lot. Topo: Shining Rock.

ALL DAY No. W 0403-414 J une 16 M ST: Buck Springs Trail or Leaders Choice Hike 6, Drive 40, Rated B-B Boyd Brasington 828-254-8675

P400: We will walk from Pigeon Gap to Pisgah Inn via the MST and the Buck Springs Trail. This is a beautiful hike with several step over water crossings. Wear non-slip shoes. Meeting place is Ingles across from Biltmore Square Mall at 9:00 A.M. Second meeting place is Cold Mountain overlook where U S 276 crosses the Blue Ridge Parkway (M.P. 412).

ALL DAY No. W 0402-343 J une 23 M ST: Forest Service Road 816, Black Balsam to Skinny Dip Falls Hike 6-7, drive 7, rated B-B Siro DeFavero, 828-277-2546

Starting at Black Balsam, we’ll hike to the lower falls at Graveyard Fields for lunch. Then we’ll go on to Skinny Dip Falls and end at the Looking Glass overlook. Car
shuttle. Meeting place: Looking Glass Rock Overlook at Milepost 417.

ALL DAY NO. W 0402-343 June 30
Mount Mitchell Loop via Commissary Ridge
Hike 7, drive 60, 1500 ft. ascent, Rated C-B
Gerry Mcnabb, 828-274-0057, gcmcnabb@charter.net
We will hike from the ranger station to the summit, returning via the Camp Alice Road to the ranger station. A mile bathrooms. Cell phone will be on after 8 a.m. (828-231-8274) Topo: Mt. Mitchell. Meeting Place: Folk Art Center off Blue Ridge Parkway, lower parking lot

ALL DAY SATURDAY AND SUNDAY HIKES

A ll-day hikes submitted by Bruce Bente 828-692-0116, bbente@cytechusa.com
Driving distance is round-trip from Asheville. All Saturday and Sunday hikes assemble at Westgate Shopping Center near I 240 UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

ALL DAY NO. A 0401-337 Apr. 4
Shining Rock from Black Balsam (strenuous #1) 8:30 A.M.
Hike 11, Drive 65, 1500 ft. ascent, Rated A-A
Lenny Bernstein 828-236-0192
isbern@worldnet.att.net
SB6K, P400 Note change to DST and later start time. We'll hike to Shining Rock via two different routes today. This hike will take the Art Loeb Trail from FS 816 to Shining Rock (6040'), climbing Black Balsam (6214'), Tennent Mtn. (6040') and Grassy Cove Top (6040') along the way. This will be your chance to bag four easy SB6K peaks while enjoying beautiful early spring views covering the area from Pilot Mtn. to Cold Mtn. We'll return via the Ivestor Gap Trail to get a different perspective on the same area. Wilderness area hike limited to ten people. Please contact hike leader to reserve your place. Second meeting place: BRP Cold Mtn. overlook at 9:00 A.M. Topos: Shining Rock, Sam Knob; also Natl. Geographic map of Pisgah Ranger District

ALL DAY NO. A 0401-151 Apr. 4
Shining Rock loop via Chestnut Ridge and Shining Creek 8:45 A.M. (strenuous #2)
Hike 8.5, Drive 60, 2600 ft. ascent, Rated B-A
Carroll Koepplinger 828-667-0723
carrollkoepp@cs.com
SB6K, P400 Note change to DST and later start time. We'll hike to Shining Rock via two different routes today. This hike will start at the Big East parking area, go up the steep Chestnut Ridge Trail, then over Dog Lister and Old Butt Knobs to lunch at Shining Rock (6040') with its exceptional views. We'll return via a steep descent to the north fork of Shining Creek. Wilderness area hike limited to ten people. Please contact hike leader to reserve your place. Topo: Shining Rock; also Natl. Geographic map of Pisgah Ranger District

ALL DAY NO. A 0402-124 Apr. 11
Clingman's Dome & Mt. Collins 8:00 A.M.
Hike 11.7, Drive 150, 1900 ft. ascent, Rated A-A
Dave Wetmore 828-884-7296
dwetmore@citcom.net
SB6K, 900M Here's a chance to knock off two of the SB6K peaks in the Smokies. We will hike the AT from the Fork Ridge access, over Mt. Collins (6188') and Clingman's Dome (6643'), enjoy the views and then return 8 miles to Newfound Gap. Those wishing a shorter hike can return to the original trailhead, for an 8-mile hike. Second meeting place: Quality Inn in Maggie Valley at 8:30 A.M., Topo: Clingman's Dome

ALL DAY NO. A 0402-128 Apr. 18
Sam's Knob Loop: Hike with the Kiwis 9:00 A.M.
Hike 10.5, Drive 75, 1100 ft. ascent, Rated A-B
Danny and Lenny Bernstein 828-236-0192
danny@hikertohiker.org
SB6K, P400 Note later starting time. This lovely loop starts at FS 816, ascends Sam Knob (6040') with its 360 degree views, then follows the Flat Laurel Creek Trail to N C 215. We will return via the MST, Little Sam and Flat Laurel Creek trails, with a side trip to Devil's Courthouse (another great viewpoint). Two groups will hike, doing the loop in opposite directions. Come meet the Kiwis and learn their tramping culture. Optional supper afterwards at a moderately-priced A sheville restaurant. Wildness area limited to ten hikers; Please call hike leader to reserve your place. Second meeting place: BRP Cold Mtn. overlook at 9:30 A.M. Topos: Shining Rock & Sam Knob; also Natl. Geographic Pisgah Ranger District map

SATURDAY NO. A 0402-089 May 2
AT: Max Patch to Lemon Gap and Return 8:00 A.M.
Hike 11, Drive 100, 1800 ft. ascent, Rated A-A
Becky Smucker 828-298-5013
bjsmucker@aol.com
This hike is legendary for the Trilliums in bloom. We'll have a chance to see the new AT shelter being built by the CMC, along a beautiful section of the AT, beginning and ending at Max Patch with one of WNC's most stunning views. Second meeting place: Pilot Truck Stop at exit 24 off I 40 at 9:00 A.M., Topo: Lemon Gap

ALL DAY NO. A 0402-033 May 2
Ramsay Cascades 9:00 A.M.
Hike 8, Drive 160, 2000 ft. ascent, Rated B-A
Tommie Boston 828-686-5029
tambee2@aol.com
Note later starting time. This is one of the classic spring wildflower hikes in the Smokies. Sixty-foot high Ramsay Cascades is located in a rich forested glen with an amazing variety of wildflowers and a grove of old-growth Tulip trees. Second meeting place: Pilot Truck Stop at exit 24 off I 40 at 8:30 A.M., Topo: Mt. Guyot.

ALL DAY NO. A 0402-218 May 2
Cataloochee Divide 8:00 A.M.
(strenuous)
Hike 12, Drive 85, 1800 ft. ascent, Rated A A-A (EB), or 2800 ft. ascent, Rated A A-A (W B)
Larry M odlin 251-5092
lmodlin@warren-wilson.edu
900M If it is clear, we will experience some of the most spectacular views in WNC as we hike over Hemphill Bald (our lunch spot) and the Swag. This will be a key swap, with half the group starting at Poll's Gap and half from Cove Creek Rd. Wildflowers should be wonderfully abundant. A dditional meeting places, but call leader: Pilot Truck Stop at exit 24 off I 40 at 8:30 A.M., or Quality Inn in Maggie Valley at 8:30 A.M. Topos: Cove Creek Gap, Dellwood, Bunches Bald

ALL DAY NO. A 0402-351 May 9
Hawkbill Creek Flower Hike 9:00 A.M. (moderate)
Hike 7-8, Drive 50, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated B-B
Ruth Hartzler 828-251-0886
ruthmtm@aol.com
Note later starting time. This hike will be a shortened version of the hike done last April, and is designed to have adequate time to observe and appreciate the spectacular variety of wildflowers and ramps along the route. We will do an easy bushwhack up Hawkbill Creek to its starting point, then return by a combination of backtracking and along an old forest road. Topo: Craggy Pinnacle

ALL DAY NO. A 0402-352 May 9
Jones Gap Trail/Coldspring Loop 8:00 A.M.
Hike 10, Drive 80, 1600 ft. ascent, Rated A-A
Ellie Thrush 828-697-9743
treehouse@highstream.net
We'll hike up Jones Gap and Tom Miller Trails past 2 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: Exit
53 (old exit 22) of I 26, north end of Cracker Barrel parking lot, next to U pard Rd.) Topos: Standingstone Mtn., Cleveland, Table Rock; also Mountain Bridge Wilderness and Recreation A rea Trai l Map

ALL DAY NO. A 0402-353 May 15-16 Inspiration in the vicinity; Sunday will be used for another event for beginning backpackers. On ALL DAY NO. A0402-354 May 23

Beginner’s Backpack (Richland Balsam area) 10:00 A M Hike 6-8, Drive 90, 1500 ft. ascent, Rated A A-B Linda Beja, 828-293-3849 lrbeja@earthlink.net

P400 This hike is designed as an overnight for beginning backpackers. On Saturday, we will hike in 2-3 miles from the trailhead, set up camp and then dayhike from the camp to interesting destinations in the vicinity; Sunday will be used for another dayhike before breaking camp and returning to A shville. NOTE: Hikers must make reservations with Linda Beja before May 1. Linda anticipates having a meeting with participants before the backpack to discuss gear and itinerary. Topo: Sam Knob; also Natl. Geographic map of Pisgah Ranger District

ALL DAY NO. A 0402-354 May 23

H ump Mtn. from Elk Park 7:30 A M Hike 8, Drive 140, 3200 ft. ascent, Rated B A A + Bob Byrd 828-299-7681 bbyrd@charter.net

This is a beautiful hike to one of the crown jewels of the AT, H ump Mtn. The 360 degree views should be fantastic from the summit. The hike will continue through Bradley Gap to Little H ump Mtn. Hikers wishing a shorter hike with less climbing can remain at the first summit and wait for the leader's return. Topos: Elk Park, W hite Rocks Mtn., C arvers Gap

ALL DAY NO. A 0402-355 May 30

AT: Devils Fork Gap to Carmen 8:00 A M Hike 11, Drive 95, 1900 ft. ascent, Rated A - A Janet M artin 812-738-8154 jaykaymartin@msn.com

This trip goes along 9 miles of the most scenic miles on the AT. It features two shelters, including Jerry’s Cabin, a historic gravestone and beautiful views from atop Big Butt. We then go down Fork Ridge trail to Carmen. Topos: Flag Pond, Greystone

MEMORIAL DAY JOINT HIKE WITH SMOKY MOUNTAINS HIKING CLUB N O. A 0402-356 May 31

Kephart Prong - Sweat H eifer - AT - Grassy Branch loop 7:30 A M (strenuous) Hike 14.2, Drive 130, 3650 ft. ascent, Rated A A A + C M C contact: Don Gardner 828-754-4067 gardog3@charter.net

SM H C contact: Kris Johnson 865-430-4359 kris.johnson@nps.gov, Cata Folks 865-982-3890

900M N ote earlier start time. We’ll be led by Kristine Johnson, a GSMNP biologist who works on biological issues such as problems with alien species. We’ll do a loop hike, starting at Kephart Prong, and climbing to the AT by way of Sweat H eifer Trail. Then we’ll follow the AT north past the spectacular views from Charlie's Bunyon, and drop back down on the Dry Sluice Gap, Grassy Branch and Kephart Prong Trails. Second meeting place: Quality Inn in Maggie Valley at 8:00 A M. Topos: Smokemont, Clingman’s Dome, M t. Le Conte, M t. G uyot

ALL DAY NO. A 0402-217 June 6

Sandy M ush Bald R amble Hike 9.5, Drive 40, 3100 ft. ascent, Rated B A A + Rob Resnick 828-255-8066 reschr@dial.com

Sarah C arothers 828-586-3282 sjcarothers@hotmail.com

Due to the popularity of this hike last year, we’re offering it again for hikers who missed it. After dropping a car at the end of Boyd Cove, we will ascend forest roads up Surritt Cove to the Sandy Mush Balds, traversing the ridge tops to Chestnut Gap, and descend along Long Branch to a waiting vehicle. Some cross-country hiking required, and be prepared to cross a few barbed-wire fences. Thanks to Long Branch Environmental Education Center for providing access and coordinating permission from contiguous landowners. If the weather is clear, the views do not get any better! Topos: Sandy Mush, Fines Creek

ALL DAY NO. A 0402-357 June 6

Pisgah Ridge Loop (moderate) 8:30 A M* K athie Giddings 828-696-9808

kmgiddings@juno.com

Hike 7.5, Drive 70, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated B B P400. *Meeting places: Self-organize carpools at Westgate at 8:30 A M. Meet leader at BRP Cold Mtn. overlook (MP 412) at 9:00 A M. N ote later start time. Starting at the Graveyard Fields parking lot, we will follow the Pisgah Ridge Trail to the M ST and lunch at a beautiful overlook. Then we’ll proceed on the Graveyard Ridge Trail to the parking lot, with a possible side trip to one of the Yellowstone falls. This hike has nice views along the way. Topo: Shining Rock; also Natl. Geographic map of Pisgah Ranger District

ALL DAY NO. A 0402-220 June 13

Gregory Bald via Wolf’s Ridge Trail (strenuous) Hike 15.6, Drive 200, >3500 ft. ascent, Rated A A A +

Stuart Tauber 828-254-0824 sttauber@charter.net

900M N ote earlier start time. We did this hike last July, but were too late to see the flame azaleas in bloom. With luck, we’ll be there at the peak of bloom this year. From the Twenty Mile Creek trailhead, this loop hike ascends progressively on the Wolf Ridge Trail to Parson Bald and reaches Gregory Bald, the home of a spectacular setting of flame azaleas and breathtaking views of Cades Cove, T hunderhead and other Smokies peaks. Returning on the Long H ungry Pine trail to Twenty Mile Creek trail, one passes beautiful Twenty Mile Creek cascades. Wolf Ridge Trail crosses M oore Branch five times which one must ford; it is best to bring sneakers/sandals for these crossings.

Second meeting place: Rest Stop beyond Waynesville on U S 23/74 at 8:00 A M. Topos: Fontana Dam, C ades Cove

WEEKEND NO. A 0402-358 June 18-20

Firefly Camping Weekend Drive to Elkmont 150 Danny Bernstein 828-236-0192 danny@hikertoahiker.org

This will be a camping, hiking and history weekend based at Elkmont campground in GSMNP. NOTE: The only meeting place will be Friday evening at Elkmont campground. Those wishing to carpool from A shville should contact the leader. Participants must bring their own camping equipment, two people per campsite. Register with the leader as soon as possible; this weekend will fill up quickly. To register, see www.hikertoahiker.org/firefly. The cost is $24 which includes two nights of camping at Elkmont and a stipend for the historian.

SEE PAGE 1 FOR PLANNED ACTIVITIES Topos: Gatlinburg, Silers Bald; also Natl. Geographic GSMNP map

SATURDAY NO. A 0402-314 June 26

MST: Balsam Gap to Double Top 8:00 A M Hike 10, Drive 70, 3200 ft. ascent, Rated A A A + Don Walton 828-298-5084 walt7258@bellsouth.net

This hike covers a part of the MST that was recently adopted by the C M C . It features diversified woods, a challenging climb and views of the Plott Balsams. Second meeting place: Rest area on US 23/74 near Waynesville at 8:30 A M. Topo: Hazelwood

ALL DAY NO. A 0402-113 June 27

Cold Mtn. 8:00 A M Hike 11, Drive 70, 3000 ft. ascent, Rated A A A + A ngie Buie 828-778-2221 awroot1@iglide.net

P400, SB6K A ngie will lead a fast-paced hike up the mountain immortalized by Charles Frazier. From the Scout Camp we
will climb to the summit of this 6030 ft. peak, our last hike to Cold Mtn. Strenuous and fast pace, so hikers must be in good shape. Wilderness area, limited to 10, so call leader for reservation. Topos: Waynesville, Cruso; also Natl. Geographic map of Pisgah Ranger District.

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**HALF-DAY SUNDAY HIKES**

Half-day hikes submitted by Pat Elias, 828-687-1651, peliasy@aol.com and Paula Robbins, 828-281-3253, paularw@bellsouth.net. Driving distance is round-trip from Asheville. A II hikes assemble at Westgate Shopping Center near I-240 UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

**HALF-DAY NO. H0402-325**

_Apr. 4_

**Tanyard Gap to Rich Mountain 1:30 PM**

Hike 5, Drive 72, Rated C-B

Jorge Munoz, 828-658-0606, jmuno2@buncombe.main.nc.us

A fast and easy climb on the Appalachian Trail, we will be rewarded with an outstanding view of the Hot Springs area from the fire tower. Side benefits: spring flowers showing off all over, besides good company.

**HALF-DAY NO. H0402-344**

_Apr. 11_

**Pulliam Creek in the Green River Gamelands 1:00 PM**

Hike 6, Drive 10, 900 ft. ascent, Rated B-C

Becky Elston, 828-749-1886, abbyball@tds.net

_Note early start time._ A pretty in-and-out hike, partially along Pulliam Creek. A flirt we cross the creek, we will see views of the Green River and the famous “N arrows”. We will stop at a great spot on the Green River for a snack. Hopefully, entertainment will be provided by some kayakers. **ONLY MEETING PLACE IS CRACKER BARREL AT EXIT 53 (OLD EXIT 22) off I-26.**

**HALF-DAY NO. H0402-345**

_Apr. 18_

**Seven Gaps and Seven Knobs 1:00 PM**

Hike 6.5, Drive 25, lots of ups and downs.

Rated B-C

Paula Robbins, 828-281-3253 (before 9 PM), paularw@bellsouth.net

_Half-Day No. H0402-101_ 

_Apr. 25_

**Lower Big Laurel Creek Wildflower Stroll Noon**

Hike 6, Drive 60, 200 ft. ascent, Rated B-C

Hancock Dian, 828-298-2870 (before 9 PM)

_Note early start time._ Leisurely paced in-and-out hike along Lower Big Laurel Creek to the site of Runion, an early 1900s settlement. Suitable for anyone over 10 years of age (those under 18 MUST be accompanied by an adult). We’ll take time to identify the flowers we see. Long pants suggested (poison ivy sprouts early).

**HALF-DAY NO. H0402-003**

_May 2_

**Balsam Gap to Glassmine Overlook 1:30 PM**

Hike 4, Drive 44, 600 ft. ascent, Rated C-B

Pat Elias, 828-687-1651, peliasy@aol.com

There are some interesting plant communities on this portion of the Mountains-to-Sea Trail in the Craggy Gardens area, with excellent views at the top. Car shuttle. **ONLY MEETING PLACE IS THE FOLK ART CENTER, LOWER PARKING LOT, BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY.**

**HALF-DAY NO. H0402-346**

_May 9_

**MST: Folk Art Center to Haw Creek Overlook 1:30 PM**

Hike 5, 500 ft. ascent, Rated C-B

Barry and Heather Fletcher, 828-299-4776, hrmfllet@aol.com

This pleasant in-and-out trek is on the Mountains-to-Sea Trail. **ONLY MEETING PLACE IS THE FOLK ART CENTER, LOWER PARKING LOT, BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY.**

**HALF-DAY NO. H0402-068**

_May 16_

**Little Butt from Balsam Gap 1:00 PM**

Hike 7, Drive 70, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated B-C

Elisabeth FeIl, 828-684-8719

_of P400_ 

Doyle Horne, 828-654-0339; doylejhorne@bellsouth.net

**HALF-DAY NO. H0402-062**

_May 23_

**Daniel Ridge Loop 1:30 PM**

Hike 4.5, Drive 8, Rated C-C

Doyle Horne, 828-654-0339; doylejhorne@bellsouth.net

On this moderate hike in the Pisgah Forest, we should see some spring flowers as well as the spectacular Daniel Ridge Falls. **ONLY MEETING PLACE IS THE PISGAH RANGER STATION, US 276.**

**HALF-DAY NO. H0402-347**

_May 30_

**Twin Falls 1:00 PM**

Hike 6, Drive 80, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated B-B

Les Love, 828-658-1489, LesLoves@aol.com

_Note early start time._ A moderate hike in the Pisgah National Forest, starting on the Buckhorn Gap Trail, taking the Twin Falls Bypass to view two nice waterfalls, and completing a loop on a Forest Service road and the Clawhammer Cove Trail. **SECOND MEETING PLACE IS PISGAH RANGER STATION AT 1:45 PM.**

**HALF-DAY NO. H0402-319**

_June 6_

**Holmes Educational Forest 1:30 PM**

Hike 6, Drive 20, 500 ft. ascent, Rated B-C

Doris THibodeau, 828-274-9637, dorthib@aol.com

A good late spring hike with “talking trees” and a Forest Demonstration Trail explaining good forestry practices. (This hike was originally scheduled for February, but because of weather, the hike was canceled.) **ONLY MEETING PLACE IS BI-LO (SIDE PARKING LOT NEAR PIZZA HUT) AT US 64 AND 276, PISGAH FOREST.**

**HALF-DAY NO. H0402-348**

_June 13_

**Penny Rock or Leader’s Choice 1:30 PM**

Hike 6, Drive 40, Rated B-B

Boyd Brasington, 828-254-8675, boydbuncombe.main.nc.us

We will walk the Mountains-to-Sea Trail from Pigeon Gap (Milepost 412.5) to Cherry Cove Overlook on the Blue Ridge Parkway. Second meeting place is Cold Mountain Overlook (M.P. 412) where Highway 276 crosses the Blue Ridge Parkway. **ONLY MEETING PLACE IS INGLES PARKING LOT ON NC 191 ACROSS FROM BILTMORE SQUARE MALL.**
Mountaineering Information
Consult the trip leader for additional information regarding a particular hike. Hikes may be cancelled due to adverse weather, causing 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 necessary, the leader will have to be called to reserve a space. Hikers usually carpool from the meeting places to trailheads and back.

Responsibility For Safety
Each CMC member, guest or non-member hiker agrees to accept personal responsibility for his or her safety and the safety of minors accompanying such persons.

New Membership Information
Each CMC member, guest or non-member hiker agrees to hold harmless and free from blame the Club leaders, and the CMC, its officers and members, for any accident, injury or illness which might be sustained from participating in hikes or other Club activities.

Responsibility For Safety
The Club cannot ensure the safety of any participant on hikes. In participating in Club hikes, each such person agrees to hold harmless and free from blame the CMC, its officers and members, for any accident, injury or illness which might be sustained from participating in hikes or other Club activities.

EQUIPMENT

Clothing & Equipment, Etc.

Footwear comes first. Never start a mountain trip in brand new footwear. Lightweight 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, compass, first aid kit, matches in waterproof case, flashlight, cellphone if available and personal medication. On overnight trips, carry tent, sleeping bag, foam pad, extra clothing, stove, fuel, mess kit, eating utensils, and food in addition to the above.

Maps are helpful when hiking on your own. U.S. Geological Survey and T.V.A. topographic quadrangle maps are for sale at $4.00 per sheet at local outfitting stores or by mail from Branch of Distribution, U.S. Geological Survey, Box 25286, Denver, CO 80208. State index maps for selecting quadrangles are free from the Denver office. U.S. Forest Service topographic maps (based on U.S. Geological Survey quadrangles) and maps of selected areas in Western North Carolina are available at the National Forest Service Office, 160 Zillicoa St., P.O. Box 2750, Asheville, NC 28802. Call (828) 257-4200 for further information.

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 announced for the trip. No one is to start ahead of the leader without definite permission, or lag unreasonably far behind the group. The party is pledged not to pick shrubs or wild flowers, damage property in any way, or endanger forests and property by smoking while walking.

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

Return Service Requested

Further information is available at www.carolinamtnclub.org

Carolina Mountain Club Officers
Don Walton–298-5084 President
Gerry McNabb–274-0057 Vice President
Lenny Bernstein–236-0192 Secretary
Carroll Koenig–667-0723 Treasurer
Council Members: Les Love–658-1489, Linda Blue–645-4488,
Piet Bodenhorst–298-8371, Bruce Bente–692-0116, Bill Ross–271-7992,
Stuart Tauber–254-0824.
Morgan Sommerville–254-3078, ATC Field Rep
Quarterly Council meetings are open to all Club members. Call any Council member for date, time and place.

THE APPALACHIAN TRAIL: The Carolina Mountain Club is a member of the Appalachian Trail Conference, P.O. Box 807, Harpers Ferry, West Virginia 25245
Telephone (304) 535-6331.

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Editor Information
Editor this issue: Ginger Graziano–236-2075 gingergraz@charter.net
Editor next issue: Gerry McNabb–274-0057 gcmcnabb@charter.net, assisted by Marianne Newman, 454-1036, marianneln@msn.com. Send all copy to both addresses.
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