

Hike • Save Trails • Make Friends
Carolina Mountain Club eNews



July 2024



Quarterly Crew at Hot Springs a Huge Success

by Donna Bange

National Trails Day, sponsored by American Hiking Society, was June 1st. Its theme is *“a day of service for the hometown trails and the people who love them.”* This was certainly the case at Hot Springs, where 107 volunteers worked on the Madison County hiking trails. There were four major work groups that covered the Appalachian Trail (above Tanyard Gap and Hot Springs Parking Lot Kiosk), River Ridge trail along the French Broad River, and Spring Creek Trail.

To read more, [click here](#).

Councillor Elections

Dear CMC Members:

Would you like to give back to our western NC trail community, connect people to the outdoors, and help preserve and protect your favorite trails?

The Carolina Mountain Club (CMC) is looking for dynamic and motivated leaders to fill several club officer (Councillor) positions in our upcoming November 2024 election.

The club-wide council positions listed below are up for election this year for two-year terms beginning in January 2025. The club needs councillors to provide the critical leadership for our important work in maintaining our status as the best hiking club in WNC. CMC is a non-profit organization with over 1200 members. Volunteer members lead over 200 hikes a year and help maintain and preserve over 440 miles of our local trails.

Positions we are looking to fill for next year include:

- Secretary: responsible for Council meeting minutes and managing club records
- Councillor for Trails: provides oversight and support to trail crew leaders
- Councillor at Large: assists Council with special projects

If you are interested in a leadership position, like to help develop organizations, and you have a few hours a week to volunteer, we'd like to know more about you. To apply or to recommend a candidate, you can email tomjweaver@gmail.com.

We will contact you to learn more about your interests and provide additional information.

If leadership is not for you, but you would like to support the work of CMC, please contact Les Love (leslove55@gmail.com) for more information about volunteer opportunities that might be right for you.

If you cannot help now but know of potential candidates, please tell us and we'll contact them.

Sincerely,
The 2024 CMC Nominating Committee

Call for Award Nominations

by Tom Weaver

Each year, a CMC Awards Committee, led by the Past President, reviews nominations for two special awards given by the club. Tom Weaver is the 2024 Committee Chairperson. The committee includes members who were last year's winners & from both hiking and trail maintenance.

The Award of Appreciation can go to any member who, during the year prior to the Annual Meeting, has rendered such exceptional service to the operation of Carolina Mountain Club that its goals were significantly advanced.

The Award of Distinction can go to a member who, during his/her membership over 10 years has made consistent and cumulative extraordinary contributions to the operation of the Club and to the achievement of its goals.

We are also looking for nominations for the Honorary Lifetime Award - nominations will be reviewed and decided on by the CMC Leadership Council.

Further details on these awards can be found on the CMC website. See the link below.

<https://www.carolinamountainclub.org/index.cfm/do/pages.view/id/42/page/Service-Awards>

If you know of a club member who you would like to nominate, please send their name, which of the awards you feel they should receive, and a brief reason why you feel they qualify for the award to Tom Weaver (tomjweaver@gmail.com). We have a review team assembled to help choose this year's recipients which will be announced at our annual meeting and dinner on November 2nd.

The nominations need to be submitted before October 1, 2024.

I encourage CMC members to recognize your peers in their outstanding volunteer efforts in trail maintenance, hiking and/or Centennial Celebration efforts.

Tom Weaver

Supplemental Information

If you are interested, use the above link for lists of past recipients for each of these awards from 2000-2023.

Hike for Healing Event

by Karen Schultz and Jan Onan

"Hike for Healing is an annual event that encourages self-reflection and open, honest, and meaningful conversation to ignite healing of racial and cultural divides... Healing begins with a conversation. There are a number of things that divide people in this country. The outdoors connects people in ways that things like politics have not been able to do." Lee Fortune



On June 20th and June 21st, Carolina Mountain Club and Friends of the Mountains to Sea Trail (FMST), collaborated with CMC member Lee Fortune, to bring awareness to the annual 'Hike for Healing.' The plan was for Lee to hike 70 miles of segment 3 on the MST, which included 'The Pitchell' – the hike from Mt Pisgah to Mt. Mitchell. The goal of Hike for Healing is to build connections through conversations, that are often more easily facilitated in the outdoors. As part of the process, Lee invited others to join him on any part of the trail.

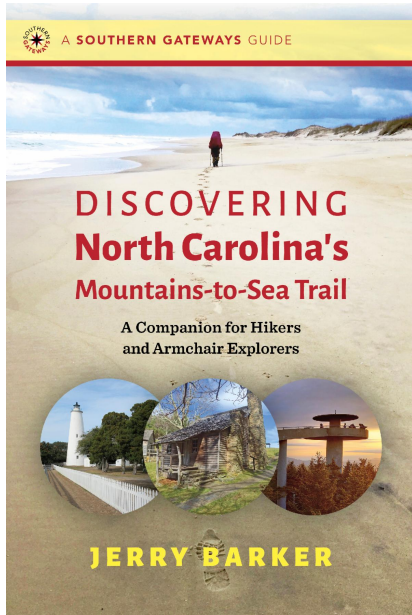
To read more, [click here](#).

Remembering CMC's Centennial Celebration and Celebrating the 101st Birthday

by Donna Bange

It is hard to believe that it has been nearly a year since CMC's huge Centennial Celebration at the Arboretum. On July 16, CMC will turn 101 years old. This impressive milestone is a testament to CMC's vitality and impact in the Western North Carolina Community. More importantly CMC's foundation is still built upon 100% volunteers who are passionate and dedicated.

To read more, [click here](#).



Discovering North Carolina's Mountains-to-Sea Trail

A Companion for Hikers and Armchair Explorers

by Jerry Barker

published by The University of North Carolina Press 2024.

Reviewed by Danny Bernstein

Jerry Barker has championed the Mountains-to-Sea Trail for a long time. Now he has authored a book which describes, explains, and supports North Carolina's premier trail.

Unlike a turn-by-turn guidebook, you can read this book straight through. It could be in your armchair or better yet, a little each evening before you walk the next section of the MST.

The Mountains-to-Sea Trail is a 1,175-mile trail crossing North Carolina. Barker's book on the MST is, as the subtitle says, the companion. What is on the trail? What is available immediately off the trail? The author describes the history and natural history of the trail as he moves along from Clingmans Dome in Great Smoky Mountains National Park to Jockey's Ridge State Park on the Atlantic Ocean.

To read more, [click here](#).

Carolina Mountain Club eNews is published on the first Friday of each month. Members can send your news to eNews@carolinamountainclub.org. **Articles are due on the last Friday of the previous month.** Please limit articles to no more than 1,000 words. You may send up to two photos as jpg attachments. For members' address and email changes, log in, select "Modify Profile", make changes and click on "Update Member" or email Dennis Bass at dbass3607@gmail.com. Your email changes will be automatically reflected in eNews delivery.

About Carolina Mountain Club:

Hiking. CMC leads about 200 group hikes per year. Hikes are open to all, and we welcome guests (though please contact hike leader first). Hike information--including dates, times, meeting locations, scout reports, and leader contact information--can be found on the CMC website [here](#). Additional information about hiking can be found [here](#).

Trail maintenance. CMC maintains over 440 miles of trail in western NC. Individuals of all

ages and groups/organizations are invited to participate. CMC membership is not required, and all required tools are provided. We have weekly crews every day of the week from Monday-Saturday, quarterly Saturday crews, and other special events. For those with busy or unpredictable schedules, we also have section maintainers who maintain a short portion of trail and/or report issues that require a larger work crew. To volunteer, please email volunteer@carolinamountainclub.org or visit [here](#) for more information.

Conservation. The CMC Conservation Committee advocates for the sustained natural beauty and access to our hiking areas. More information can be found [here](#) or by emailing Conservation@carolinamountainclub.org.

How to join the CMC

For just \$20 (\$30 Family) per year, you can join western North Carolina's oldest and largest hiking trail club. CMC members receive the *Let's Go!* quarterly hike schedule via email and have full access to member services on the CMC website. There is a link to join on the [CMC website](#).

Carolina Mountain Club | P.O. Box 68
Asheville, NC 28802
www.carolinamountainclub.org

[Let's Go!](#)



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