

**HIKE CANCELLED –
NO LEADER AVAILABLE** Nov. 26

HALF DAY No. H0604-344 Dec. 3
**Pulliam Creek in the
Green River Game Lands 12:30 PM***
Hike 6.5, Drive 60, 1000 ft. ascent,
Rated B-B
Nonmembers call leader, Becky Elston,
828-749-1886, belston@cytechusa.com
***Note early start time.** This pretty in-and-
out hike goes along Pulliam Creek for part of
the way. We may see kayakers on the Green
River. Join leader for dinner at Cracker
Barrel after the hike. ***Meet at Westgate
at 12:30 PM to form carpools and meet
hike leader at NW corner of parking lot of
Cracker Barrel off I-26, Exit 53, at 1 PM.**

HALF-DAY No. H0604-102 Dec. 10
Coontree Loop 1:00 PM*
Hike 3.7, Drive 70, Elevation gain 1200 ft.
ascent, Rated C-B
Nonmembers, call leader, Gerry McNabb,
828-274-0057, gerrymcnabb@charter.net
P400 *Note early start time. This hike is a
loop along both sides of a lovely creek, with
views along Coontree Mtn. ridge on top.
Some steep areas. **Second meeting place:
Ranger Station on US 276 at 1:40 PM.**

HALF DAY NO. H0604-325 Dec. 17
Tanyard Gap to Rich Mountain 1:00 PM*
Hike 5, Drive 64, 1365 ft. ascent, Rated C-B
Nonmembers, call leader, Tom Sanders, 828-
252-6327, tomary2@charter.net

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

Return Service Requested

***Note early start time.** After a gradual
climb on the Appalachian Trail, we will be
rewarded with an outstanding view of the
Hot Springs area from the fire tower.

**HIKE CANCELLED –
NO LEADER AVAILABLE** Dec. 24

HALF-DAY NO. H0604-534 Dec. 31
**Turkey Pen, Pounding Mill,
Mullinax loop 1:30 PM***
Hike 5.5, Drive 55, 900 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
Nonmembers, call leader, Bruce Bente, 828-
692-0116, bbente@cytechusa.com
**P400 *Meet at Westgate at 1:30 PM to
form carpools, and meet leader at Turkey**

**Pen parking lot at 2:00 PM (call leader
if not familiar with second meeting place).**
This is a nice winter hike, low elevation and
close to Asheville. We'll cross the S. Mills
River footbridge, then do a loop on the sce-
nic Pounding Mill and Mullinax trails.

HALF-DAY NO. H0701-320 Jan. 7
Warren Wilson College Ramble 1:30 PM
Hike 5.5, Drive 20, Rated C-C
Nonmembers, call leaders, Barry
and Heather Fletcher, 828-299-4776,
hmflfet@aol.com
This pleasant in-and-out walk is along the
Swannanoa River and through wooded land
of the Warren Wilson College campus, on
the River and Dam Pasture Trails.

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.

MOUNTAINEERING INFORMATION: Consult the trip
leader for additional information regarding a par-
ticular 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 sched-
ule, the leader must be called to reserve a space. Hikers will carpool from the
meeting places to trailheads and back. Passengers are expected to contribute
10 cents per mile towards the driver's operating expenses.

CLOTHING & EQUIPMENT, ETC.: Footwear comes first. Never start a moun-
tain 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 announced
for the trip. No one is to start ahead 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. Frequent non-member participants in

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

CAROLINA MOUNTAIN CLUB OFFICERS

Lenny Bernstein-236-0192, President
Becky Smucker-298-5013, Vice President
Dave Wetmore-884-7296, Secretary
Carroll Koeplinger-667-0723, Treasurer
Gerry McNabb-274-0057, Immediate Past President
Council Members: Chip Miller-654-9331, Barth Brooker-299-0298,
Ruth Hartzler-251-0886, Piet Bodenhorst-298-8371, Don Gardner-754-4067,
Bruce Bente-692-0116, Marlene Santa Maria-299-9095.

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

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. 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 hike 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.

Editor: Stuart English-883-2447, stuengo@citcom.net
Deadline next issue: Nov. 15



FOURTH QUARTER 2006
Quarterly News Bulletin
and Hike Schedule



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

CMC needs your help in the important work of its committees

Much of the organizational work that
keeps CMC running is carried out by its
committees. Without these committees we
would not be able to offer the wide range
of activities that we do. Currently five of
our committees - Hiking, Conservation,
Education, Challenge Programs, and
Awards - need new members. If you can

help in any of these activities, please contact
the Committee Chair.

The Hiking Committee is responsible for
developing CMC's hiking schedule, for train-
ing and recognizing hike leaders, and for
other activities necessary to ensure that CMC
has a full and enjoyable hiking program.
Committee Chair: Bruce Bente (828-692-
0116).

Ruth Hartzler's article on page 7 describes
the activities of the Conservation Committee.
Committee Chair: Ruth Hartzler (828-251-
0886).

The Education Committee provides train-
ing programs for CMC members, such as the
Wilderness First Aid course described on this
page and the beginning map reading course
described on page 2. It is supposed to have
membership from both the Club's trail main-
tenance and hiking activities. At this time we
need representatives from both. Committee
Chair: Dave Wetmore (828-884-7296).

The Challenge Programs Committee is
responsible for the design and operation of
the Club's Challenge Programs: the SB6K,
P400, and WNC Loop. It also provides advice
to individuals trying to complete these chal-
lenges. Committee Chair: Don Gardner (828-
754-4067).

Wilderness first aid course offered

The CMC is offering a Wilderness
First Aid Course on Nov. 18 and 19 at
Warren Wilson College. This 16-hour
course will be taught by Landmark
Learning. The CMC is funding some
of the cost for each person which
includes a 2-year certification. The
participant must be a CMC member.

To register, send a check for \$75
made out to CMC, including your
address, home phone number and
e-mail address, also a business-size
self-addressed stamped envelope to:
Marlene Santa Maria, 49 Apple Tree
Way, Asheville, NC 28805. If there
are any questions, call 299-9095 or
Marlena98@hotmail.com.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Annual Meeting and Dinner Oct. 27 in Hendersonville

CMC's annual dinner and meeting
will be held on Friday, October 27 at
the Chariot in Hendersonville. Dale
Ditmanson, the Superintendent of the
Great Smoky Mountains National Park,
will be the guest speaker. It will start with
a Social Hour at 6:00 p.m., followed by
Dinner at 7:00 p.m., and the Speaker and

Meeting at 8:00 p.m. The cost of the dinner
will be \$23 per person attending. Beer and
wine will be sold for three dollars a glass or
bottle. See the insert to sign up for the dinner
and renew your membership for 2007.

Another date worthy of mention is the
CMC Spring Barbeque at the NC Arboretum,
which will be April 21, 2007.

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Many
CMC mem-
bers prob-
ably don't
realize that
the Club has
bylaws that
set the rules
for how the
Council is



elected and operates. You can find
the bylaws on the CMC website,
www.carolinamtclub.org, under
"Club."

Last year we completely rewrote
the bylaws. The result has been an
improvement in the way the Club
operates. The biggest change is that
we now have voices on the Council
for the Club's education, hiking, and
trail maintenance functions. This
has worked well and we want to
add Councilors for conservation and
membership. However, we got car-
ried away last year and established
too many committees. We now real-
ize that four of those committees
are not needed and can be com-
bined with other committees. And
we didn't think of all the contingen-
cies that could arise in our procedure
for picking new officers and need to
make some adjustments.

These changes are described
in the insert on proposed amend-
ments to our bylaws. Please take
a few minutes to read through
them. If you have any questions,
phone (828-236-0192) or e-mail me
(Lsberns@worldnet.att.net). Please
come to the Annual Meeting and cast
your vote on these proposals. They
can't go into effect until the member-
ship approves them.

Trail Profiles: Walt Weber

Many CMC members own the book Trail Profiles: The Mountains to Sea Trail. Those that do not should consider buying a copy (available by sending \$5 to CMC, P.O. Box 68, Asheville, NC 28802). It has a wealth of information about our club, the building of the Mountains to the Sea Trail, as well as an easy to understand profile map of the trail as it follows the Blue Ridge Parkway. Recently we interviewed the man who wrote the book and did a lot of the work on the trail.

I can only guess, but I have been a member of CMC since around 1992, about the time that I started working with the Dick Roberts Monday work crew. They were constructing the Pisgah Ledge section of the MTS at that time (the MST was then known as the MTS).

I started measuring hikes with a wheel

and an altimeter in the late 1980s for the purpose of determining accumulative elevation ascent and descent and percent of grade for our hikes as we had been using only net elevation change. From the data gathered during these surveys I started preparing trail profiles, which are quite similar to the Track Charts with which I was familiar during my 33 years with a railroad.

I started measuring the Pisgah Ledge section in 1994 during its construction period and after it was completed in 1996 I continued on north on the Shut-in Section and completed the entire survey in 1999. During 1997 and 1998 I started researching the origin of the trails occupied by the MST and began preparing the Trail Profiles book for the CMC. Through the energies of Howard MacDonald, the Club was able to bring it to publication in 1999.

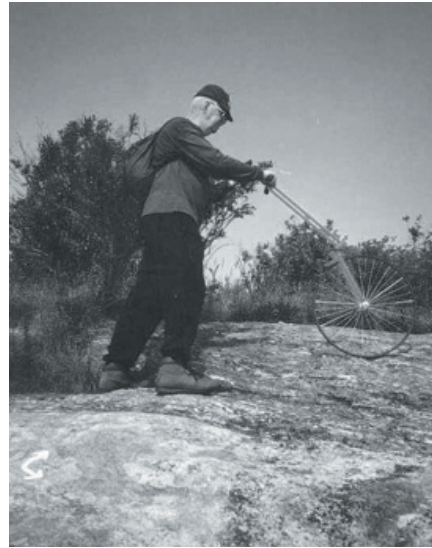
The most memorable event during this

survey was measuring from Mt. Mitchell down to Black Mountain Campground with Bob Johnson in a rainstorm. I discovered that my tape recorder had stopped recording and we had lost about 1500 trail feet of data. Fortunately I had a "Write in the Rain" notebook and we continued on with me calling out the numbers and Bob writing them down. We returned later to pick up the missing 1500' and also the Higgins Bald re-route of the MST.

In 2005, I oiled up the wheel and as part of a joint CMC/Park Service GPS undertaking I have profiled our new section of the trail from Balsam Gap (South) to Beech Gap (NC Route 215), 32.7 more miles, and have now GPS'd all of our MST to Black Mountain Campground. Once completed, the 14 miles from Heintooga Road to Balsam Gap will also be measured and profiled. Who knows, we may end up with another Trail Profiles book for publication by CMC, complete with routing neatly laid out on topo fragments.

I have been blessed with the assistance of many, many CMC members and non-members through the years measuring all of the sections of our trail and I salute them for all of their efforts.

— W. W. Weber, Jr.



Walt Weber with his wheel.

Submit nominations

Put your thinking cap on and come up with some names for the club to consider for its two annual awards. See forms enclosed. You can also send in your "picks" via email to backpacker54nc@bellsouth.net. Deadline is October 15.

Also remember you have only until September 30 to write a slogan for CMC and win a \$100 Diamond Brand gift certificate! Send you the email address above or mail to CMC, P.O. Box 68, Asheville, NC 28802, Att: Chip Miller.

Beginning map reading

Are you one of those people, (like me), who just fall in line on a hike and never know where they really are? On October 21st, the CMC will offer its third beginning map reading course. The course begins with about two hours of presentation and ends with four hours of field work. We will show you some techniques you can use to stay found and to know when you're in danger of getting lost. To sign up for the course, contact Dave Wetmore at dwetmore@citcom.net or 884-7296. Pre-registration is required, and there is a class limit of 10.

Council creates communications committee

By Gerry McNabb

Earlier this year a new committee was formed to coordinate the communications efforts of the club to its various constituents. Lenny asked me if I would chair it and I agreed. Our most important target is the membership itself. That "public" is being well served by the *E-News* and *Let's Go*. Though edited with different styles, both publications are designed to inform members about the news, activities, policies, and plans of the club. I think they are both doing a great job: one with the immediacy of the internet, and the other with the lasting qualities of a printed publication.

Another target is the general public,

from which new members come. In addition, we speak to our working partners in maintenance and environmental areas. It would appear that publication graphics also falls under its aegis. Earlier in the year the committee helped the *E-News* come up with the masthead in use today.

Most recently the committee helped establish a policy for dealing with surveys the club might come up with to discover member preferences. Our website has recently added the capability of including interactive survey questions to which members can respond. Surveys now provide a valuable tool that can help the club establish plans and programs to meet members' wishes.

Jack Fitzgerald new representative on AT guidebook committee

CMC maintains 92.6 miles of the Appalachian Trail. Along with this responsibility, the club also updates the Trail Guide Book when necessary. Lou Blodgett performed this function for many years. Long-time club member Jack Fitzgerald recently took over this position. We talked to Jack about his new duties.

"Lou just gave me the 'wheel' last week. This is used to get the exact measurement of any new section of the AT that we might build as a relocation ... I will be working with a man from the Tennessee Eastman Club, Collins Chew. As I understand it so far, I will be responsible to report to the ATC any changes in the AT itself, and also any changes to nearby facilities that hikers might use, such as hostels, campgrounds, resupply stores, shuttle services, etc.

"The guide books this information goes into are published by the ATC every 4-5 years. Since there was a new one put out for our section just last year, I will not need to provide this info for some time."

Rusty Breeding completes AT

One of our members, Rusty Breeding, recently completed the Appalachian Trail after years of section hiking. We contacted Rusty and she shared some thoughts with us.

"Yes, I did finish section-hiking the AT on August 3rd – in the New York heat wave.

"I would like to thank all the people who helped make the accomplishment possible: All the CMC hike leaders who led hikes on the AT in North Carolina and Tennessee; Anita Baker and Amy Treverton who let me tag along from

Wesser to Fontana in 1991 – the first entry in my data book; Emily Terrell who took me through the Smokies in 1996; especially to Nancy Seymour Walter who invited me to hike with her and Margaret Suits in 1997, thus making me realize that doing the whole thing might be possible. Thanks also to Joanne Tulip who continued to hike with me after

Nancy completed the trail in 1999. "I can truthfully say that I enjoyed the whole thing; even getting wet wasn't all that bad. Finding all the back road trail crossings was an adventure in itself. Perhaps the most fun was meeting all the other hikers with the same dream."

We also congratulate Joanne Tulip and Stuart Tauber for completing the Benton MacKaye Trail this year. To those who judge individuals by age or gender, we have one thing to say. Join our club!



Rusty Breeding crosses a stile in Virginia.

Conservation Committee addresses hiking, forest issues

By Ruth Hartzler

The Conservation Committee's charter is to inform Club members of issues that may affect the hiking experience, encourage Club members to voice their opinions on some of the more important issues, and recommend key issues to the Council. When approved by Council, the Committee communicates Club positions publicly.

The Club has publicly supported three issues. CMC supports the monetary settlement/no road alternative to

the North Shore Road in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The Club opposes block sales of Forest Service Land to fund the extension of the Secure Rural Schools & Community Self-Determination Act. Also, CMC opposes construction of the proposed Interstate 3.

The Conservation Committee is currently learning more about Forest Service timber sales. We sponsored a CMC Wednesday hike up Looking Glass Rock to observe the area of a proposed timber sale in the area of Case Camp Ridge. We continue to monitor the two national parks in our area, GSMNP and BRP, by participating in the Great Smoky Mountains Coalition and the North Shore Road Coalition. We are discussing forest

management issues as related to hiking, and looking at long term issues. We network with regional conservation organizations that are actively working to protect our hiking environment.

The Conservation Committee has lively discussions on these issues, and what CMC can do. We need to know what the club membership thinks is important. So, join us at our monthly meetings on the third Thursday of each month. Contact Ruth Hartzler (828-251-0886 or ruthmtn@charter.net) for time and place, or contact a committee member to voice your opinion.

We also need new committee members to learn about and research issues, attend government agency and conservation meetings, or simply voice your opinion. Our current members are Danny Bernstein, Rachel Doughty, Chip Miller, Becky Smucker, and Ruth Hartzler.

NEXT CMC COUNCIL MEETING

When: October 4, 2006

Where: Lenny Bernstein's house, 488 Kimberly Avenue

Time: 6:30 PM (please note time change)

Info: Call Lenny at 828-236-0192 for directions. All CMC members are welcome to attend. Please let him know if you plan to attend.

ALL DAY NO. A0604-394 **Dec. 10**
Cataloochee and Little Cataloochee **8:00 AM**
 Hike 8, Drive 95, 2350 ft. ascent, Rated B-AA

Dave Wetmore, 828-884-7296, dwetmore@citcom.net
900M Walk the "Dug Road," originally built in the 1850s. See an unrestored farm site, a restored log cabin, the old apple house, an old church and tourists looking for elk. The Dug Road is a mostly open easy 2.7 mile bushwhack on an abandoned trail. The rest of the trip is on maintained trails. Topo: Cove Creek Gap; also Nat'l. Geo. map of GSMNP

ALL DAY NO. A0604-254 **Dec. 17**
Green Knob via Snooks Nose **8:00 AM**
 Hike 11, Drive 65, 3400 ft. ascent, Rated A-AA+

Joanne Tulip, 828-299-3495, tulipinnc@aol.com
 This strenuous trip from Curtis Creek climbs up and over the Blue Ridge Parkway to the Green Knob fire tower. Great views along the way as well as at the lunch stop on the summit of Green Knob. We'll return via the Newberry Creek Trail. May be challenging if there is snow at the higher elevations. Short car shuttle. Topo: Old Fort

CHRISTMAS EVE – NO HIKE SCHEDULED **Dec. 24**

MONDAY NO. A0604-487 **Dec. 25**
Bent Creek Loop #9 **9:00 AM**
 Hike 9, Drive 20, 1600 ft. ascent, Rated A-A Lenny & Danny Bernstein, 828-236-0192, danny@hikertohiker.org
P400 Note later start time. Join us for a Christmas hike around Bent Creek, starting at the Hardtimes trailhead. A great close-in, cool weather hike suitable for everyone. Dinner at a casual Chinese restaurant for those interested. Topos: Dunsmore Mtn., Skyland; also Nat'l. Geo. PRD map

HIKE CANCELLED – NO LEADER AVAILABLE **Dec. 31**

NEW YEARS DAY NO. A0701-281 **Jan. 1**
Green River Gamelands breakfast, 9:00 AM hike* **8:00 AM**
 Hike 6.5 or 8, Drive 20 (from Hendersonville), 1300 or 1500 ft. ascent, Rated B-B
 Bruce Bente, 828-692-0116, bbente@cytechusa.com
***Meet at Westgate at 7:30 AM to form carpools and meet leader at times above at the Cracker Barrel in Hendersonville (exit 53 on I26).** After breakfast, we'll do a pleasant loop on a series of trails around the Green River Gamelands. We'll hike down to



and along the Green River, with a late lunch at the big rocks on the Green River, and then hike up and out on the Pulliam Creek trail. Short car shuttle. Topo: Clifffield Mtn.; also Map of the Green River Gamelands Trails

HALF-DAY SUNDAY HIKES

Newcomers are welcome, but nonmembers MUST call the hike leader before the hike to determine the requirements. Half-day hikes submitted by Paula Robbins, 828-281-3253, paularww@bellsouth.net. Driving distance is round-trip from Asheville. All hikes assemble at Westgate Shopping Center (Exit 3B off I-240) unless otherwise noted. Some hikes will have second meeting places as described in hike listings.

HALF-DAY No. H0604-318 **Oct. 1**
East Fork Pigeon River **1:00 PM***
 Hike 5, Drive 74, Rated C-C
 Nonmembers call leader, Renate Rikkers, 828-298-9988, Rerikkerr@aol.com
P400 *Note early start time. This in-and-out hike goes along a beautiful stream.

HALF-DAY NO. H0604-436 **Oct. 8**
Mt. Pisgah from the Pisgah Inn **1:00 PM***
 Drive 44, Hike 4.5, Elevation gain 700 ft., Rated C-C
 Nonmembers call leader, Laura Stallard, 828-697-1579
P400 *Note early start time. View autumn foliage from the top of Mt. Pisgah on this in-and-out hike. **Second meeting place: Pisgah Inn parking lot at 1:30 PM.**

HALF DAY No. H0604-381 **Oct. 15**
Snowball Trail **1:00 PM***
 Drive 50, Hike 5.5, Rated B-B
 Nonmembers call leader, Jorge Munoz, 828-658-0606, jmunoz@buncombe.main.nc.us
***Note early start time.** This is a moderate in-and-out hike with a nice steady climb to High Rocks (Hawkbill Mtn.). Diverse and centennial trees to be admired all the way on the ridge. Stop for a snack at Snowball Mountain before return. **Second meeting place: Craven Gap on Blue Ridge Parkway at 1:20 PM.**

HALF DAY NO. H0604-464 **Oct. 22**
Balsam Gap to Greybeard Overlook **1:00 PM***
 Hike 3.5, Drive 44, Rated C-C
 Nonmembers call leader, Renate Rikkers,

828-298-9988, Rerikkerr@aol.com
***Note early start time.** Although the distance on this portion of the Mountains-to-Sea Trail is not long, this hike provides a good workout, with 400 feet ascending and 700 descending, with great views midway. Short car shuttle. ***Only meeting place: Folk Art Center lower parking lot.**

HALF-DAY NO. H0604-062 **Oct. 29**
Daniel Ridge Loop Trail **1:00 PM***
 Drive 70, Hike 4, 800 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
 Nonmembers call leader, Pat Elias, 828-687-1651; patelias@bellsouth.net
P400 *Note early start time. After scrambling across the Davidson River on stones because of the washout of the bridge in Hurricane Ivan, the trail climbs gradually beside a lovely stream with small waterfalls. A larger waterfall is seen just before the end of the hike. ***Note: If the river is flooded, a different hike will be chosen. Second meeting place: Fish Hatchery parking lot off FS475 at 1:45 PM.**

HALF-DAY NO. H0604-533 **Nov. 5**
Looking Glass Overlook to Wagon Road Gap on the MST **1:00 PM***
 Drive 70, Hike 5, 1500 ft. ascent, Rated C-A
 Nonmembers call leader, Ruth Hartzler, 828-251-0886, ruthmtn@charter.net
P400 *Note early start time. This moderate one-way hike features great views from Green Knob. ***Second meeting place: BRP Wagon Road parking area (MP 412) at 1:40 PM. Short car shuttle.**

HALF-DAY NO. H0604-434 **Nov. 12**
Laurel Mountain Trail **1:00 PM***
 Hike 4-5 miles, Drive 40, Rated C-C
 Nonmembers call leader, Greg Goodman, 828-684-9703
P400 *Note early start time. This loop hike will start at FS 1206, go along a ridge trail toward Black Mountain and return via the Laurel Mountain Trail. There should be good views of the Mills River Valley. ***Meet at Westgate at 1:00 PM to form carpools (call leader if not familiar with second meeting place); meet leader at the North Mills River parking area at 1:30 PM.**

HALF-DAY NO. H0604-522 **Nov. 19**
Hot Springs Loop **1:00 PM***
 Nonmembers call leader, Don Walton, 828-298-5084, donwalton@bellsouth.net
 Hike 3.6, Drive 90, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated C-B
***Note early start time.** From the campground along the Vann Cliff Trail the loop ascends to nice views of Hot Springs and the French Broad River Valley, passes Spring Creek and then returns to the campground.

HIKE SCHEDULE Fourth Quarter 2006

Hike Ratings

First Letter Distance	Second Letter Elevation Gain
AA: Over 12 miles	AA: Over 2,000 ft.
A: 9-12 miles	A: 1,500-2,000 ft.
B: 6-9 miles	B: 1,000-1,500 ft.
C: Under 6 miles	C: Under 1,000 ft.

Also in the hike descriptions, the terms easy, moderate or strenuous reflect the overall trail conditions, physical challenge and other factors influencing hike difficulty. If you have questions or if the weather on the day of the hike is questionable, contact the leader.

CHALLENGE PROGRAMS:

SB6K For hiking all 40 peaks above 6000'. For information, contact Don Gardner, gardog3@charter.net
P400 For hiking every trail in Pisgah Ranger District. For information, contact Don Gardner, gardog3@charter.net
900M For hiking every trail in GSMNP. For information, contact John Gallemore, kelarco@aol.com

WEDNESDAY HIKES

All-day hikes submitted by Ann Gleason 828-859-9387, gleason.ann@gmail.com. Driving distance is round-trip from Asheville. Hikes will assemble at Westgate Shopping Center near I-240, exit 3B unless otherwise noted. Some hikes will have second meeting places as described in the hike listing. Please phone the hike leader if you are not sure of the meeting location.

WEDNESDAY NO. W0604-407 **Oct 4**
Dill Falls **8:00 AM***
 Hike 5, Drive 85, Rated C-C
 Larry Ballard, 828-891-4318, leballard@cytechcis.net
***Meet at Westgate at 8:00 AM to form carpools, and meet leader at Pisgah Forest Bi-Lo at 8:30 AM.** We will hike to Dill Falls, a magnificent 70 ft. waterfall, then hike up the west side of Tanasee Creek from the point where Charles Creek Road crosses the creek. There will be two stream crossings that require wading.

WEDNESDAY NO. W0604-336 **Oct 11**
Mt. Cammerer from Big Creek **8:00 AM**
 Hike 11.8, Drive 110, 3300 ft. ascent, Rated A-AA
 Susanna Whitaker, 828-684-5948, susannwhit@earthlink.net
900M We will travel west on I-40, take the

Waterville Exit and continue a short distance to our trailhead in the Big Creek area. This fantastic hike takes us up the AT which will take us to Mt. Cammerer, featuring the historic stone fire tower built according to the "Yosemite model" in the 1930s: a CCC project. We will enjoy a lunch break on top and take in the expansive autumn views. The ascent is rather long, but the pace will be moderate. Return on same trails. **Second meeting place: Pilot Truck Stop at exit 24 off I-40 at 8:30 AM.** Topo: Waterville; also Nat'l. Geo. GSMNP map

WEDNESDAY NO. W0604-539 **Oct 18**
Downhill to Pilot Mtn. **8:00 AM**
 Hike 6, Drive 88, 2200 ft. ascent, Rated B-AA
 Dave Wetmore, 828-884-7297, dwetmore@citcom.net
P400 Downhill to Pilot Mountain! We'll take the Art Loeb Trail from the parkway through Farlow and Deep Gaps to the magnificent views from the summit of Pilot Mountain. Then uphill from Pilot Mountain. If the weather cooperates, it should be a lovely hike. **Second meeting place: Pisgah Ranger Station at 8:35 AM.** Topo: Shining Rock; also Nat'l. Geo. PRD map

WEDNESDAY NO. W0604-540 **Oct 25**
MST: Buckeye Gap to FS 816 **8:00 AM**
 Hike 10, Drive 70. Rated A-A
 Jack Fitzgerald, 828-685-2897, suejackfitz@bellsouth.net
P400 Beautiful walk in woods, around Mt. Hardy and Chestnut Bald. Views from Silvermine Bald area. Short car shuttle. **Second meeting place: Cold Mountain overlook at 8:40 AM.** Topo: Mt. Hardy; also Nat'l. Geo. PRD map

WEDNESDAY NO. W0604-089 **Nov. 1**
Max Patch **8:00 AM**
 Hike 11, Drive 100, 1800 ft. ascent, Rated A-A
 Adrian Lotherington, 828-350 8065, jaloth@bellsouth.net
 A late fall hike that may be our last opportunity to scale this beautiful section of the AT before Jack Frost descends! We will begin and end at Max Patch, one of WNC's most stunning views. **Second meeting place:**

SATURDAY WORK DAY

Here is a great chance to learn what is involved in trail maintenance. We will meet on Nov. 4 at the Moose Cafe at the Farmer's Market on Rt. 191 at 8:00 AM for breakfast. We will return to Asheville around 4:00 PM. Call Les Love at 828-658-1489 (leslove@charter.net) to verify date.

Pilot Truck Stop at exit 24 off I-40 at 8:30 AM. Topo: Lemon Gap.

WEDNESDAY NO. W0604-438 **Nov 8**
Rich Mtn., Round Top Ridge Trail, Lover's Leap **8:00 AM**
 Hike 9.5, Drive 70, Rated A-B
 Don Walton, 828-654-9904, donwalton@bellsouth.net
 From Tanyard Gap we will go north on the AT to the beautiful Rich Mountain views, then descend to Hot Springs via Round Top Ridge Trail, and culminate the day with a short climb to Lover's Leap, finishing on the AT in Hot Springs.

WEDNESDAY NO. W0604-408 **Nov 15**
Wolf Ford Loop Hike **8:00 AM***
 Hike 9, Drive 80, 1200 ft. ascent, Rated B-B
 Greg Goodman, 828-684-9703
P400 *Meet at Westgate at 8:00 AM to form carpools, and meet leader at Pisgah Ranger Station at 8:30 AM. Start at the gauging station and hike South Mills River trail to Wolf Ford, Squirrel Gap, Horse Cove and to FS 5018, then along Funneltop Ridge onto Soapstone Ridge and back to cars. Topo: Shining Rock; also Nat'l. Geo. PRD map

WEDNESDAY NO. W0604-406 **Nov 22**
Pink Beds to Clawhammer Mtn **8:30 AM**
 Hike 8, Drive 86, 2300 ft. ascent, Rated B-AA
 Charlie Ferguson, 828-398-0213, ccf108@gmail.com
P400 The trailhead is at the Pink Beds parking lot (FS477). Climb on the Club Gap trail to Club Gap. Then take the Black Mt. Trail along Rich Mtn., climbing through Buckhorn Gap and along the ridge to the overlook at Clawhammer which has great views. That will be our lunch stop. Then return the way we came. We will take our time while climbing. **Second meeting place: Pisgah Ranger Station at 9:00 AM.** Topo: Shining Rock; also Nat'l. Geo. PRD map

WEDNESDAY NO. W0604-519 **Nov 29**
Raven Cliff Falls, Cathedral Rock, Dismal Trail Loop **8:00 AM**
 Hike 9, Drive 95 2300 ft. ascent, Rated A-AA
 Ann Gleason, 828-859-9387, gleason.ann@gmail.com
 Hike to 412 ft. Raven Cliff falls in Caesar's Head State Park where we cross the suspension bridge and descend 120 ft. down "the Cathedral." We then cross Matthews Creek on a cable crossing and ascend steeply up the Dismal Trail to a large rock outcropping with a great view of the falls and then return to parking lot. **Second meeting place: Bi-lo parking lot in Pisgah Forest at 8:30 AM.**

Additional meeting place: Raven Cliff parking lot on US 275 at 9:00 AM. Note there is a \$2 fee per person for park entry. Topo: Table Rock, also Mountain Bridge Wilderness map

WEDNESDAY NO. W0604-471 **Dec 6**
Wagon Road Gap, MST to Big East Fork 8:00 AM
Hike 9.5, Drive 85, 1500 ft. ascent, Rated A-A
Tom Sanders, 828-252-6327, tomary2@charter.net
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 at 8:40 AM.** Topo: Shining Rock; also Nat'l. Geo. PRD map

WEDNESDAY NO. W0604-492 **Dec 13**
Cookie Hike in the Arboretum Area 9:00 AM*
Hike 7-8, Drive 12, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated B-C
Ken and Carol Deal, 828-281-4530, kmdeal@aol.com
***Note later start time.** Bring a few home-made goodies to share. We will hike on trails constructed by the CMC in the Arboretum and cover some trails in the Lake Powhatan area also. Bring your Arboretum membership card if you have one. There is a \$6 parking fee otherwise. **Second meeting place: Ingles parking lot across from Biltmore Square at 9:15 AM.** Topo: Asheville; also Nat'l Geo PRD map and Bent Creek Trail Map

WEDNESDAY NO. W0604-279 **Dec 20**
Montreat: RR Trestle Grade to Pot Cove 9:10 AM*
Hike 7, Drive 35, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated B-C
Gerry McNabb, 828-274-0057, gerrymcnabb@charter.net
***Note later start time.** An easy in and out hike to Pot Cove from the Lookout Trail parking lot. Some internal loops for variety. **Second meeting place: Parking lot adjacent to Black Mtn. McDonald's just south of I-40 exit 64 at 9:30 AM.** Topo: Montreat

WEDNESDAY NO. W0604-286 **Dec. 27**
Sycamore Cove Trails 8:10 AM*
Hike 7, Drive 70, Rated B-B
Pat Elias, 828-687-1651, patelias@bellsouth.net
P400 *Meet at Westgate at 8:10 AM to form carpools; meet hike leader at entrance to Davidson River Campground parking lot on US 276 at 8:45 AM. An easy hike (some uphill) in the Pisgah Forest along several trails: Thrift Cove, Grassy Road,

ALL DAY SATURDAY AND SUNDAY HIKES

All-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 exit 3B unless otherwise noted.

ALL DAY NO. A0603-528 **Oct. 1**
AT: Carmen – Allen Gap 8:00 AM (strenuous)
Hike 13.5, Drive 95, 3300 ft. ascent, Rated AA-AA+
Charlie Ferguson, 828-398-0213, ccferguson111@charter.net and Bruce Bente, 828-692-0116, bbente@cytechusa.com
A strenuous hike with great payback. This AT hike features great views from the Firescald Knob relo, Blackstock Cliff and White Rock Cliffs, and the Camp Creek Bald fire tower. The Fork Ridge Trail will be used to access the AT from the Carmen area. Key swap. Topos: Greystone, Davy Crockett Lake, Hot Springs; also Nat'l. Geo. French Broad & Nolichucky Rivers map

ALL DAY NO. A0603-249 **Oct. 1**
Haywood Gap / Buckeye Gap 8:30 AM* (moderate)
Hike 9, Drive 80, 1500 ft. ascent, Rated A-A
Larry Modlin, 828-251-5092, lmodlin@warren-wilson.edu
P400 *Note later start time. Follow MST, then scenic Haywood Gap Stream down on rough trail through the Middle Prong Wilderness to junction with Buckeye Gap Trail. Climb up onto ridge to more open forest, then follow old logging RR grade up. Wilderness area hike, limited to ten hikers—call leader for reservations. **Second meeting place: BRP Cold Mtn. overlook at 9:00 AM.** Topo: Sam Knob

Nantahala Hiking and Rafting Weekend Oct. 6 - 8
We will stay at the Nantahala Outdoor Center in Wesser in the Nantahala Gorge. Challenging and moderate hikes are scheduled. In addition, you can raft and bike. This is also a perfect family weekend. All the information is posted on the *E-News* including the planned hikes and reduced room rates. If you want the details mailed to you, send me a self-addressed stamped envelope to Danny Bernstein 488 Kimberly Ave. Asheville, NC 28804. danny@hikertohiker.org

ALL DAY NO. A0604-082 **Oct. 15**
The Blacks Beyond 6000 7:30 AM (strenuous)
Hike 11.3, Drive 125, 3000 ft. (northbound)

or 6000 ft. (southbound) ascent, Rated AA-AA+
Charlie Ferguson, 828-398-0213, ccf108@gmail.com (southbound) & Don Gardner, 828-754-4067, gardog3@charter.net (northbound)
SB6K Note earlier starting time. Key-swap hike. This is your chance to bag seven SB6K peaks on this **very strenuous** hike. The southbound initial climb is 3100 ft., and there's much more climbing in the ups and downs between peaks. North-bounders get to go down the 3100 ft. The hike is great fun with incomparable views, but do not consider this unless you are in top shape. Bring extra water. Participants should phone a leader beforehand. **Second meeting place: Phone leader.** Topos: Celo, Mt. Mitchell; also PNF South Toe River, Mount Mitchell & Big Ivy Trail Map

ALL DAY NO. A0604-265 **Oct. 22**
Pantherstown Prowl #5 8:00 AM
Hike 8-10, Drive 120, 1200 ft. ascent, Rated B-B
Joe Cirvello, 828-252-2721, cirvello25@bellsouth.net
This will be our annual exploration of beautiful Pantherstown valley, and again is timed for the brightest leaf colors. Our route this year will be determined by a scouting trip and will be posted on the *E-News* at a later time. **Second meeting place: Bi-Lo in Pisgah Forest at 8:30 AM** Topo: Big Ridge; also Nat'l. Geo. Nantahala & Cullasaja Gorges map

SATURDAY NO. A0604-422 **Oct. 28**
Big Laurel - Pump Gap 9:00 AM*
Hike 7, Drive 70, 2400 ft. ascent, Rated B-AA
Amy Treverton, 828-298-1882, athikerbabe@yahoo.com
***Note later start time.** Starting at Hurricane, we'll hike the Big Laurel Creek trail down to the French Broad River, then up Pump Branch to Pump Gap, and the AT past Lover's Leap before ending at the hot tubs in Hot Springs. Nice scenery along the creeks and river. Bring your swimsuit and plan on stopping at either the hot tubs and/or supper. **Please contact Amy if you plan to use the hot tubs so she can make reservations.** Car shuttle. Topo: Hot Springs; also Nat'l. Geo. French Broad & Nolichucky Rivers map

ALL DAY NO. A0604-217 **Oct. 29**
Sandy Mush Bald Ramble 8:00AM
Hike 9.5, Drive 40, 3100 ft. ascent, Rated A-AA+
Rob Resnick 828-255-8066, rob@reschiro.com
Sarah Carothers, 828-586-3282, sjcarothers@hotmail.com

After dividing our group in two for a key swap hike, one group will ascend up Surrutt Cove. The other group will hike up Long Branch Cove and both groups will traverse the ridge tops of the Newfound Mountains with their great views to reconnoiter for lunch atop Sandy Mush Bald. 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. A0604-406 **Nov. 5**
Pink Beds to Clawhammer and return (strenuous) 8:30 AM*
Hike 8, Drive 86, 2300 ft ascent, Rated B-AA
Don Walton, 828-654-9904, donwalton@bellsouth.net
P400 *Note later start time. We will climb from the Pink Beds (FS 477) to Club Gap. Then we take the Black Mt. Trail, climbing through Buckhorn Gap and along the ridge to the overlook at Clawhammer Mtn. for lunch and 180 degree views. ***Meet at Westgate at 8:30 AM to form carpools, and meet leader at Pisgah Ranger Station at 9:00 AM.** Topos: Shining Rock, Pisgah Forest; also Nat'l. Geo. PRD map

ALL DAY NO. A0604-526 **Nov. 5**
Down the Incline 8:40 AM* (moderate)
Hike 8, Drive 80, 1350 ft. ascent, Rated B-B
Tom Bindrim & Joan Lemire, 828-273-3880
P400 This hike is being repeated for those who missed it last time. Some off-trail; historic; wilderness area, limit 10, so call leader for reservation. Are you inclined? ***Note later start time. Meet at Westgate at 8:40 AM to form carpools, and meet leader at second meeting place (phone leader for location.).** Topo: Sam Knob; also Nat'l. Geo. PRD map

ALL DAY No. A0604-270 **Nov. 12**
Cedar Rock Mtn./ John Rock Loop 8:30 AM*
Hike 8, Drive 80, Rated B-A
Carroll Koeplinger, 828-667-0723, carrollkoepp@cs.com
P400 *Note later start time. This trip features two of the spectacular rock summits in the Pisgah Forest, with great views from both. Starting at the Fish Hatchery, we'll have our major climb up to Cat Gap and then on to Cedar Rock for lunch. We'll return via John Rock. **Second meeting place: Pisgah Fish Hatchery at 8:40 AM.** Topo: Shining Rock.

ALL DAY NO. A0604-535 **Nov. 19**
Indian Creek/Sunkota Ridge 7:30 AM*
Hike 12, Drive 135, 2000 ft. ascent, Rated A-A
Marianne Newman, 828-454-1036, marianneln@msn.com
900M *Note early start time. Form carpools at Westgate at 7:30 AM and meet leader at rest area on US23/74 beyond Waynesville at 8:00 AM. 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 lovely winter views (if the weather cooperates) of Noland and Thomas Divides. Since the hike is long and the daylight is short, a fairly brisk pace will prevail. Topos: Bryson City, Clingman's Dome; also Nat'l. Geo. GSMNP map

BACKPACK NO. A0604-536 **Nov. 24 - 26**
Backpack in the Smokies: Newfound Gap – Davenport Gap
Hike 31.3, Drive 250, 5500 ft. ascent, Rated AA+-AA+
Paul Benson, 828-251-1909, pdbenson@charter.net
900M This is a challenging three-day backpack. We will traverse the eastern half of Great Smoky Mountains National Park via the Appalachian Trail. The views should be outstanding from this high ridgeline. Expect winter conditions. Day 1: We will drop a vehicle at Davenport Gap and drive up to Newfound Gap where we will hike the AT 10.4 miles to the Pecks Corner shelter; Day 2: Continue on the AT 12.9 miles to the Cosby Knob shelter; Day 3: Continue on the AT 8 miles to Davenport Gap. **Participants must be experienced in cold weather backpacking, be strong hikers and have a spirit of adventure. We will cross a remote area from which rescue is extremely difficult. Meeting place and time: call leader. Space is limited to eight hikers so please verify that you can attend before reserving a spot.** Topos: Clingman's Dome, Mt. LeConte, Mt. Guyot, Lutfee Knob, Hartford; also Nat'l. Geo. GSMNP map

SATURDAY NO. A0604-278 **Nov. 25**
Kitsuma Peak 9:00 AM*
Hike 8, Drive 60, 2000 ft. ascent, Rated B-AA
Tom Sanders, 828-252-6327, tomary2@charter.net
***Note later starting time.** Our hike up Young's Ridge offers great views of

Greybeard, Green Knob and the Mt. Mitchell area. Also there's a grandstand view of the Swannanoa valley from our lunch spot. **Second meeting place: parking lot adjacent to McDonald's in Black Mtn. (I-40 exit 64) at 9:20 AM.** Topos: Old Fort, Black Mtn.

ALL DAY NO. A0604-397 **Nov. 26**
Bad Fork/Chestnut Cove Overlook (moderate) 8:30 AM*
Hike 9.5, Drive 5, 950 ft. ascent, Rated A-C
Stuart English, 828-883-2447, stuengo@citcom.net
P400 Note later start time. This is an in-and-out hike, beginning at the Trace Ridge trailhead. We will hike up Bad Fork to the BRP (a steep 700 ft. ascent for the second mile). At Bent Creek Gap, we will follow the MST to the Chestnut Cove Overlook, enjoy a beautiful view during lunch, then return to the parking area. ***Meet at Westgate at 8:30 AM to form carpools, and meet leader at Trace Ridge parking lot at 9:00 AM.** Topo: Dunsmore Mtn; also Nat'l. Geo. PRD map, and MST Profiles, pgs. 55-56

ALL DAY NO. A0604-537 **Dec. 3**
Pinnacle Pass/Rim of the Gap/ Coggins Loop (strenuous) 8:00 AM*
Hike 10, Drive 110, 2000 ft. ascent, Rated A-A
Matt Sowles, 864-855-6861, sowleman@charter.net
From the Caesar's Head Visitor Center, we'll do a loop hike in the Mountain Bridge Wilderness Area. We'll start with the Naturaland and Pinnacle Pass Trails, then cut over to the Rim of the Gap Trail and follow it to the Frank Coggins Trail back to our cars. If the weather is cold, there may be ice on the Rim of the Gap Trail. ***Meet at Westgate at 8:00 AM to form carpools, and meet leader at Caesar's Head Visitor Center parking lot at 9:00 AM. Make stop at Bi-Lo in Pisgah Forest at 8:30 AM for additional hikers.** Topos: Cleveland, Table Rock; also Mountain Bridge Wilderness Area Trail Map

ALL DAY NO. A0604-538 **Dec. 3**
Vineyard Gap/Forge Mtn. Loop 9:00 AM (moderate)
Hike 7, Drive 55, 800 ft. ascent, Rated B-C
Ruth Hartzler, 828-251-0886, ruthmtn@charter.net
P400 Note later start time. This is a nice loop hike from the Turkey Pen parking area, a walk along the Forge Mtn. ridge, a pleasant stroll along the South Mills River, ending with a short, steep climb up to the parking area. **Second meeting place: Turkey Pen parking area at 9:30 AM.** Topo: Pisgah Forest; also Nat'l. Geo. PRD map