**HALF-DAY NO. H0801-319**
March 30
1:00 PM

**Homes Educational Forest**
Hike 5, Drive 7, 500 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
Norsemembers, please call leader, Randy Breeding, 828-692-0359, bree lz@planteaua.us

*Note early start time. Meet at Westgate at 1:00 PM to form carpools, and meet leader at the Flagg Forest Bi-Lo side parking lot at 1:30 PM. A good early spring hike with "talking trees" and a Forest Demonstration Trail explaining good forestry practices as well as some early wildflowers.*

**HALF-DAY NO. H0801-344**
April 6
Pulliam Creek in the
Green River Game Lands
12:30 PM

**Hike 6.5, Drive 60, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated B-B**
Norsemembers, please call leader, Becky Elston, 828-749-1836, belston@ctebehss.com

*Note early start time. Meet at Westgate at 12:30 PM to form carpools and meet hike leader at NW corner of parking lot of Cracker Barrel off Exit 53 at 1:00 PM. This pretty in-and-out hike goes along Pulliam Creek for part of the way, and the break might include viewing kayakers on the Green River and seeing trillium and other early spring wildflowers. Join leader for dinner at Cracker Barrel after the hike.*

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**TRAIL MAINTENANCE AND CONSTRUCTION:**
CMC maintains 92 miles of the greenways, the N Social Forest, and over 2300 miles of hiking trails. Our trail maintainers are a dedicated group of individuals who devote many hours each year to keep our trails open and enjoyable, working in all types of weather and vegetation. They are the backbone of Carolina Mountain Club's conservation efforts. We thank them for their great work.

**CONSERVATION:**
CMC works with other organizations concerned about the protection of our natural heritage to protect trails and the hiking experience in our hiking area. Phone the Conservation Coordinator for details.

**MEMBERSHIP:**
Everyone is eligible for CMC membership by completing a Membership Application form and paying dues. Membership Application forms are available on the Club website or by mail. Annual dues are $20 for individuals and $30 for families. Applications should be sent to Carolina Mountain Club, PO Box 68, Asheville, NC 28802. Bikers are expected to join CMC after participating in a few hikes. Some trail maintenance activities are only open to members.

**CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT:**
CMC's website (www.carolinamtnclub.org) has a full list of day hiking needs. Most critical are water, footwear, rain gear and clothing – you'll want to take layers off during a strenuous climb or as the day proceeds.

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When: Thursday, February 7, 2008
Where: Greenville Community House, Merrimon Avenue
Time: 6:00 PM
Info: Call Becky at 828-289-5013 if you would like to attend.

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**THE PRESIDENT’S CORNER**

The state of our club is very good. With nearly 900 members, we are 10 percent larger than we were this time last year. We scheduled 185 hikes this past year, which attracted over 2300 participants. In the 12 months ending on September 30, 258 individuals put in 13,444 hours on trail maintenance. That’s an average of more than 50 hours per individual, which shows how dedicated our trail maintainers are. The Blue Ridge Parkway Headquarters Division recognized that dedication by naming CMC its volunteer of the year. Our conservation efforts, along with those of many other organizations dedicated to preserving our natural heritage, had great success this year. Chimney Rock was saved and will become part of a new state park. The National Park Service has come out in favor of a cash settlement with Swain County. Hopefully the financial settlement will follow and we’ll be on the way to finally closing the book on the proposed North Shore Road.

This is my last President’s column. It’s been a pleasure serving as your President for the past two years, and I look forward to continuing to serve CMC in whatever role is appropriate. I wish Becky Smucker, your new President, and all the members of the 2008 CMC Council, continued success.

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**Let's**
Quarterly News Bulletin and Hike Schedule

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

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**ANNUAL AWARDS**
It was with great pleasure that we watched two friends recognized for their efforts at the annual dinner. What more can be said about Sherman Stunbury, our oldest active hiker. Sherman was awarded an Honorary Life membership, the highest award given by the club. Throughout his years with the club, he has been an MST section leader, a hike leader, and received the American Hiking Society’s NC volunteer of the year award. Sherman is a symbol of what we are about.

Our club has many volunteers, but no one attacks her volunteer activity with the passion and fervor of Ruth Hartzler. As councilor for the Conservation Committee, she worked tirelessly against the North Shore Road, the selling of Forest Service Lands, and supported the acquisition of Chimney Rock State Park. These two members have raised the bar for all of us. Liquid appreciation from Carroll Koepplinger.

Ruth Hartzler receives the CMC Award of Appreciation from Carroll Koepplinger.
Photography contest winners

Digital photography has turned many hikers into avid photographers; so what better entertainment at our annual dinner than a photography contest. The categories were Mountain Scenes, Trail Work, CMC’ers on Hikes, Close-Ups, and Forest Scenes. The contest was the idea of Becky Smucker and organized and run by Gerry McNabb. Gerry, Brad Van Diver, and Bernard Elias were the judges. The winners were:

Mountain Scenes: First place, Martha K. Mason; second place, Stuart Tauber; third place, Paul Benson.

Close-Ups: First place, Charlie Ferguson; second place, Ashok Kadva; third place, Ted Connors.

Forest Scenes: First place, Ted Connors; second place, Martha K. Mason; third place, Liz King.

Trail Work: First place, Becky Smucker; second place, Charlie Ferguson; third place, Danny Bernstein.

CMC’ers on Hikes: First place, Liz King; second place, Danny Bernstein; third place, Ted Conners.

The winners were: McNabb. Gerry, Brad Van Diver, and Bernard Elias were the judges. The winners were:

Mountain Scenes: First place, Martha K. Mason; second place, Stuart Tauber; third place, Paul Benson.

Forest Scenes: First place, Liz King; second place, Danny Bernstein; third place, Ted Connors.

Close-Ups: First place, Charlie Ferguson; second place, Ashok Kadva; third place, Ted Connors.

Trail Work: First place, Becky Smucker; second place, Charlie Ferguson; third place, Danny Bernstein.

CMC’ers on Hikes: First place, Liz King; second place, Danny Bernstein; third place, Ted Connors.

A trip to Hike Inn: On November 6-8, 18 CMC members enjoyed three days of hiking, fun, and fellowship in the beautiful North Georgia mountains. The Len Foote Hike Inn is a lodge that must be reached by hiking. It is in the Amicalola Falls State Park and is a gateway to the Southern Appalachians. The Inn is an environmentally efficient structure with an elaborate organic waste system and partial solar energy. We were treated one evening to a talk by Richard Jady, who through-hiked the AT, as did his son and daughter at different times. The weather was perfect; although cold and invigorating, and approximately 20 miles of hiking was accomplished in the three days. Our thanks go to Chris Ogden for organizing this event.

Howard McDonald: Trails facility manager

Howard McDonald’s new Trails Facilities Manager position in CMC is a club-wide position to manage the physical structure of shelters, privies, signs, stiles, bridges, and bear cables (aerial new storage cables). Major effort is now on the privies and the bear cables. Our privies are being converted to an improved moldering process procedure that may lead to never having to move privies again. The Deer Park Mountain Shelter privy is private and the Flint Mountain Shelter privy will be finished soon. The next one is the Spring Mountain Shelter privy.

The bear cable design and the materials list are complete. Sources and prices are being obtained so that the request for funds to build eleven cables can be made to the ATC. Funds are available from the License Plate Program. Installation may start this year but will definitely be progressing next year. Thanks, Howard, for all you do.

Spring social and old-timers

This year at our annual Spring Social on April 19, we will have an Old-Timer’s event. A special invitation is issued to “Old-Timers” (you define this), which includes both current and past members. Bring your old-timey gear, old documents, old pictures and old stories to share with the group. Remember, what’s already old-timey to some members of the club may surprise some of you REALLY old-timers! Young-timers, bring your questions:

ATC to offer free memberships to CMC members

As an AT maintaining club, CMC is a member of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy (ATC). Many CMC members also are individual members of ATC. To introduce itself, ATC will give free one-year memberships to CMC members who are not already ATC members. However, CMC will need to provide the names and addresses of its members who are not already members of ATC. We will not be sending phone numbers or e-mail addresses to ATC, and ATC will not share this information with anyone else. ATC will give us the names of their members who live in Western North Carolina but who are not CMC members. We will send these people information about CMC and an invitation to join our Club.

CMC promises its members that it will not share their personal information with third parties. Since as a Club we are members of ATC, and this offer will benefit both CMC members and the Club as a whole, the Council felt we should make an exception. However, if you have an objection to having your name and address shared with ATC, please let Lenny Bernstein know by e-mail (lsberman@worldnet.att.net) or letter (488 Kimberly Ave., Asheville, NC 28804) by Jan. 15, 2008. No phone calls please. We will remove the name of any member who objects from the list we send ATC.

Obituaries in CMC publications

– from the editors

submit this obituary to the eNews editor ready to print; content should be limited to the deceased individual’s CMC activities. It will not be repeated in Let’s Go because of space considerations and the timeliness of publication, appearing only once a quarter. The Council may override this policy. Let’s Go Committee

CMC joins search for lost hikers John and Irene Bryant

By Jean Gard

Today we know so much more about this tragic story. Below is just a report of CMC’s help on a search for the Bryants in early November.

On November 7, Dick Johnson, a CMC trail crew member, called Gerry McNabb, asking him to contact as many CMC hikers as possible for the next day’s search. Gerry contacted about 80 people and I contacted about forty more. Unluckily, many active CMC hikers were at Hike Inn, so there were only three volunteers from our club, Robb Powers, Dick Johnson and me. We had two other ex-CMC trail maintainers with us, Jim Farley and Tom Joyce. We all signed up under the CMC header and worked with three Forest Service firefighters. There were about 10 people from High Country Hikers plus area citizens who had heard the call. In total, there were 44 people working in different teams in the Pink Beds area.

The search was led by the Brevard Search and Rescue Team. Local trainers provided dogs able to locate live humans as well as trained to find cadavers. After the dogs were sent out, our CMC team worked on a grid system, forming broad lines across an area and then keeping fifteen to twenty feet on either side of us. We were out there for four hours. Essentially, we were bushwhacking and it was tough going from start to finish. We were called back at 3 PM. Three hikers in another group were lost and the light and temperature were changing for the worse. Of the lost hikers, two were found at 5 PM but one wasn’t located until 8 PM. No one on the search saw any sign of the Bryants. One of our leaders said there was a chance that foul play was involved and a possibility the story would eventually get broader media coverage. Although disappointed in the search’s success, Bobbie and I found volunteering to be very worthwhile. It was a first-time experience for both of us and we were impressed with how it all works, as well as with the kindness and dedication of the employees on the job that day. As a next procedural step for our club, let’s ensure we can contact all CMC hikers and get more participation when we’re needed again.
HALF-DAY SUNDAY HIKES

Newcomers are welcome, but non-members MUST call the leader before the hike to determine the requirements. Half-day hikes may be submitted by Paula Robbins, 828-281-3253, paulawell@yahoo.net, and Lucy Prim, luci323@mic.com, 828-272-4850. Public. driving distance from Asheville. All hikes assemble at the east end of the Westgate Shopping Center near Exit 3B off I-240 or Entrance 7 on I-40 at 8:20 AM. Topos: Old Fort, Trailmap.

HALF-DAY NO. H001-080
Jan. 6 Mountains-to-Sea Trail: US 25 to 1:45-1:55 PM*
Hike 3, Drive 15, Rated C-C
Nonmembers, please call leader, Gary McNaib, 828-274-0575, garymcnaib@yahoo.net
**Note early start time. This moderate hike along the Mountains-to-Sea Trail, set close to town, from US 25 at the Blue Ridge Parkway to I-26, will make a walk on a CMC-built Bridge. Short car shuttle.

HALF-DAY NO. H001-172
Jan. 13 John Rock Loop 1:00 PM*
Hike 5, Drive 72, 1:000 feet ascent, Rated B-A
Nonmembers, please call leader, Tom Sanders, 828-252-6327, tom2@yahoo.com
**Note early start time. Meet at Westgate to form carpool, and meet hike leader at parking lot adjacent to McDonald’s in Black Mountain off exit 64 of I-40 at 1:20 PM. Topos: Old Fort, Black Mountain.

HALF-DAY NO. H001-174
Feb. 3 French Broad Greenway 1:00 PM
Hike 20, Drive 10, Rated B-A
Nonmembers, please call leader, Paula Robbins, 828-281-3253, paulawell@yahoo.net
Asheville’s Greenway system now provides several opportunities for city walking. The leader, a former member of the Greenway Commission, will describe plans for extending this riverfront trail and other existing and planned greenways within the City.

HALF-DAY NO. H001-278
Feb. 10 Kittinga Peak 12:30 PM*
Hike 6, Drive 60, 2000 feet ascent, Rated B-A
Nonmembers, please call leader, Renate Rikkers, 828-296-9998, renatirkkers@yahoo.com
**Note early start time. Meet at Westgate to form carpool, and meet hike leader at parking lot adjacent to McDonald’s in Black Mountain off exit 64 of I-40 at 12:00 PM. This trail from the Old Fort picnic ground to Kittinga Peak follows Young’s Ridge and is a steady and demanding ascent to the peak with stunning views of the surrounding mountains and the Swannanoa Valley below. Car spotting at Ridgecrest for return shuttle.

HALF-DAY NO. H001-597
Feb. 17 Bent Creek Loop 1:00 PM*
Hike 4, Drive 40, 600 feet ascent, Rated C-C
Don Walson, 828-654-9904, donwalton@bellsouth.net
**Note early start time. Good weather view from the Fish Hatchery parking lot, at the end of the paved portion of FR 475, US 276 Meeting place: Fish Hatchery parking lot, at the end of the paved portion of FS 475, US 276 at 1:40 PM.

HALF-DAY NO. H001-480
Jan. 20 Craven Gap to Folk Art Center 1:15 PM*
Hike 8, Drive 11 miles, 750 feet ascent, Rated C-C
Nonmembers, please call leader, Par Elias, 828-487-1451, patelias@hotmail.com
**Note early start time, and that the only meeting place is the Folk Art Center on the Blue Ridge Parkway, lower parking lot, hiking along the Mountains-to-Sea Trail, with a gradual 1660 feet ascent.

HALF-DAY NO. H001-485
Jan. 27 Old US 79 and the Railroad 1:00 PM*
Hike 6, Drive 60, 2000 feet ascent, Rated B-A
Nonmembers, please call leader, Gail Lam, 828-350-0450, gailbamm@aol.com
**Note early start time. We will walk up on old US 79, now blocked off from traffic, to Swannanoa Gap, where we will enjoy a view of the valley, the railroad, and features of the road by John Title, a book about building the railroad up to Swannanoa Gap. Second meeting place: Parking lot adjacent to McDonald’s off Black Mountain at exit 64 of I-40 at 1:20 PM. Topos: Old Fort, Black Mountain.

HALF-DAY NO. H001-186
March 2 Pink Beds 1:00 PM*
Hike 5, Drive 80, 200 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
Nonmembers, please call leader, Laura Stallan, 828-697-1577
**Note early start time. A moderate loop hike up to Stradley Mountain following several of the trails in the Bent Creek Farmers’ Preserve. Second meeting place: Ingersoll parking lot across from Biltmore Square Mall on NC 191 south of I-4s-2 at 1:20 PM.

HALF-DAY NO. H001-064
Feb. 9 French Broad Creek 1:00 PM*
Hike 6, Drive 50, Rated B-C
Nonmembers, please call leader, Greg Gordon, 828-684-9703
**Meet at Westgate at 1:00 PM for farm tour, and meet leader at gutt-out just before Milk River Recreation Area at 1:30 PM. From the Trace Ridge Trailhead, we will hike in a moderate local loop at the Hundersonville Reservoir, and along the Spencer Branch, Middle Fork and Fletcher Creek Trails. There will be few a stream crossings.

HALF-DAY NO. H001-587
March 16 Grassy Creek Falls 1:00 PM*
Hike 4, Drive 40, 600 feet ascent, Rated C-C
Don Walson, 828-654-9904, donwalton@bellsouth.net
**Note early start time. Meet at Westgate to form carpool, and call Dan Woulson in advanced for reservations. This hike is the same as the former day and can comprise our local forest. It will be conducted jointly by CMC and the Friends Conservancy. The Conservancy Foundation (www.cmcfriends.org) has purchased the area that together with their more famous companions, comprises our local forest. We will start from the picnic area near Old Fort. Also we’ll enjoy a grandstand view of the Swannanoa valley from our lunch spot. Topo: Old Fort, Black Mtn.

HALF-DAY NO. H001-578
April 3 Pink Beds to Soapstone Ridge 8:30 AM*
Hike 7, Drive 2000, 5000 feet ascent, Rated B-A
Nonmembers, please call leader, Paula Robbins, 828-281-3253, paulawell@yahoo.net
**Meet at Westgate at 8:30 AM to form carpool, and meet leader at gutt-out just before Milk River Recreation Area at 1:30 PM. From the Trace Ridge Trailhead, we will hike in a moderate local loop at the Hundersonville Reservoir, and along the Spencer Branch, Middle Fork and Fletcher Creek Trails. There will be few a stream crossings.

HALF-DAY NO. H001-680
March 9 Lower Falls 1:00 PM*
Hike 4, Drive 40, Rated B-C
Nonmembers, please call leader, Greg Gordon, 828-684-9703
**Meet at Westgate at 1:00 PM for farm tour, and meet leader at gutt-out just before Milk River Recreation Area at 1:30 PM. From the Trace Ridge Trailhead, we will hike in a moderate local loop at the Hundersonville Reservoir, and along the Spencer Branch, Middle Fork and Fletcher Creek Trails. There will be few a stream crossings.
ALL DAY SATURDAY AND SUNDAY HIKES

ALL day hikes submitted by Bruce Bente 828-692-0116, bbente@bell.net. Driving distance is rounded to the nearest mile. All hikes start at Asheville. All hikes are listed at the east end of Westgate Shopping Center near I-240 exit 38 UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED. All hikes have bike and /or wheelchair-friendly sections. See each hike for meeting places as described in hike listings.

NEW YEARS DAY NO. A0801-281
Jan. 1
Green River Gamelands 8:00 AM breakfast, 9:00 AM hike* Hike 6.5 or 6.8, Drive 70, 1500 ft. ascent, Rated B-B Bruce Bente, 828-692-0116, bbente@bell.net
*Meet at Westgate at 7:30 AM to form car pools and meet leader at Boyleston Baptist Church on NC 280 at 9:00 AM. carpools, and meet leader at Boyleston Baptist Church on NC 280 at 9:00 AM. Greg Goodman, 828-684-9703
Hike 8, Drive 55, 950 ft. ascent, Rated A-B Cairo, Ga. Mountain Club. Afterwards, we will return to the starting point for a short drive up the River Road to the dam and then to the southern border of Georgia. A great way to enjoy the outdoors and the changing seasons.

SUNDAY HIKES

ALL DAY NO. A0801-186
Jan. 13
Little Pisgah Mountain 8:00 AM Hike 9, Drive 36, 1500 ft. ascent, Rated B-B Kathleen Basset, 828-250-480, kathleen.hanigan@gmail.com A pleasant hike, close to home for our coldest this major climb will be a short side trip to a beautiful, but rarely visited waterfall. We will hike up the Pilot Rock Trail, stop to visit the waterfalls, and then continue on to the summit of the mountain. A great view of the surrounding area can be seen from the summit. This is a great hike for families with children.

ALL DAY NO. A0801-100
Feb. 3
Deep Creek – Saukota Ridge Loop 7:30 AM (strenuous) Hike 9, Drive 73, 135, 2000 ft. ascent, Rated A-A- Charlie Ferguson, 828-333-5165, cff olive@gmail.com This will be a moderate hike starting in Montreat and climbing to the highest point in the United States. We will stop at the summit for a short break and then continue on to the top of the mountain. A great view of the surrounding area can be seen from the summit. This is a great hike for families with children.

ALL DAY NO. A0801-116
Feb. 24
AT: Lennon Gap to Tanyard Gap 8:30 AM* Hike 8, Drive 80, 2100 ft. ascent, Rated B-AA Tournament, a no-name trail to High Rock. There are great views of the surrounding area. This is a great hike for families with children.

ALL DAY NO. A0801-106
Feb. 3
Forest Service Spencer Branch and Bad Fork 8:30 (moderate) Hike 9, Drive 42, 1550 ft. ascent, Rated B-A Robert Marshall, 829-299-1497, cmcsranch@yahoo.com Paul Benson, 828-251-1909, psbenson@charter.net
*Note later start time. This will be a challenging hike on the Pink Beds Loop trail. Lots of variety. Topo: Round Knob, the former site of a fire tower. We will hike up the Pilot Rock Trail, stop to visit the waterfalls, and then continue on to the summit of the mountain. A great view of the surrounding area can be seen from the summit. This is a great hike for families with children.

ALL DAY NO. A0801-594
Feb. 10
The Other Cloud Mountain 8:00 AM* Hike 6.5 or 6.8, Drive 70, 1500 ft. ascent, Rated B-B Dave Wetmore, 828-884-7296, dwetmore@citcom.net
*Note later start time. This will be a challenging hike on the Pink Beds Loop trail. Lots of variety. Topo: Round Knob, the former site of a fire tower. We will hike up the Pilot Rock Trail, stop to visit the waterfalls, and then continue on to the summit of the mountain. A great view of the surrounding area can be seen from the summit. This is a great hike for families with children.

ALL DAY NO. A0801-505
Feb. 17
Lynnville to Balsam Gap 8:30 AM* Hike 9, Drive 90, 2000 ft. ascent, Rated A-B Paul Benson, 828-684-7119, ashek@msn.com
*Note later start time. This will be a challenging hike on the Pink Beds Loop trail. Lots of variety. Topo: Round Knob, the former site of a fire tower. We will hike up the Pilot Rock Trail, stop to visit the waterfalls, and then continue on to the summit of the mountain. A great view of the surrounding area can be seen from the summit. This is a great hike for families with children.

ALL DAY NO. A0801-599
May 23
Multiple sections of the AT in our area highlight this pleasant hike. We will hike up the Pilot Rock Trail, stop to visit the waterfalls, and then continue on to the summit of the mountain. A great view of the surrounding area can be seen from the summit. This is a great hike for families with children.

ALL DAY NO. A0801-423
Mar. 29
Pilot Rock, Laurel Mtn., – Mountain Lake Road 8:00 AM* Hike 7, Drive 120, 1200 ft. ascent, Rated A-B Kathy Kylsio-Com, 828-496-5762, kakyline@yahoo.com
*Note later start time. This will be a challenging hike on the Pink Beds Loop trail. Lots of variety. Topo: Round Knob, the former site of a fire tower. We will hike up the Pilot Rock Trail, stop to visit the waterfalls, and then continue on to the summit of the mountain. A great view of the surrounding area can be seen from the summit. This is a great hike for families with children.

ALL DAY NO. A0801-350
Mar. 9
Raven Cliff Falls 9:00 AM* Hike 9, Drive 15, 950 ft. ascent, Rated B-B Tom Sanders, 828-252-6327, tomary@charter.net
Hike 7, Drive 120, 1800 ft. ascent, Rated A-A- Don Walton, 828-634-9904, donwalton@bellsouth.net
*Note later start time. This will be a challenging hike on the Pink Beds Loop trail. Lots of variety. Topo: Round Knob, the former site of a fire tower. We will hike up the Pilot Rock Trail, stop to visit the waterfalls, and then continue on to the summit of the mountain. A great view of the surrounding area can be seen from the summit. This is a great hike for families with children.

ALL DAY NO. A0801-596
Mar. 16
Boone Access to Jocassee 8:00 AM Hike 11, Drive 130, 1200 ft. ascent, Rated A-B Michael Lester, 828-251-1909, psbenson@charter.net
Hike 7, Drive 20, 600 ft. ascent, Rated A-B Betsy Wessel, 828-236-4619, bwessel@aol.com
This very strenuous hike will be limited to ten hikers, and hikers are required to contact the leader of this hike in order to reserve a spot. This hike features a wonderful view of a beautiful 250 ft. waterfall in Carolina’s Head Park. Everyone will hike to the Falls Lookout near the bridge and then return with a side trip to the spectacular overlook of the falls and Mountain Creek Gorge. Topo: Table Rock; also Mountain Bridge Wilderness Area trail map.