

Carolina Mountain Club - *Since 1923*

eNews | Hike . Save Trails . Make Friends

March 2015

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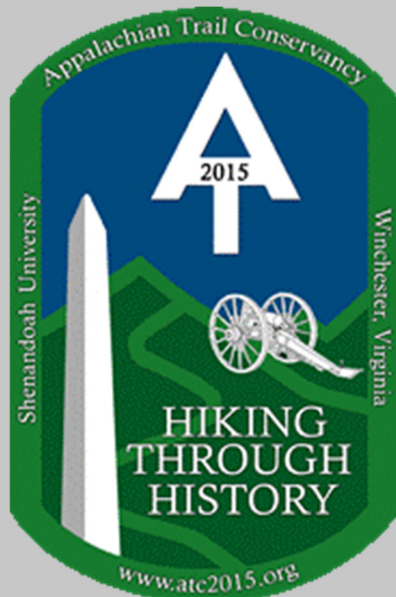
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ATC Conference

Registration Opens In April

Registration for the 2015 ATC Biennial Meeting opens on April 15. The conference features, hikes, excursions, workshops and entertainment, and more. It will be held at Shenandoah University in Winchester, Va. this year



CMC Hiker Opens Museum

By Bobbi Powers

Heidi Swann, a member of CMC since 2005, has not had much time to be out on her much-loved trails recently. Heidi and husband John are the owners of Katuah Market in Biltmore Village which has been a huge labor of love and commitment.

But Heidi has had a dream "to create a place that would highlight the achievements and challenges of women and girls around the world." And Heidi is one to make dreams happen.

She, along with daughter Gems Ouziad, opened aSHEville Museum in July 2014, and Heidi gave me the grand tour on March 4. And it is grand. Located at 35 Wall St. in downtown Asheville, the building is large, open, vibrant with color and eclecticism, and is a must-see for anyone interested in history presented in beautiful surroundings.

A visit should begin with the 15-minute video *Forever Free*, featuring highlights from the life of Sarah Gudger, whose personal story of slavery was recorded in 1937 by the WPA Writer's Project. This museum is the **ONLY** place in the United States where one can see this award-winning film.



There are both permanent ("100+ Years of Sexism in Advertising") and rotating ("Woman: Beauty is Embarrassing") exhibits. The latter exhibit is really mind-boggling. You'll have to see it to believe it! Also, there is an exhibit for mature attendees only - a room full of antique and vintage vibrators, including a timeline of the 4,000-year history of the diagnosis of hysteria in women. Many of the exhibits are accompanied by gorgeous photographs, most notably "A Day in Her Life" by Ami Vitale who is one of the world's most esteemed photo journalists. The exhibits are eclectic, from our own Wilma Dykeman to the women refugees from Syria. There is a large gift shop featuring 30+ local women artists, fair trade items, and beautiful items from around the world. Included in this area are several tables and chairs suitable for small group meetings of about a dozen people. Beverages and snacks are available. According to Gems, who was at the computer, "Gender equality is the mission of the museum." Please check the website for current hours and events: www.aSHEvillemuseum.com. If you are reading this on the day the eNews

comes to your inbox, check the website immediately for an event benefitting aSHEville Museum on Saturday, March 28, featuring Laura Hope Gill accompanied by cellist Nan Kemberling. Bobbi's Trip Advisor predicts that you, your friends, and out-of-town guests will find this a welcome addition to the downtown scene. Put it on your list of must-dos!



September 19

CMC Maintainers Picnic Scheduled

By Les Love

The CMC Maintainer's Picnic has been scheduled for Saturday, September 19. A pavilion at Lake Julian has been reserved and last year's band scheduled. This year, the CMC Maintenance Awards will be given out at the picnic rather than at the Blue Ridge Parkway lunch as they have in the past.



AT Thru Hikers Begin To Make Their Way

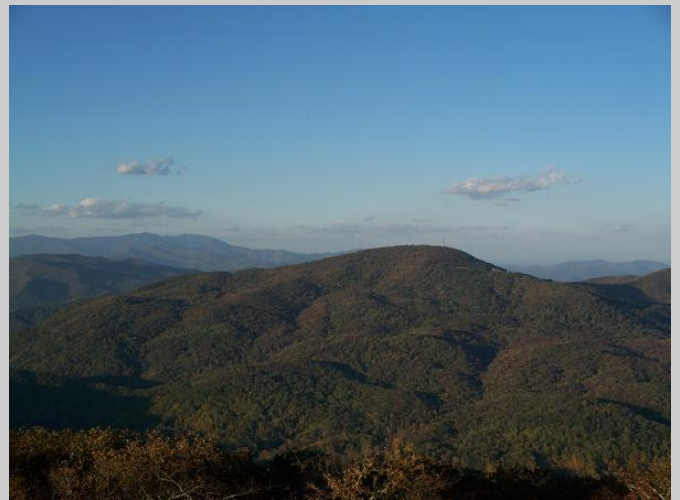
"Jingles" was one of the AT thru hikers CMC hikers met on Jay Bretz's hike to Big Bald in mid-March. Six thru-hikers were seen on that Sunday hike.

Hiking The Florence Preserve

By Susa Silvermarie

In this wilderness now preserved of upper Hickory Nut Gorge, between the mountain towns of Chimney Rock and Gerton, we weave our way on the trail through clan after clan of branched beings standing upright on their roots. Step after step all afternoon our boots come down on spring-soft earth, and we greet the young galax poking through the leaves.

When we pause at a level place, once a crossroads on the Buncombe County Turnpike, all of it taken back by nature now, under my feet I feel a hubbub from the past; I hear our voices meld with gone-befores who traveled through, and with those who built a bustling junction to serve the m. At the overlook we gaze with a giant's view across the tops of trees to the Bearwallow High lands: Ferguson Mountain, Bearwallow and Little Bearwallow, and through the gap, Butler and Chestnut peaks standing distant sentinel. Hiking down again my heart is singing with the creek that runs beside us. Even as my feet are weary, my spirit is strengthened and the vigor of the natural world has returned my soul to me. ©Susa Silvermarie 2015





Hiking Committee: Bruce Bente, Gail Lamb, Jim Reel, Marcia Bromberg, Lee Silver, Brenda Worley, Carroll Koeplinger

Leaders Go Back To School

By Bobbi Powers

Fifty-six CMC hike leaders went back to school on Friday, Feb. 27, at Pack Tavern's Century Room.

Before the bell rang to start class, leaders enjoyed drinks and mini-reunions after a long cold winter, followed by an excellent dinner.

After Brenda Worley, Councilor for Hiking, rang the bell to start class, we first sang "Happy Birthday" to Bruce Bente. Poor boy had to go to school on his special day!

The first class was taught by Ann Hendrickson who outlined ways that hike leaders can help the trail maintainers. Ann gave

us some valuable tips.

Each member of the Hiking Committee took turns reminding us of things we should know but occasionally tend to forget. There were several comments and questions from the floor reinforcing each teacher's mini-lesson.

Just before the end of class, the Committee awarded door prizes to some lucky hike leaders. We all thank and appreciate the following donors: Diamond Brand for two \$50 gift certificates and 2 water bottles, Mast General Store for four \$10 gift certificates, Jack Dalton (hike leader) for 3 handmade JD bowls, Great Smoky Mountains Association for the book *Our Southern Highlands* and a jar of pear butter, and a Nomad hiking pole donated by Marcia Bromberg.

At 9:15 class was dismissed after a very fine and informative evening. And the best part? There were no tests!



Send eNews articles to eNews@carolinamountainclub.org

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

The next issue will come out on Friday, April 24, so send your news by Friday evening at 9 P.M. before the newsletter comes out, that is, by Friday evening April 17, to Kathy Kyle at eNews@carolinamountainclub.org. Include your email address at the end of your story. Thank you.

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

To join Carolina Mountain Club go to: www.carolinamountainclub.org. Click on "Join CMC" on the right side. Follow the instructions. Send all address and email changes to Gale O'Neal at gogalemail@gmail.com. Do not resubscribe yourself to the eNews. That will be done automatically. If you are a non-member subscriber, you need to go back to the eNews and make the change yourself.

Kathy Kyle

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