

TIDEWATER APPALACHIAN TRAIL CLUB NEWSLETTER



VOL. VIII, No. 2

April 1980

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

On May 17 and 18, 1980 a concentrated effort is being assembled by the Appalachian Trail Conference to have members of the sixty-three participating clubs along the entire Appalachian Trail from Mount Katadin, Maine to Springer Mountain, Georgia. The purpose of this task is to determine the need of maintenance requirements and to renew the trail blazing necessary for hikers to locate the trail. Also, this effort will endeavor to direct attention to the public and legislators of the great volunteer contribution involved in managing and maintaining the trail system. I urge each TATC member to come out these dates and to promote our effort to your friends and business acquaintances. Invite them to come and enjoy the outdoors and see the job that is being done. Mr. Ed Garvey is heading the ATC effort. Our Trail Supervisor, John Folsom, will be in charge of TATC's part in this Walk Through. Please contact him.

The spring months are a kickoff for hiking and camping activities. As trail club members, many of us will be out this spring to enjoy the solitude of the quiet atmosphere and the clear air found along the trail. Let's all renew our faith and our goals by supporting the club and its activities.

Be sure and renew your membership this month. It is club policy (in accordance with the Bylaws) to drop names off the roster of members who are two months delinquent. April 30th will be the cut off date for renewal. The February newsletter had a membership application blank attached. Please fill this out and send in with your dues for fiscal year 1980-81.

Sincerely,

Otey H. Shelton, President

1980 OFFICER AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

President - Otey Shelton	722-7448
Vice-President - Cecelia Yeskowski	
Secretary - Marylyn Horvath	481-6962-h 486-4090-w
Treasurer - Lee Hulten	850-1554
Trail Maintenance Supervisor - John Folsom	467-9662-h 444-5041-w
Assistant Trail Maintenance Supervisor - Chuck Jessie	486-3466
Counselors - Curtis Eley	587-862
Mal Higgins	460-1368-h 622-5341-w
Reese Lukei	340-5948-h 461-8585-w
Newsletter - Yvonne Carignan	627-1746-h 441-2426-w
Membership - Al Miller	420-5366-h 444-7341-w
Larry Nafziger	588-7028-h 444-5041-w
Publicity - Margarette Martinez	481-7198-h 461-7777 x363
Education - Reese Lukei	
Program - Mike Karpie	428-3233-h 461-9490 x274
Social - Sandra Allen	499-4550

(continued next page)

HIKE SCHEDULE

CECELIA YESKOLSKI, HIKEMASTER

PHONE ~~393-3572~~NEW ADDRESS: 1245 Westover Ave. Apt. B-4
Norfolk, Va. 23507

623-5335

<u>Date</u>	<u>Co-ordinator</u>	<u>Description</u>
April 19-20	John Folsom 467-9662-h 444-5041-w	Maintenance hike on Mar-Har.
April 19-27	Jacque Jenkins 587-6024 Harold Crate 596-5136	Work going on at the cabin site all week. Come for a weekend, for a long weekend, for any or all days in between! Everyone will be needed and welcome. A community lunch and supper will be provided at minimum cost, but bring your own breakfast and snacks.
April 23	Cecelia Yeskolski 393-3972-w	Orientation meeting. 7:30 p.m. Informal question and answer session for new hikers. At 1245 Westover Ave., Apt. B-4, Norfolk
April 26-27	Helen Hall 1-229-6497 1-877-0386	Class III. Northern part of Shenandoah Park at Big Devils Stairs. This will be ravine hiking. She plans to cover 25 miles on this one.
May 3-4	Lee Hulten 850-1554	Old Rag. Class II & III. There will be rapelling.
May 9-10-11	Ray Levesque 460-4366	Work on cabin.
May 17-18	John Folsom 467-9662-h 444-5041-w	Operation Walk Through (See article in this newsletter for details).
May 21	GENERAL MEETING	
May 24-25	Yvonne Carignan 627-1746-h 441-2426-w	Class II. Mount Rogers. High country hiking in the most beautiful part of Virginia.
May 30	Sandra Allen 499-4550	Spring Banquet. 7:30 Little Creek's Officer's Club.
May 31- June 1	Mary Ann Barbini 627-2197-h 623-8393-w	Tentative mountain hike.
June 6-7+8	Jacque Jenkins 587-6024	Work on cabin.
June 9	Yvonne Carignan 627-1746-h 441-2426-w	Newsletter put-together. All invited. 8p.m. Church of the Advent. Help staple, fold, etc.
June 21-22	Ann Middleton 587-8341-h 625-5651-w	George Washington National Forest near the Peddler River between Amherst and Buena Vista. Leasurely, flowers, waterfalls, bring cameras.

Plan ahead for Douglas Putman Memorial Cabin work hikes.

KEEP THE LOG BOOK
Remember, if you go on any hikes that are not announced in our newsletter, let Hikemaster Cecelia Yeskolski know. That way we can enter the miles in our trail log book. *****

July 3-4-5-6. Jacque Jenkins 587-6024

August 1-2-3 Ray Lewesque 460-4366

Sept. 5-6-7 Harold Crate 596-5136

Oct. 3-4-5, Oct. 31-Nov. 1-2, Dec. 5-6-7

THE HAMPTON ROADS BIRD CLUB meets the first and third Sunday of every month at 7 a.m. at the Ranger Station at Newport News City Park. Any bird watchers in our club are welcome to attend.

KIDS HIKES SEMINAR. Blue Ridge Mountain Sports store on the Peninsula is having an upcoming seminar on hiking with children. Anyone interested can call the store for the exact date.

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### OPERATION WALK-THROUGH

During the weekend of May 16, 17, and 18, the Appalachian Trail Conference is promoting OPERATION WALK-THROUGH. The idea is to have each of the ATC member clubs working on their respective sections of the Appalachian Trail on that particular weekend, in order to direct attention of the general public and legislatures to the AT, the need to protect it, and the volunteer effort involved in maintaining it. The general plan has Saturday, May 17 as a day for club members and invited guests to walk through their section of the Trail, and Sunday, May 18 as a day for paint blazing and light maintenance work.

OPERATION WALK-THROUGH will be combined with the regular monthly TATC maintenance hike for May. This is a good opportunity for you to contribute your efforts, not only to the maintenance of your section of the AT, but to the overall public awareness of the trail and its problems. Why not make advance plans now to participate? It's also a good opportunity to introduce a friend or neighbor to the pleasures of hiking on the AT. Mid-May weather in the Blue Ridge Mountains should be superb, with azalea, rhododendron, and mountain laurel in bloom.

TATC's participation in OPERATION WALK-THROUGH is being coordinated by our Supervisor of Trails, John Folsom. Please contact him, the Assistant Trail Supervisor, Chuck Jessie, or the Hikemaster, Cecelia Yeskolski, and add your name to the list of participants. Final Plans will be made early in May when the extent of participation becomes apparent.

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PROGRAMS. What would you like to experience at our next meeting? The Program Committee is looking for TATC members with a "flair" for speaking on topics related to the ideals of our organization. If you are such a person or know somebody who would be capable and willing to give a presentation, please contact Mike Karpie or any Program Committee member. We are expecting a busy year so not all of the programs we are compiling will be shown; but the more ideas we have, the greater selection you will have for both educational and entertaining presentations at our meetings.

ADVERTISE! We now accept ads in the newsletter, but only from businesses that give discounts to our membership. Interested firms should contact President Otey Shelton or other officers for information.

## HIKE-A-NATION

On April 12, the American Hiking Society's Hike-A-Nation will begin at San Francisco's Golden Gate Park. Sixty-eight (68) people have signed up to hike all the way to the Washington Monument and are to arrive about March 24, 1981. Thousands of hikers are expected to begin the hike. For the first time since the Oakland Bay Bridge opened in 1936, people will be allowed to walk across the bridge.

The hike route passes through 13 states including Virginia, where it will follow the Appalachian Trail from Damascus to Harper's Ferry. The approximate dates the hikers will be in Virginia are Feb. 2 - Mar. 18, 1981.

The hike is a joint sponsorship by the AHS and the U.S. Department of Interior's Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service. The purpose of Hike-A-Nation is to gather information on the number of trails available for foot travel in America and the needs of hikers as they go along the intended route. The hike is also an effort to dramatize the amount of highway and road hiking that is necessary in order to walk from one shore of our nation to the other. Reese Lukei

### THE POTOMAC APPALACHIAN TRAIL CLUB ANNOUNCES A NEW SHENANDOAH NATIONAL PARK HUT SYSTEM FOR 1980

After a successful season last year when three huts in Shenandoah National Park (SNP) were operated by the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club (PATC), an expanded program is planned for 1980. Through the cooperative efforts of PATC and SNP, eight huts located approximately twelve miles apart will be available from mid-May until Labor Day. The huts can be identified on PATC Maps 9, 10, 11 as follows (from north to south):

| <u>Hut</u>     | <u>Miles</u>                      |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Indian Run     | 4 (from northern entrance to SNP) |
| Gravel Springs | 7                                 |
| Pass Mountain  | 13                                |
| Rock Spring    | 15                                |
| Bear Fence     | 11                                |
| High Top       | 12                                |
| Pinefield      | 8                                 |
| Blackrock      | 12                                |

A ninth hut may be added at McCormick Gap

PATC will provide a volunteer resident overseer at each hut on Friday and Saturday nights and roving overseers during the week. Hikers should plan no more than one night at each hut. Space is limited and on a "first come" basis. The fee of one dollar per night should be given to the overseer or deposited in the lock box provided at each hut.

The continued success of this program requires the understanding and cooperation of all hikers in Shenandoah National Park.

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DISCOUNTS. Card carrying TATC members receive 10% discount on purchases at the new Wild River Outfitters (see ad in this newsletter), at Bob's Gun Shop, Blue Ridge Mountain Sports, and Bay Camping.

INTRODUCING TRAIL CLUB FRIENDS. This year we plan to include in each newsletter an article about people outside TATC who help on our projects, who govern our hiking areas, or who are, in other ways, special to our club. If there is someone you would like to write about, or read about, let your newsletter editor know.

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CECIL FROST: RANGER NATURALIST

Merchant Mill Pond, perhaps the loveliest wilderness this side of the Appalachian trail, is administered by versatile and personable Cecil Frost. In charge of this North Carolina State Park since 1972, Frost has overseen continuing expansion (346 acres to date), protected the delicate and unique environment from certain well meant but destructive projects for "development," and opened the park to hikers, canoeists, fishermen, and campers.

Frost has been most supportive of TATC's Dismal Swamp Trail Committee's efforts to achieve a trail through the Swamp and has arranged Merchant Mill Pond Park trails to facilitate joining with the Dismal Swamp trail in the future. With Frost's assistance in exploring and planning, a North Carolina citizens' group is working for state designation of a river route complete with primitive canoe camp sites in Bennett's Creek and Chowan Swamp which join the Millpond to the South. Thus we will owe thanks to Frost for helping to create our only extended backpacking - canoe trail in Tidewater.

In encouraging proper use of the park, Frost preserves 2/3 as a State Natural Area, and has at times warned off hunters and ticketed destructive campers. Scientists and students, when not too busy at collecting samples, are welcome to study the park's often rare or unusual flora and fauna; and they probably find the scholarly Frost most appreciative of their efforts.

Frost too is involved with research and is currently compiling data on the natural history of North Carolina which has not been written up comprehensively since the 1700's. He brings a background of art as well as science to these studies, having a BA in Art from the University of Kentucky and a Masters in Biology from ECU.

Frost may be found working at Merchant Mill Pond's office-trailer and helping people enjoy springtime in the park.

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The May 1980 issue of Metro Magazine features "out and About with Bud" by our own Bud Franklin. This lively nature and travel writer describes in his article our club and the section of Appalachian which we maintain. Be sure to look for it!

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WILD RIVER OUTFITTERS-PRIZE DRAWING ENTRY FORM (PLEASE PRINT)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ CLUB AFFILIATION \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

MY OUTDOOR INTERESTS ARE: (Please Circle) BACKPACKING, CAMPING, CANOEING, KAYAKING, RAFTING, FISHING, HUNTING, CROSS COUNTRY SKIING, PHOTOGRAPHY, JUST BEING OUTDOORS

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS CONTINUED

Cabin - Ray Levesque . . . . . 460-4366-h 497-1011-w  
Dismal Swamp Trail - Curtis Eley  
Financial Examiner - Al Stein . . . . . 340-1691  
Political Action - Roger Gathright . . . . . 428-6770-h 420-5184-w  
Local Trails Handbook - Angelo Filippi . . . . . 480-2295-h 622-3359-w

NEWSLETTER. I look forward to printing your hiking news, stories, drawings, recipes, etc. which I will be accepting until the first of June, August, October, December, and February for those months' newsletters. Criticisms and suggestions (especially in the form of finished copy) are welcome. Thanks so much for all the help you have already given me. Yvonne Carignan

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT. Between the February meeting and April 1st, we received 78 membership renewals and 20 new memberships for a total of 98. of these 82 were single and 16 were husband/wife for a total of 104 adult members.

DUES. Don't forget that the 2 months grace period runs out April 30th. That not only means this is your last newsletter, but also if you don't renew by April 30th you must reapply and pay the \$3.00 initiation fee - so hurry! Spring is here and we have lots of great hikes coming up! Al Miller

TIDEWATER APPALACHIAN TRAIL CLUB  
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