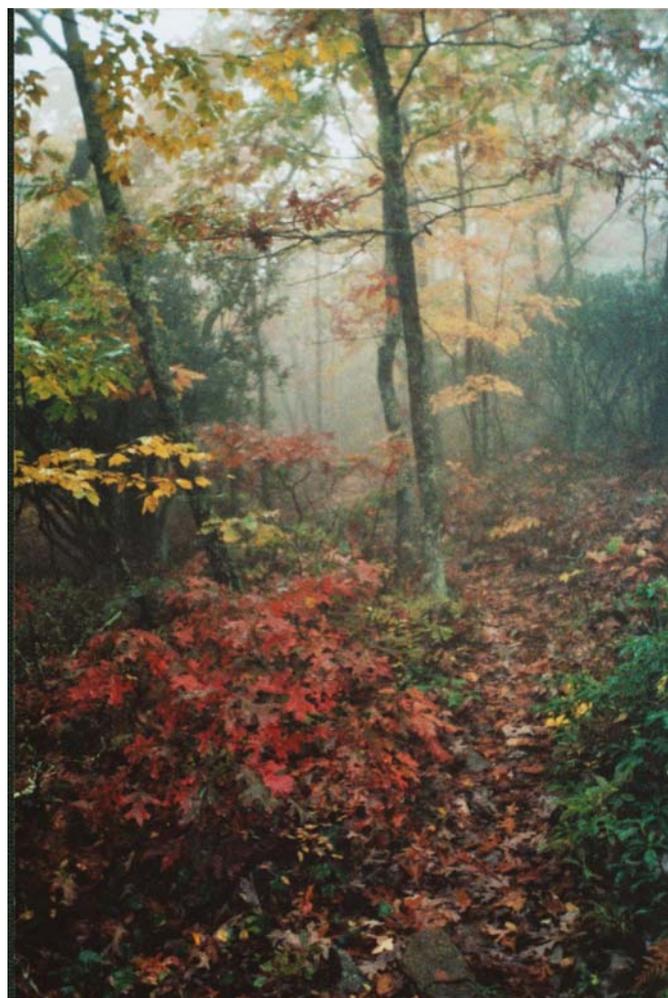


# TRAIL BLAZER

NEWSLETTER OF THE ROANOKE APPALACHIAN TRAIL CLUB

Summer 2007

*The Roanoke Appalachian Trail Club is a recreational hiking association of volunteers who preserve and improve the Appalachian Trail as the nation's premier, continuous, long-distance footpath.*



Go to [www.ratc.com](http://www.ratc.com) to see the Blazer with Pat Guzik's picture in color.

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**I need *Your* photos and drawings!**

## TRAIL BLAZER

Roanoke Appalachian Trail Club  
PO BOX 12282  
ROANOKE VA 24024-2282

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## Welcome New Members

The Roanoke Appalachian Trail Club welcomes the following new members:

|                        |                       |                        |
|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Kenneth & Jo Brooks    | Judith & Clark Cobble | Theresa Knox           |
| Chip Brown             | Jim Hendricks         | Alfred Meador & Family |
| Al Campbell            | Randy & Renee Howell  | Mike Rieley            |
| Cris & Philamena Cowan | June M. Rose Huddy    | Ryan & Gretchen Tipps  |

We look forward to meeting you soon: hiking on the trail, at work, social event, or a board meeting.

Life membership is fun. You give us all your money now and then you don't have to remember your dues anymore. Actually it is not a bad deal if you plan to stay with the club. The following are life members:

|                          |                        |                        |
|--------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Leon & Jane Christiansen | Charles & Naomi Hillon | Ron & Reanna McCorkle  |
| Baron & Tina Gibson      | Roger Holnback         | Charles & Gloria Parry |
| Frank Haranzo            | Beth Lawler            | Sue Scanlin            |

Another option is to just give us your money. We thank the following folks for giving donations:

|                    |                  |
|--------------------|------------------|
| Cornelia Grant     | Greg Sexton      |
| David & Lori Jones | Norvell Wellford |

*Mervin Brower*

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## RATC's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Did you know that this year is the Club's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary? How did it all get started back in 1932? Fortunately, an unsigned short history is in the Club's archives, and the following are some excerpts:

"Mr. (Myron) Avery actively encouraged groups to become associated with the (AT) conference. The Potomac Appalachian Trail Club was established on Nov. 22, 1927 and they, in turn, began to seek other groups to assist them in building the trail in Virginia. The Natural Bridge Trail Club formed in 1930 and along with the Southern Virginia Appalachian Trail Association, were active in trail development North and South of Roanoke.

The need for an organization to fill the gap between these two groups was obvious. A preliminary meeting by the Roanoke group was held at the YMCA on October 24, 1932 in which they agreed to meet with Myron Avery. With the trail taking shape through the Roanoke area, Mr. Myron Avery and Frank Shairer came to the Hotel Mons at the Peaks of Otter during the weekend of October 29

and 30 to assist in forming the new club. Their views were accepted, and on November 13, 1932 at the home of Professor and Mrs. Donald S. Gates in Salem the Roanoke Appalachian Trail Club held its first official meeting (after a hike in the vicinity of Carvin's Cove).

Officers named at the first meeting were Donald S. Gates, President; Grace Pownall, Vice President; B.B. Coxwell, Secretary; Larry Pownall, Treasurer; David Dick, Trail Supervisor. Charter members were: Grace Cheveraux, John McGinnis, Sarah Mosher, Philip Trout, Harold Pearn, Elmer Phelps, Evelyn Gillenwater, Virginia Caldwell, Velma Moeschler, Mary Land Charles, Mae Pond, and F.S. Baird.

The Club was assigned the section of the trail from Black Horse Tavern Gap in the north to Sweet Annie Hollow in the south. The problem in 1932 was, which direction should the trail go? Mr. Shirley L. Cole, county agent for Floyd, VA, had outlined the route down the Blue Ridge from Roanoke to the New River, but Mr. Cole had been

transferred elsewhere and couldn't lend his assistance to the location of the trail. Club members were in favor of abandoning the original route which went East of Roanoke to a more interesting and less populated one North and South of the City. During the Spring, Summer, and Fall of 1933 club members along with Myron Avery and with the use of President Gates's car (not many people had vehicles at that time) laid out a trail leading down the Blue Ridge from Black Horse Tavern Gap, moving eastward past Salt Pond Road and traveling a county road to Daleville, climbing onto Tinker Ridge and thence to the left of McAfee's Knob; from there it descended to Catawba station along a road to Bradshaw; there it turned left and crossed Fort Lewis Mtn., emerging on the Lee Highway at Glenvar. From there it continued in a southwesterly direction, passing through Hemlock Dell and climbing Poor Mtn. After this it passed Bent Mountain Falls, the second highest waterfall in Virginia and continued on to Abney Gap, where it followed the old ridge road much of the way to Sweet Annie Hollow, where the direct supervision of the club ended. However, someone needed to take care of what was known then as 'no man's land'. Therefore, members of the Roanoke and Natural Bridge Club of Lynchburg formed the Mountain Club of Virginia which maintained the trail from Sweet Annie Hollow to the Pinnacles of Dan on Route 58. The mileage of the Club's

section in 1933 was 68.29 miles, all of which had been measured, less of it marked, and much of it over rural roads.

The first publications were postcards sent weekly by Secretaries like Sallie McLain, who posted the week's hike plus notices from the Conference. Later these notices came out monthly in what was called the Bulletin where several weeks' activities were posted. Today, of course, we have our Blazer which is issued quarterly.

Most of the hikes originated from the YMCA where Mr. Coxwell, the director, was a charter member. Locations were gotten to by bus, train and car. There were short hikes and long hikes scheduled on Sundays. Some of them were similar to those we take today such as Fort Lewis Mtn., Tinker Ridge, Sharp Top, McAfee's Knob, Pinnacles of Dan, etc. Work hikes were important during this time, and the club were pioneers in blazing a new trail through their section. They did, however, reserve this endeavor to cooler weather and developed a program for summertime outings which included a long weekend camping out at Cave Mtn. Lake, the YMCA camp, and a Labor Day trip to Virginia Beach."

*Taken from the Club history files*

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## Roanoke Appalachian Trail Club Annual Summer Cornboil

At Catawba Community Center  
Saturday, August 4, 2007 - Music and Food 6-9 PM  
Music by Dan & Marian McConnell

Bring a covered dish (big enough for the Konnarock Crew)

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## Trail Supervisor's Report

Angel's Gap relocation is finally on our agenda for the summer. I guess this has been under discussion for at least 10 years. We hope to have it open by the end of the year. The Konnarock dates are June 7 – 11, July 12 – 16 and Aug. 2 – 6. For the 75<sup>th</sup> birthday of the club we would like to get 75 people out to work on the relocation with the crews. Hopefully, all of the board members will work a day, but we need to get lots of others out. With a good turnout we should put a big

dent in it during the three crew weeks. We will continue to schedule work hikes out there until it is done. Awful is the only word to describe the existing AT from Angel's Gap to the top of Ruckers Knob. It is much too steep and so is badly eroding. Remember, 5 days with the crew will get you a Konnarock T-shirt. If that is too much for you, please come out for one day or at least half a day.

*Charles Parry*

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## Land Management Supervisor AT Corridor Boundary Monitoring

Does doing some bushwhacking, using a quadrant compass and learning some survey map reading skills sound interesting to you? With the leadership of Sally Naser, ATC Boundary Program Manager, a group of RATC members, including Bob Stimson, Frank Haranzo and Greg Bryant, did some boundary monitoring work on June 7 & 8 near the Mt. Catawba/McAfee Knob and Daleville area. Anyone interested in spending some time working in the woods, locating and maintaining boundary medallions and blazes should contact Bob Stimson, RATC Land Management Supervisor at [bpstimson@verizon.net](mailto:bpstimson@verizon.net) for details. It is a fun, challenging and worthwhile experience.



The crew working on corridor boundary maintenance on Catawba Mt. From left to right: Greg Bryant (RATC), Frank Haranzo (RATC), Teresa Martinez (ATC), Sally Nasser (ATC), Pat Traynor (volunteer), and Bob Stimson (RATC)

*Bob Stimson*

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## Hikemaster's Report

If you get a chance, please take a look at our newly remodeled web site at [www.ratc.org](http://www.ratc.org). In the "Trail Information" section we have included a number of documents that are useful to members and hike leaders, including the hike sign up sheet and hike leader and overnight hike guidelines. We have also included links to information on National Forest trails in our area and locations to purchase AT and other trail maps.

We have compiled a list of members who have hiked all 113 miles of the A.T. that our club maintains. It is also available on the web site. Please contact me if you have completed all 113 miles and your name is not on the list. We will get your name added.

The Appalachian Trail Conservancy (ATC) has compiled the statistics for hike completions of the whole trail through 2006. A total of 474 hikers

completed the trail in 2006. This is down slightly from the previous year. A total of 1,150 hikers started on the trail hiking northbound from Springer Mountain, Georgia. Of this number, 329 hikers completed the 2,175-mile hike to Maine from Georgia. This is 29% of those that started. This continues an upward trend in the completion rate, which is up from the 15% range in the 1990s. The rest of the hikers who completed the trail in 2006 were section hikers, hiked southbound, or did a "flip-flop" hike.

The names and trail names of those who reported hike completions in the last twelve months are listed on the ATC web site, [www.appalachiantrail.org](http://www.appalachiantrail.org). A total of more than 9500 hike completions are now on record. Within about a year, it is expected to hit 10,000.

*Mike Vaughn*

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## Sylvia Brugh

Sylvia Ann Brugh of Troutville departed this earthly life just as the sun set behind the mountains on Tuesday, March 20, 2007. Sylvia was predeceased by her parents, Max and Lois Webster Brugh of Troutville, Virginia. She graduated from Madison College and taught in Virginia schools for a number of years. Those who will cherish her memory are her sister and brother-in-law, Jane Brugh Layman and John Layman of Blacksburg, Virginia; brother, Max Brugh, Jr. of Athens, Georgia; two nephews, John Eric and Charles Layman; two nieces, Elizabeth Layman Krivsky and Rachel Layman and eight great-nephews and nieces.

### Another Walk in the Woods Update

Please send mail addressed: (except Kathy Preble)

#### Hold for AT. Hiker

Leonard or Laurie Adkins

c/o General Delivery

City, State Zip-Code

#### Hold for AT. Hiker

| ADDRESS  | ARRIVAL DATE: | MAIL BY: |
|--|---------------|----------|
| Unionville, NJ 10988                                       | 7/3           | 6/23     |
| Glenwood, NJ 07418   | 7/4           | 6/26     |
| Bennington, VT 05201                                       | 7/11          | 7/1      |
| Manchester Center,<br>VT 05255                             | 7/16          | 7/6      |
| Killington, VT 05751                                       | 7/23          | 7/13     |
| Hanover, NH 03755  | 7/28          | 7/18     |
| Glenclyff, NH 03238  | 8/4           | 7/26     |
| North Woodstock,<br>NH 03262                               | 8/7           | 8/28     |
| Gorham, NH 03581   | 8/19          | 8/9      |
| Andover, ME 04216  | 8/27          | 8/17     |
| Stratton, ME 04982   | 9/4           | 8/25     |
| Carratunk, ME 04925  | 9/10          | 8/31     |
| Monson, ME 04464   | 9/13          | 9/3      |
| (Smith's Jo-Mary Lake CG)<br>c/o Kathy Preble              | 9/22          | 9/8      |
| 191 Main St., Brownsville, ME 04414<br>svivor@midmaine.com |               |          |
| Abol Bridge  | 9/27          | NO MAIL. |
| MOUNT KATAHDIN   | 9/29          | NO MAIL  |
| FIRST ENDING   |               |          |
| TRAVEL HOME, THE GATHERING,                                |               |          |

Sylvia was active in The Appalachian Trail Club and the Upper James Scenic Advisory Board. Sylvia loved hiking, identifying and photographing wildflowers, mushrooms and all the glorious treasures of nature. She was an expert and a resource to many people.

Sylvia was also active in the Peaks Presbyterian Pilgrimage, Kairos Prison Ministry, the Nancy Christian Fleming Chapter of the DAR, a lifelong member of Mill Creek Baptist Church and was active in many other area churches as well.

### RETURN TO TRAIL FINISH MISSING SECTIONS

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"Rock resting upon rock  
Ancient beyond wonder  
In an infinite slumber

Together in a cliff  
Alone and resting on the ground  
Resting forever without a sound

As natural as trees  
But breathes not breath  
And dies no death"

**Seth Brock**

(Written while staying at Big Meadow Lodge, located in the Shenandoah National Forest, and following a snowy, spring hike.)

## Hike Reports

### Sunday, March 11, 2007 8:00AM Old Hotel Trail, Cole Mountain Loop

Dan Phlegar (Leader), Kathy Phlegar, Kenny Garrett, John Miller, Mike Vaughn, Bob & Kris Peckman, Maya Bohler, Pat Guzik, Steve Tomaziefski, and H.R. Blankenship.

It was the first day of daylight savings time, which started three weeks earlier this year, so we decided to meet at 9:30 AM at the Daleville Park-n-Ride. We stopped in Buena Vista for last minute supplies and snacks and then proceeded to Amherst County by way of US 60. Even though rain showers were predicted the weather was beautiful with a "blue bird sky" and not a cloud in sight. We arrived at the trailhead around 11:00 AM and started hiking in a clockwise direction on the Old Hotel Loop Trail. The initial portion of the trail provided great views of Mount Pleasant and the trail passed through an old homestead site where there are still signs of an old apple orchard and stone walls. We ate lunch at the Cow Camp Shelter, which is about half a mile down the mountain from the AT. After lunch we made the climb up to the AT where we proceeded north on the trail. Some stated they wished they had not eaten such a big lunch, but everything was great once we reached the open fields that provided a 360 degree panorama view of the valleys below, plus a view to the north of the Priest and Three Ridges. We stopped for a long break and everyone enjoyed the views and sunshine. We hiked nearly a mile along an open field ridge at an elevation of 4,000 feet before descending to a forest service road that led us back to the trailhead parking lot. Several people continued hiking north on the AT for about three-quarters of a mile while two went back to get the vehicles. John Miller provided great suspense for those riding with him. Once he left Buena Vista on his way to the trailhead the empty gas gauge signal on his Dodge Ram Pick-Up came on and stayed on during the entire trip to and from Amherst County. John tried to make the hike longer, but thanks for some reserve in the tank. We made a little diversion trip on the way back to stop and view the Staten Falls on Staten Creek. Yes, we did make it back for gas at Buena Vista.

### Sunday, March 11, 2007 1:00PM Catawba Mountain (Rt 311) to McAfee Knob

Diana Christopulos & Mark McClain (leaders), Mark Packett, Peggy Bryant, Jeanie Calhoun, Tom Calhoun, Sheila Vaughn, & Greg Edwards

We had a sunny, brisk day, with clear views from the Knob. It was Greg's first time on top, and he had his camera, so we took a couple versions of the classic photo. The length of the hike may have kept a few RATC afternoon hikers away, but the "spring forward" of the clock that weekend gave us plenty of daylight. This trip might have been titled "Mark Packett and the Seven Old Farts," as his pace was about twice that of the rest of us. We all took the road instead of the AT on the way up, then lingered for a long time on top. It was clear, cool and breezy. Everyone but Mark also took the road on the way back. Even though he had to hike further and over more difficult terrain, he reached the parking lot before we did. We were leisure hikers, enjoying good conversation and company. Considering the day and the crowded parking lot, we encountered relatively few people on the trail. Nothing much was in bloom yet, but it was warm enough to bring out at least one fairly large lizard. The trail was in good condition and well-marked. We met Frank Haranzo in the parking lot as we were leaving. He had just come back from John's Spring Shelter.

### Sunday, March 18, 2007 8:30AM Sawtooth Ridge Work Hike

Charles Parry, Maurice Turner, Dana Helsley, Steve Burt, Ron McCorkle

We put in a short switchback on the south end of Sawtooth Ridge. At the corner we put in about 6 rock steps. It warmed up enough in the afternoon so we were able to blaze the new Trail. During the afternoon, 3 club hikers passed through. We thought the turn at the start of the relo was pretty obvious, but they seemed to have trouble deciding which way to go. They said 4 more were coming, but we never saw them. When I headed back to Blacksburg, I saw the 3 hikers down at the road still waiting.

### Sunday, March 18, 2007 1:00PM Sawtooth Ridge

Bobbie Sticher (leader), Linda Akers, H.R. Blankenship, Maya Bohler, Peggy Bryant, Zetta

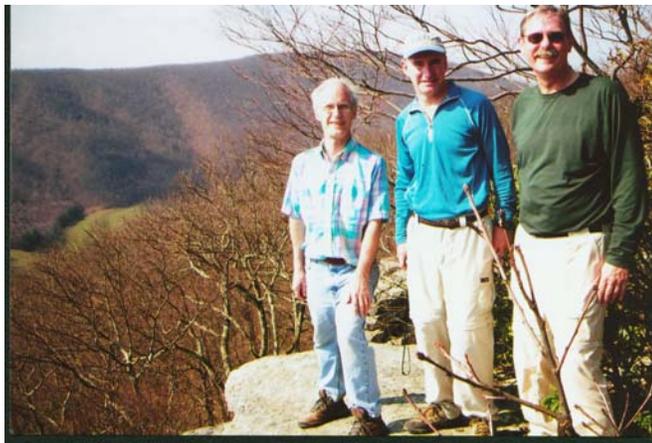
Campbell, Caryl Connolly, Carl Cornett, Beverly Williamson

This was a beautiful day to hike Sawtooth. The hikers started the hike while Linda helped me make the car switch. Some waited at the first overlook for us to catch up. All went well and the conditions were perfect for hiking. We had a snack break, finished the hike and returned to Roanoke. I would like to thank Peggy for being the sweep.

**Sunday, March 25, 2007 7:00AM  
Big Horse Gap to New River (Rt 460)  
113 Mile Hike #11**

Mike Vaughn & John Miller (leaders), Carl Cornett, Fred Meyer

We left early for this hike. The forecast was for unseasonably warm weather with a good chance of thunderstorms in the afternoon. There were many blowdowns along the trail on the way to the Doc's Knob Shelter, probably due to windy conditions over the winter. We stopped there for an early lunch. We then set off for a long walk through the woods to our next stop at the power line crossing. The views of the Wilburn Valley and the New River from there were tremendous. There was no leaf cover yet so it was warm going for the last few miles. We did not see any other hikers on the trail until we reached Angel's Rest. The trail down from Angel's Rest is in great shape, with many rock steps, thanks to the work over the past few years of RATC volunteers and the Konnarock crew.



**Sunday, March 25, 2007 1:00PM  
Bennett Springs Loop Hike #2**

Jean Warren & Gary Bible (co-leaders), Henry McLain, Peggy Bryant, Linda & David Sutton, Sue Scanlin, Laura Gardner, Sheila Vaughn, Bobbie Sticher, David Meadows, Frank Dieter, Grace Terry,

Zetta Campbell, David Bowers, Margarita Cubas & Catcher the Canine

What a beautiful day for a 6-mile hike! This is always a fun hike to lead, since most people have never done it before. Then again, it can create a "situation." Within the first few steps, we were instantly divided into two separate groups: the fast and not-so-fast hikers. Since Bobbie (who has done this many times) was in the first group, she became their leader. Zetta, Sue, and I were in the latter group. Less than 150 yards into the hike, Bobbie steers her group off the selected route, and goes onto a newly designed trail. "Gee! I don't remember this bridge and crossing all these creeks," she kept saying. But on they went! They added a few extra miles to the hike, but everyone seemed to enjoy it with no complaints. The only section both groups had in common was a steep one-mile stretch (we went up and Bobbie's group came down). We ended up at the parking lot within minutes of each other, coming from opposite directions. We ALL enjoyed some views of Carvins Cove, walking along the ridge, and crossing streams. The extra event was witnessing a tree fall down. Awesome!

**Sunday, April 1, 2007 9:00AM  
Onion Mountain Exploratory**

Larry Austin, Lois Smith (leaders), Maurice Turner, Jen Schaeffer, Alex Bier, Carl Cornett, and Paul Jones

The weather for this hike was cool and cloudy. It was not foggy at the Daleville Park & Ride where we met but as we headed north on the Blue Ridge Parkway we could see fog on the mountain tops. As we neared Sunset Field where the hike began it was quite foggy. Onion Mountain was shrouded in it. This hike was about seeing the views from the mountain at various rock outcroppings. Needless to say, that was a disappointment. We made the most of it anyway and the leader painted a picture at each site as to what they would see if it had been clear. Not quite the same! We visited a number of old building sites near the former Camp Kewanee, a boy's camp in the early 1930's. There were some interesting stone foundations leading to speculation as to what the buildings must have housed. There was one quite large stone foundation which had a creek actually going down the middle of the site. We don't know if the creek had changed courses over the years or whether there was some reason why they would build over a creek. The summit of Onion Mountain was at an elevation of approximately 3,600 feet, and we were able to reach it without too much stress. It is an interesting summit with widely spaced oak trees and grasses growing in different spots. We descended the southeast side of the

mountain to the first rock outcropping. White everywhere! We ascended back up to the summit and then descended the north east side to a saddle in the mountain and then climbed again a short distance to another rock outcropping hidden among rhododendrons. Again, the view was white! We broke for lunch to the east of this spot to get out of the wind. After lunch, we again descended a short distance and climbed another short hill to more rock outcroppings again nestled in rhododendrons. It was tight going to get to some of the boulders. Again, white everywhere. Although there were more rock outcroppings a little farther away, we decided the fog would prevail and leave us with no view. We headed back to Sunset Field to end the hike around 1:15 p.m. We tried to enjoy some refreshments at the overlook but the wind, fog and cold was not very enticing for a fellowship gathering. Maybe another day we can revisit Onion Mountain and benefit from its many views.

**Sunday, April 1, 2007 1:00PM**  
**Fort Lewis Mountain from Bradshaw Road**

Ed Wallace & Maya Bohler (co-leaders), Peggy Bryant, Rod Liebl

It was a rainy day, but not too cold. We didn't see much in the way of flowers in bloom, as it was still pretty early in the spring season. We did see service berry trees and trailing arbutus though.

We got a little wet as the first storm blew through, but got back to the cars just as the second storm started up.

The ladies both carried full backpacks. Maya was getting in shape for an upcoming backpack trip and Peggy always comes prepared for anything – brass knuckles, 3 big knives, kitchen sink, you get the idea.

**Sunday, April 8, 2007 8:00AM**  
**Flat Top Mountain, Falling Water Cascades**

Diana Christopulos & Hugh Hall (co-leaders), Peggy Bryant, Carl Cornett.

This hike occurred in the midst of five icy days, so we moved the start time to 10 AM. One car held everyone, and we were the only people at the Flat Top parking lot, a little north of Peaks of Otter Lodge on the Blue Ridge Parkway. It was about 30 degrees. We started with the Falling Water Cascades trail, a loop of about two miles. Leafless trees make this a scenic time. Flat Top and Sharp Top were visible in the distance. The cascades themselves drop several hundred feet over a series of ledges, and they are most visible in winter. Lacy ice covered fallen branches in many spots.

Thoroughly warmed by the 300-foot down and up, we headed on to Flat Top up a long series of nine switchbacks. At 4,001 feet, it is 126 feet higher than Sharp Top. The air was noticeably cooler as we climbed, with a cutting breeze. Ice crept over the rocks, and we could see the impact of the recent freezes. May apples and violets were droopy, and we saw only one trillium, just beginning to bud.

After achieving the ridge top near the Cross Rock spur trail, we trudged on about another mile to the highest point. Thankfully the sun came out and the wind died down. Carl found several large boulders overlooking the Bedford Reservoir and the surrounding valley. We also had a nice view of Sharp Top. We snacked, relaxed and took pictures... until the wind came up again. Then we made the much quicker return trip down the mountain.

We met only one other hiker all day.

Many apologies to Fred Meyer, who did not receive the message that we had changed the time to 10 AM. Not one to give up, he hiked to Hay Rock from the Daleville parking lot.

**Saturday, April 14, 2007 11:00AM**  
**Apple Orchard Falls, Cornelius Creek Loop**

Cancelled for the second time due to rain!

**Sunday, April 15, 2007 8:00AM**  
**Fuller Rocks, Big Rocky Row**

Cancelled due to high winds and rain,

**Sunday, April 22, 2007 8:00AM**  
**Angel's Rest Work Hike**  
**Pearisburg South Reblazing**

Charles Parry, Dana Helsley, Mike Vaughn, Fred Coughlan, Bill Floyd, Maurice Turner

Bill and I met the Roanoke folks at the road crossing below Angel's Rest. As we had 6 people we decided to split into two groups of three. Fred, Maurice and I started there, while the others drove to Big Horse Gap, leaving my truck at the Gusler farm on the way. They worked the trail going out Sugar Run Mountain. In our group, I carried the chainsaw in the pack and scraped, Fred blazed and Maurice clipped. We found some wind damage, but not too much. We met a few thru-hikers who mentioned quite a few blowdowns further south, but as usual were a bit vague when you tried to find out exactly where. However, we did find enough big trees across the trail to make carrying the chainsaw worthwhile. The other group did not carry a chainsaw and were able to clear the storm damage with a bow

saw. We got to the powerline a bit after 3 and headed down across the Gusler farm. We drove back to Pandapas Pond where we met the others. We now have about 8 miles south of Pearisburg reblazed. We will schedule a late summer trip to get more of it done.

**Sunday, April 22, 2007 1:00PM  
Chestnut Ridge Trail**

Mervin & Blanche Brower (leaders), Bobbie Stitcher, Nancy Utz, Sherry Kessel, Patrick and Tracy Wasserman

Four hikers met us at the Towers Mall and three met us at the trail. The day was sunny and temperature was in the 80's, which made it a perfect day for hiking. The trail was in fair condition as there were a couple of blow downs. The wild flowers were starting to come out but the trees did not have leaves yet. We were well matched and finished hiking by 4 o'clock.

**Sunday, April 29, 2007 8:00AM  
Sinking Creek (Rt 630) to Lee Hollow (Rt 621),  
113-Mile Hike #8**

John Miller & Gary Bible (co-leader), Pat Guzik, H.R. Blankenship



This was a perfect spring day for a hike. Temperatures at the start were in the 50's and expected highs were 75. The cool temperatures were appreciated at the start of the hike since we almost immediately started gaining elevation. John met a section hiker at the Keffer Oak named "Gray Beard" who was here from Austin, TX and had spent the night at the Laurel Creek shelter. He said for the most part our part of the trail was in good shape but did mention the damage done at the Pine Swamp shelter and numerous blow downs between there and here. In fact our group encountered two major blow downs on this hike. Numerous wild flowers such as violets, dwarf iris, wild strawberry and others were in bloom as well as pink azalea. We opted

not to visit the Sarver Hollow shelter but did stop at the Niday shelter where we were joined by two thru hikers. We got finished fairly early but we all felt we had a good hike.

**Sunday, April 29, 2007 1:00PM  
Belfast Trail to Devil's Marblyard**

Kenny Garrett & Mike Vaughan (co-leaders), Lance Garrett, Jesse Garrett, Harry Ballard, Dean Meador, Andy Robinson, Shelia Vaughan, Steve Tomaziefski, Dave Bowers, Debbie Smith, Leahna Smith, Pat Cousins & Guests: Marlene Evans, Ty Sigmon, Evin Hanson, Erika Praemassing, Kenny & Jo Brooks, Brad, Luke, & Mark McClean, Alan Sowder, Dylan McCallister, & Cory Vogt

We had an unusually large group of hikers out on this beautiful and warm Spring afternoon. I learned from many of our members and guest that this was their first trip to the Devil's Marblyard. We managed to fit all of the vehicles near the trail head at the Belfast Trail. Everyone spread out at a comfortable pace as we made the short climb to the boulder field. The youngsters in the group raced ahead, scrambling up the rocks like an obstacle course. Some of us climbed to the top, some went partway and basked in the sun, and some explored the area around the boulder field. There was not a cloud in the sky which made the view of Arnolds Valley incredible. I believe that every hiker in the group, from the young to the young at heart, enjoyed this wonderful Sunday afternoon jaunt.

**Sunday, May 6, 2007 8:30AM  
Green Hill Exploratory**

Homer & Therese Witcher (leaders), Bob & Kris Peckman, Bennett Witcher, Harry Ballard & Tyler Lucas

We had a great day for a hike with clear skies and nice views. The hike starts at the top of North Mountain with views of Big House and Little House Mountains and Lake Robertson. We followed the ridge line westward and ate lunch on the rocks with views into Alleghany County. We saw some pink azaleas in bloom as well as some dwarf iris. After lunch, we left the trail and continued along the ridge until the point where we bushwhacked down North Mountain and up Green Hill. On top of Green Hill we followed the ridge until we came to the rocks. From the rocks, we had spectacular views to the west where you could not see any signs of human habitation. Then we searched for our trail that we follow down off the mountain. Despite what Harry may say, we were never lost, we were just momentarily misplaced. After three tries, we

finally managed to get Bob and Kris to complete a North Mountain hike with us.

**Sunday, May 6, 2007 1:00PM**  
**Thunder Ridge Overlook to Sunset Fields Overlook**

Kenny Garrett & Hugh Hall (co-leads), Lance Garrett, Austin Whittaker, Jared Whittaker, Mary Lou Gaminde, Carol McPeak, Gary Bible, Jennifer Feeny, Mary & Jim Harshfield, Steve Tomazieski, Debbie Smith, Leahna Smith, Mike & Sheila Vaughan, plus guests Ronnie Stanley, Mark & Luke McClean and A.J. Jones

Twenty hikers ventured north on the Blue Ridge Parkway to enjoy a wonderful warm spring afternoon. Six boys, ages 7 to 12, led the hike as we traveled south on the AT from the Thunder Ridge Overlook to Sunset Fields. We stopped at Thunder Hill Shelter for a quick breather before continuing on to the amazing rock formation known as The Guillotine. After crossing through the formation, we climbed the many steps installed by the Natural Bridge Club. The panoramic views from the open field at the top of Apple Orchard Mountain were breathtaking. We crossed behind the radar station and began our descent through the occasional switchbacks until we reached Sunset Fields Overlook. We observed many trillium and other flora, but the leaves were still slow filling out at this altitude. I believe a good time was had by all.

**Sunday, May 13, 2007 1:00PM**  
**Falling Water Cascades/Harkening Hill**

Dave Sutton 774-0648  
 Georgia Gallaher 345-8700

**Saturday/Sunday, May 19-20, 2007 8:00AM**  
**Mountain Lake, Bailey Gap Work Hike**  
**War Spur -Stony Creek Work Hike**

Charles Parry, Hal Cantrill, Bob Foutz, Theresa Knox, Fred Meyer, Maya Bohler

We had a total of 6 people with 5 on each day. On Saturday we left Hal and Fred down in Stony Creek Valley to work on the section along the creek while Bob, Theresa and I drove to the Wind Rock parking lot to work back to Stony Creek. We found a normal amount of blow downs and some clipping to do on this section. We also met several thru-hikers, but perhaps fewer than usual. The weather was nice and it was a great day to be out. Shortly after crossing the Rocky Mountain Road, we came across the controlled burn,

which used the trail as a fire-line. If I have anything to say about it, we will not allow that to be done again except to preserve open areas. Despite assurances from the District Ranger that the fire would not kill the rhododendron, it appeared dead. To put it bluntly, it was ugly. We soon met Hal. Since he and Fred had not done a car switch, they decided to ford the creek and walk the road back. Hal gave us a ride up to the top of the mountain to get my truck.

On Sunday Maya and I went over to Pine Swamp Shelter to finish getting the blow down off the roof, while Hal, Bob, and Theresa worked on the AT in the Mountain Lake Wilderness Area. As the Shelter is also in a Wilderness Area, we had to use handsaws to clear the roof. Kenny and his son had already cleared the front side. It was a big oak tree with a forked top on the roof. We made a total of 4 cuts, 2 from the roof and 2 from the ground. The roof cuts were relatively easy as the limbs were up in the air. The first ground cut was the most difficult as it started pinching about halfway through and we had to finish it with a small hand saw. Getting the logs off the roof proved to be easy once the cuts were made as gravity did most of the work. We were done before lunchtime and cleaned up a bit more in front of the shelter. After lunch we spent some time measuring and making a list of materials for repairs. We then drove up to the War Spur Trail to give Hal a ride back to his car. We walked in perhaps ¼ mile when we met them coming out. We felt that we had a productive weekend and the trail in this area is now in good condition.

**Sunday, May 20, 2007 11:00AM**  
**Hoop Hole, Lower Loop**

Hugh Hall (leader), Marianne Demkó, Peggy Bryant, Wendle Markham, Lori Malzi, Sherry Wickline, Vernon Lorish, & Penny McIver

Sue Scanlin was sick and could not lead the hike. We had a beautiful spring day with the high temperature reaching the low 80's. It did not seem so hot deep in the woods of Botetourt County. Eight hikers participated, three of whom were first time hikers! The water level was not high so the many stream crossings were not difficult. I was surprised that we only encountered a few other hikers on such a fine day. This was my first time leading a hike so I was a bit nervous! Marianne took pictures of various plants, mushrooms, and fungi. Everyone enjoyed the day and the first timers were encouraged to join us again.

**Sunday, May 27, 2007 8:00AM**  
**Still House Branch to Rice Fields**

Maurice Turner (leader), Maya Bohler (assistant), Harry Ballard, H.R. Blankenship, Fred Meyer, and

Mike Vaughn

From Stillhouse Branch, we drove to Pocahontas Road and parked at the forest service gate. We hiked the road two miles until we came to an intersection and took a left fork that further ascended up the mountain. We saw a turkey, box turtle and a snake (unknown) before reaching a hunter's trail that we took for a mile or so. This trail led us past some flame azaleas and fern over four feet tall; we also saw a grouse along the way. We had to bushwhack over a half-mile before reaching the AT around 11:00; we had started our hike around 9:20. We hiked south on the AT until we reached the shelter around 12:20 to have lunch. At the shelter we met Jim Walke, who had hiked with the club on an earlier hike on Peters Mtn. After lunch we hiked further south on the AT to the second power line and took the horse/jeep trail back to the vehicle. While we were on the AT we met 20 thru-hikers, four day-hikers and their dog. We also saw another box turtle, a garter snake and a baby fawn. The trail under the power line started out being slightly overgrown but later became less so. It was over three miles back to the car and the trail came back out by the first power line and we saw another grouse along the way. There was lots of mountain laurel in bloom especially under the power lines. The plant life we saw on our hike was numerous, some of which Maya identified as creeping bell flower, Virginia water leaf, cinquefoil, golden ragwort, Deptford pink, blue-eyed grass, pink phlox, and many others. There were birds like the towhee and scarlet tanager that we saw or heard. We finished our hike around 3:10. It was hot in the sun but most of the hike was in the shade of the trees and was quite enjoyable.

**Sunday, May 27, 2007 1:00 PM  
Falls Ridge**

Bobbie Sticher and Charles Musgrove (leaders), Peggy Bryant, Mary Gilbert, Hugh Hall, Lynne Jacoby, Mark Packett, Angela and Joe Parrish, Steve T.

The weather was very hot in Roanoke but the hike was surprisingly pleasant. The falls were beautiful. We saw lots of Stonecrop in bloom on the upper trail and a yellow flower that may have been Green and Gold. Angela and Joe were hiking with us for the first time. The lower half where there are caves, Joe said this used to be the falls. The mining operation changed the falls to where they are today.

**Sunday, June 3, 2007 8:00AM  
Catawba Mountain (Rt 311) to Andy Layne  
Trail (Rt 779) 113-Mile Hike #4**

Rained out.

**Sunday, June 3, 2007 11:00AM  
Stiles Falls**

Sue Scanlin & Gary Bible (co-leaders), Marianne Demkó, Peggy Bryant

The timing of the much-needed rain was unfortunate but didn't keep us at home. No, we met in the rain, drove in the rain, hiked in the rain, and finished up in the rain. Call us dreamers for hoping it would stop coming down somewhere and sometime in between but the reality was that all of us had smiles on our faces because we had a good time.

Some of us gave up earlier than others trying to keep our feet and the inside of our footwear dry while crossing the creek. Eventually, however, every one of us – voluntarily or not – ended up more than ankle deep in it. About three quarters of the way up, parts of the railing along a steep portion of the trail was missing and what was left of it was quite rickety. After that there was one more creek crossing before the final ascent to the falls. At the falls themselves, the water was gushing down as if it had been raining for days.

One lesson learned: creek crossings are much easier once your feet have been thoroughly soaked.

## Hike Schedule

Going on a group hike can fulfill a number of worthwhile purposes. These include such things as physical conditioning, social interaction, the enjoyment of nature, and the thrill of reaching a spectacular viewpoint. The Roanoke Appalachian Trail Club consistently tries to provide a wide range of hiking opportunities for people of all ages, interests and abilities. Guests are always welcome to join us.

For the most part, we rate our hikes as follows:

**Easy** – 3 to 5 miles; good trails or old roads; modest elevation changes.

**Moderate** – 5 to 8 miles; steeper trails which may be rough in places.

**Strenuous** – 8 miles and up; long hikes with extensive climbs and possible rough trails or bushwhacking.

Hikes which do not fall neatly into one of these categories may be rated **easy-moderate** or **moderate-strenuous**.

You may drive your own car to the trailhead if you wish. However, carpooling is encouraged to save gasoline and because trailhead parking may be limited. The hike leader is responsible for arranging such carpooling as may be required. While there is no fee to hike with the club, the indicated amount is to defray automobile expenses and should be given to the driver of your carpool.

**You will need to call the leader to find out where the hiking group will be meeting. If you are new to hiking, the leader can also give advice about clothing, footwear, and equipment. If you are unfamiliar with the hike, the leader will be glad to answer your questions and help you evaluate whether or not it is suitable for you.**

**Friday, June 29, 2007 7:00PM  
Moonlight Hike to McAfee Knob**

7.6 miles, Moderate, \$.50 carpool fee  
6 miles from Roanoke

Join us for a moonlight hike up to McAfee Knob, one of the most scenic spots on the entire 2,000-mile length of the Appalachian Trail. There will be a full moon on the 30<sup>th</sup>. Located west of Salem in Roanoke County, the hike follows the Appalachian Trail up and back. Extensive cliffs at the top afford unparalleled views of both the Catawba Valley and the city of Roanoke. In case of cloudy weather, Saturday night, June 30 will be the back-up date for this hike.

**Maya Bohler 344-6588**  
**Pat Guzik 540-808-9708**

**Sunday, July 8, 2007 7:00AM  
A.T., Ribble Trail to Lickskillet Hollow**

9.9 miles, Strenuous, \$6.00 carpool fee  
71 miles from Roanoke

Located in Giles County, this hike follows scenic Dismal Creek for several miles, passing Dismal Falls. After crossing a footbridge over Kimberling Creek, the trail goes up and over Brushy Mountain, with a 1,000 foot gain in elevation.

**Mike Vaughn 992-1350**  
**John Miller 375-3250**

**Sunday, July 8, 2007 1:00PM  
Petites Gap to Sunset Field**

7.3 miles, Moderate, \$2.50 carpool fee

23 miles from Roanoke

This hike will be on the A.T. from Petites Gap on the Blue Ridge Parkway to the Sunset Field overlook on the BRP. Included are wonderful views from Thunder Ridge Overlook and Apple Orchard Mountain, which has a large grassy bald at its summit. This route is also known for the Guillotine, a rock formation, where the trail passes under a suspended rock. There is also a beautiful series of over 100 rock steps installed by the Natural Bridge Appalachian Trail Club along the trail immediately past the Guillotine. There are 1,400 feet of elevation gain on this hike.

**Merv and Blanche Brower 387-9732**

**July 12 to 16, 2007  
Angel's Gap Relocation with Konnarock Crew**

**Saturday, July 14, 2007 8:30AM  
Angel's Gap Relocation with Konnarock Crew**

.5 miles, Moderate, \$.00 carpool fee  
0 miles from Roanoke

We will be working on the relocation of an eroded section of the trail near Hay Rock in Botetourt County.

**Charles Parry 540-951-1402**  
**Maurice Turner 540-334-2128**

**Sunday, July 15, 2007 8:30AM  
Angel's Gap Relocation with Konnarock Crew**

.5 miles, Moderate, \$.00 carpool fee  
0 miles from Roanoke

We will be working on the relocation of an eroded section of the trail near Hay Rock in Botetourt County.

**Charles Parry 540-951-1402**  
**Dana Helsley 977-4154**

**Sunday, July 15, 2007 1:00PM  
Angel's Gap Relocation with Konnarock Crew**

.5 miles, Moderate, \$.00 carpool fee  
0 miles from Roanoke

We will be working on the relocation of an eroded section of the trail near Hay Rock in Botetourt County.

**Merv and Blanche Brower 387-9732**

**Sunday, July 15, 2007 1:00PM  
Roaring Run**

2.0 miles, \$2.50 carpool fee  
27 miles from Roanoke

Located in Botetourt County, the hike visits a cascading stream and scenic waterfalls, as well as a standing pre-civil war iron ore furnace, used for

making iron ingots, stoves, and other iron products for the building of America.

**Mike Ferguson 344-8525**

**Kenny Garrett 892-5786**

**Saturday, July 21, 2007 7:00AM**

**Allegheny Trail**

18.5 miles, Strenuous, \$5.00 carpool fee

62 miles from Roanoke

The hike is located in Monroe County West Virginia. It starts on WV CR15 at the parking lot for the Hanging Rock Raptor Migration Observatory. The first 12.5 miles are on the Allegheny Trail, which follows the crest of Peters Mountain mostly on old logging and forest service roads. We will then head south on the A.T. for four miles to the Ground Hog Trail. The last two miles will be on the Ground Hog Trail, ending on WVA Route 219/24.

**Don Hoke 563-2902**

**Carl Cornett 342-3950**

**Sunday, July 22, 2007 1:00PM**

**Crabtree Falls**

5.8 miles, Moderate, \$5.00 carpool fee

68 miles from Roanoke

The hike is located in Nelson County, and follows Crabtree Creek, with scenic overlooks at the five major cascades, which, with a number of smaller ones, have a total fall of 1,200 feet. Crabtree Falls is the highest waterfall east of the Mississippi.

**Kenny Garrett 892-5786**

**Hugh Hall 725-8874**

**Sunday, July 29, 2007 8:00AM**

**Mount Pleasant**

6.9 miles, Moderate, \$5.00 carpool fee

57 miles from Roanoke

This hike is located in the Mount Pleasant scenic area near route 60 in Amherst County. This loop hike goes to the summit of Mount Pleasant via the Henry Lanum Trail. There are sweeping views to the east and west from two rock outcrops at the summit. The hike will return to the starting point via the Pompey Trail.

**Homer Witcher 992-3932**

**Jim McNeeley 540-381-8836**

**Sunday, July 29, 2007 1:00PM**

**Cascades**

4.0 miles, Easy, \$5.00 carpool fee

54 miles from Roanoke

Located in Giles County near Pembroke, the hike uses trails which run along both sides of Little Stony Creek, ending near the Cascades – an impressive waterfall.

Usually the hike will go up one side of the creek and come back on the other. The Forest Service charges a nominal fee (\$3.00) to park at the trailhead.

**Mike Ferguson 344-8525**

**Gary Bible 977-2954**

**August 2 to 6, 2007**

**Angel's Gap Relocation with Konnarock Crew**

**Saturday August 4, 2007 6:00PM**

**Corn Boil & 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

**See Page 3.**

**Saturday, August 4, 2007 8:30AM**

**Angel's Gap Relocation with Konnarock Crew**

.5 miles, Moderate, \$.00 carpool fee

0 miles from Roanoke

We will be working on the relocation of an eroded section of the trail near Hay Rock in Botetourt County.

**Charles Parry 540-951-1402**

**Mike Vaughn 992-1350**

**Sunday, August 5, 2007 8:30AM**

**Angel's Gap Relocation with Konnarock Crew**

.5 miles, Moderate, \$.00 carpool fee

0 miles from Roanoke

We will be working on the relocation of an eroded section of the trail near Hay Rock in Botetourt County.

**Charles Parry 540-951-1402**

**Dana Helsley 977-4154**

**Sunday, August 5, 2007 1:00PM**

**Angel's Gap Relocation with Konnarock Crew**

.5 miles, Moderate, \$.00 carpool fee

0 miles from Roanoke

We will be working on the relocation of an eroded section of the trail near Hay Rock in Botetourt County.

**Merv and Blanche Brower 387-9732**

**Sunday, August 5, 2007 1:00PM**

**Fern Trail/Chestnut Ridge/Horse Trail**

5.0 miles, Moderate, \$0.00 carpool fee

0 miles from Roanoke

The hike starts on the Fern Trail (built by the mid-week volunteers) in South Roanoke and intersects with the Chestnut Ridge trail for a short distance. We will then

take the Blue Ridge Parkway for another short distance to a horse trail (also recently rehabilitated by the mid-week crew) that meets up at the Star Trail. We will finish on the new Roanoke River Greenway.

**Maurice Turner** 540-334-2128

**Sunday, August 12, 2007 8:00AM  
A.T., Route 611 to U.S. Route 52**

9.1 miles, Strenuous, \$6.00 carpool fee  
74 miles from Roanoke

This hike is located in Bland County. We will be hiking south on the A.T., along the ridgeline, with little elevation gain or loss. We will pass Helvey's Mill Shelter along the way.

**John Miller** 375-3250

**Mike Vaughn** 992-1350

**Sunday, August 12, 2007 1:00PM  
Dragon's Tooth Parking Lot to Dragon's Tooth**

5.2 miles, Moderate, \$1.00 carpool fee  
9 miles from Roanoke

Located on Cove Mountain near the Craig and Roanoke County line, the hike to Dragon's Tooth ascends steep, rugged outcrops of quartzite which form the spine of Cove Mountain. A difficult hike, Dragon's Tooth summit offers magnificent views of nearby and distant peaks year-round

**Mike Ferguson** 344-8525

**Sunday, August 19, 2007 1:00PM  
Otter Creek Trail**

3.4 miles, Easy, \$4.00 carpool fee  
44 miles from Roanoke

Located in Amherst County just off the Blue Ridge Parkway and a little way from James River, the trail follows Otter Creek from the Otter Creek campground to the James River.

**Kenny Garrett** 892-5786

**Maya Bohler** 344-6588

**Saturday, August 25, 2007 8:00AM  
Pine Swamp Shelter Roof Repair**

.5 miles, Moderate, \$5.00 carpool fee  
60 miles from Roanoke

We will be repairing damage to the shelter's roof caused by a fallen tree from a wind storm in April. The shelter is located in Giles County.

**Kenny Garrett** 892-5786

**Charles Parry** 540-951-1402

**Sunday, August 26, 2007 8:00AM  
Pine Swamp Shelter Roof Repair**

.5 miles, Moderate, \$5.00 carpool fee  
60 miles from Roanoke

We will be repairing damage to the shelter's roof caused by a fallen tree from a wind storm in April. The shelter is located in Giles County.

**Kenny Garrett** 892-5786

**Charles Parry** 540-951-1402

**Sunday, August 26, 2007 1:00PM  
Curry Gap to Fullhardt Knob**

7.80 miles, Moderate, \$1.00 carpool fee  
9 miles from Roanoke

The hike starts at Curry Gap on the Blue Ridge Parkway. It follows Salt Pond Road to the intersection with the A.T., then goes up the A.T. to Fullhardt Knob. There are limited views along the trail and at the summit of Fullhardt Knob.

**Ed Wallace** 774-0175

**Gary Bible** 977-2954

**Sunday, September 9, 2007 11:00AM  
Fuller Rocks, Big Rocky Row**

7.4 miles, Moderate, \$3.00 carpool fee  
39 miles from Roanoke

This hike will start on the A.T. crossing on Hercules Road. The hike will head north on the A.T., reaching Fuller Rocks after a series of 21 switchbacks. There are magnificent views here of the James River and the surrounding mountains. The hike will then ascend Big Rocky Row, with additional great views of the valley below, before descending back to Hercules Road on a side trail at Saddle Gap.

**Charles Musgrove** 345-7969

**Hugh Hall** 725-8874

**Sunday, September 16, 2007 8:30AM  
Angel's Gap Relocation**

.5 miles, Moderate, \$.00 carpool fee  
0 miles from Roanoke

We will be working on the relocation of an eroded section of the trail near Hay Rock in Botetourt County.

**Charles Parry** 540-951-1402

**Kris Peckman** 366-7780

**Sunday, September 16, 2007 1:00PM  
Pandapas Pond Trails**

6.0 miles, Moderate, \$3.50 carpool fee  
39 miles from Roanoke

The hike is located in Montgomery County north of Blacksburg. It starts at Pandapas and uses some of the trails along Poverty Creek and Gap Mountain.

**Dave Sutton** 774-0648  
**Jim McNeeley** 540-381-8836

**Sunday, September 23, 2007 8:00AM  
 Salt Log Gap to Crabtree Meadows**

11.9 miles, Strenuous, \$5.50 carpool fee  
 57 miles from Roanoke

This hike starts at Salt Log Gap, near the Mount Pleasant Scenic Area in Amherst County. The hike will follow the A.T. north, passing Spy Rock along the way. Spy Rock is a large granite dome that offers great 360-degree views. The hike will conclude at Crabtree Meadows in the Priest Wilderness Area in Nelson County. All of this hike is above the 3,000 foot elevation level. There is little elevation change during the hike.

**John Miller** 375-3250  
**Pat Guzik** 540-808-9708

**Sunday, September 23, 2007 1:00PM  
 Flat Top Mountain, Fallingwater Cascades**

5.8 miles, Moderate, \$2.50 carpool fee  
 27 miles from Roanoke

Located in Botetourt County, the trail ascends 1,500 feet to the summit of Flat Top mountain. At one point a side trail descends a short distance to an unusual formation known as Cross Rock. At the summit of Flat Top, nice views may be obtained by easy scrambles onto projecting rocks. After descending back to the t

railhead, the hike will conclude with a short descent to Falling Water Cascades. This is a scenic stream just off the Blue Ridge Parkway.

**Kenny Garrett** 892-5786  
**Gary Bible** 977-2954

**Sunday, September 30, 2007 8:00AM  
 Punchbowl Overlook (BRP) to Long Mountain  
 Wayside (Route 60)**

10.6 miles, Strenuous, \$4.50 carpool fee  
 43 miles from Roanoke

The hike will start on the Blue Ridge Parkway and will go north on the A.T., passing the Lynchburg Reservoir near the halfway point. The last three miles of the hike will be along Brown Creek. There used to be a pioneer community along the creek and several foundations can still be seen.

**Kris Peckman** 366-7780  
**Hugh Hall** 725-8874

**Sunday, September 30, 2007 1:00PM  
 Apple Orchard Falls, Cornelius Creek Loop**

5.7 miles, Moderate, \$2.50 carpool fee  
 26 miles from Roanoke

This is a popular hike located in the North Creek camping area, near Arcadia. A blue-blazed trail, steep in places, leads uphill to Apple Orchard Falls. The falls are impressive and the trail has been greatly improved in recent years. Beyond the falls, a crossover path leads to the Cornelius Creek Trail which follows the creek downhill - back to the parking area.

**Merv and Blanche Brower** 387-9732

**Roanoke Appalachian  
 Trail Club Application  
 New & Renewal**

- If accepted for membership, I agree to:
1. Support the objectives of the Roanoke Appalachian Trail Club
  2. Abide by the rules of the National and State Parks and Forests
  3. Respect the interests of the owner when on private property
  4. Keep trails and woodlands free of litter and
  5. Abide by instructions of the leader on group hikes and trips

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ New Member Packet fee \$5.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Indiv. # of years \_\_\_\_\_ x \$10.00 \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Family # of years \_\_\_\_\_ x \$15.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Individual life membership \$250.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Family life membership \$300.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Year you joined RATC (make a guess!) \_\_\_\_\_ Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to RATC, PO Box 12282, Roanoke, 24024-2282 Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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387-2331 ..... fcoughlan@aol.com

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387-9732 ..... Blanche@brower.cc

**Land Mgmt. Supervisor, Bob Stimson**  
540-552-0580 ..... bpstimson@verizon.net

**Conservation Supervisor, Liz Belcher**  
384-6772 ..... lbelcher@co.roanoke.va.us

**Trail Supervisor, Charles Parry**  
540-951-1402 ..... parrycj@math.vt.edu

**Shelter Supervisor, Kenny Garrett & Jonathan Reed**  
892-5786 ..... codenine911@hotmail.com  
265-4782 ..... ratc\_shelter@yahoo.com

**Hikemaster, Michael Vaughn**  
992-1350 ..... mikeva999@yahoo.com

**Newsletter Editor, Bob Peckman**  
366-7780 ..... bob@peckmanjazz.com

**Membership Coordinator, Mervin Brower**  
387-9732 ..... mervin@brower.cc

**Counselor, Greg Bryant**  
774-2435 ..... gkb@cox.net

**Counselor, Dick Clark**  
989-7053 ..... jandrclark@cox.net

**ANCILLARIES**

**Social Chairman, Carolyn McPeak**  
540-890-2855 ..... mcpeakcr@aol.com

**Phone Tree Chairman, Liz Lamson**  
774-8981 ..... blueridge23@cox.net

**Webmaster Emeritus, David A. Cheslow**  
..... david@cheslow.net

**Webmaster, David Perry**  
..... dperry@westernvirginialandtrust.org

**Roanoke College Rep., Brian Chisom**  
389-7393 (H), 375-7393 (W)..... chisom@roanoke.edu

**Mid-week Workhikes, Bill Gordge**  
774-3016 ..... bgordge@cox.net

**OTHER**

**Southwest & Central VA Regional Director, Laura Belleville**  
540-953-3571 ..... lbelleville@appalachiantrail.org

**ATC Regional Representative, Teresa Martinez**  
540-953-3571 ..... tmartinez@appalachiantrail.org

**Regional Partnership Committee  
Representative, Charles Parry**  
(540)951-1402 ..... parrycj@math.vt.edu  
**Alternate, Roger Holnback**  
556-2919 ..... rholnback@westernvirginialandtrust.org

**ATC-LT Coordinator - James River to New River and  
Director Western Virginia Land Trust, Roger B. Holnback**  
556-2919 ..... rholnback@westernvirginialandtrust.org

**ATC-LT Coord. New River to Damascus, Steve Reisinger**  
504-951-7580 ..... srei38@hotmail.com

**Roanoke Valley Greenways Liaison, Roger B. Holnback**  
556-2919 ..... rholnback@westernvirginialandtrust.org

**Sir Speedy Printer**  
344-8550 ..... robbiey@rbnet.com

**CALENDAR OF CLUB ACTIVITIES****75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Corn Boil**

**Saturday, August 4**  
**See page 3.**

**WORK HIKES**

**Sat & Sun, July 14 & 15 - 8:30 AM & 1PM**

-

**Sat & Sun, Aug 4 & 5 - 8:30 AM & 1PM**

-

**Sat & Sun, Aug 25 & 26 - 8:00 AM**

-

**Sunday, September 16 - 8:30 AM**

**Hike Scheduling**

**Contact Mike Vaughn**  
**992-1350 – mikeva999@yahoo.com**

**BOARD MEETINGS**

(All members are always welcome.  
Please let the host know you plan to attend.)

**Monday, July 30, 7:30 p.m.**  
**Hosted by Sheila & Mike Vaughn**

**Monday, September 17, 7:30 p.m.**  
**Hosted by Blanche & Merv Brower**

**The Roanoke Appalachian Trail Club is an affiliate of  
The Appalachian Trail Conservancy  
and a member of The Nature Conservancy**