

TRAIL BLAZER

NEWSLETTER OF THE ROANOKE APPALACHIAN TRAIL CLUB



FALL 2001

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.

Roanoke Appalachian Trail Club



What's Inside...

Hike Schedule	2 & 11
New Members	3
President's Message.....	3
Trail Supervisor's Report	4
Trail Maintenance Injuries	4
RATC Holiday Pot Luck	5
Sarver Hollow Dedication	5
Forested Mtn. Zoning.....	5
Hike Reports.....	6 -10
Membership Renewal	11
Club Activities.....	12
Contacting the RATC	12

TRAIL BLAZER

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

CHANGE SERVICE
REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ROANOKE, VA
PERMIT 509



BOARD OF DIRECTORS**President, Dick Clark**

989-7053artsoun@roanoke.infi.net

Vice President, Lucien Metayer

344-1877metayer@roanoke.infi.net

Secretary, Laurie Adkins

384-7485habitualhiker.va@netzero.net

Treasurer, Stephanie Kent

986-0787skent@rev.net

Land Mgmt. Supervisor, Hal Cantrill

387-2347hacantrill@worldnet.att.net

Trail Supervisor, Charles Parry

951-1402parrycj@math.vt.edu

Shelter Supervisor, Ron McCorkle

982-8289rdsinvc01@home.com

Hikemaster, Suzanne Barnett

772-4273suz349cat@aol.com

Newsletter Editor, Bob Peckman

366-7780bob@peckmanjazz.com

Membership Coordinator, Liz Lamson

774-8981blueridge23@home.com

Counselor, Leonard Adkins

384-7485habitualhiker.va@netzero.net

Counselor, Don Nulph

774-8618nulph-d@home.com

ATC Board of Managers, Jimmy Whitney

344-4117jwhitney@mooreandcampbell.com

ATC Chair of RDT Committee, Jim Hutchings

427-4536James.Hutchings@indsys.ge.com

ATC Trail & Land Management Committee-Hal Cantrill

387-2347hacantrill@worldnet.att.net

ANCILLARIES**Social Chairman, Dave & Lucy Downs**

384-7219dwnhmbb@rbnet.com

Phone Tree Chairman, Liz Lamson

774-8981blueridge23@home.com

Hike Reports Editor, Kris Peckman

366-7780kris@peckmanjazz.com

Newsletter Distribution, Bobbie Stitche

890-2140bobbie@rbnet.com

Webmaster, David A. Cheslow

389-7791dcheslow@rev.net

Roanoke College Rep., Brian Chisom

389-7393and.....375-2084

Mid-week Workhikes, Bill Gordge

774-3016bgordge@home.com

ATC Land Trust Coordinators**James River to New River, Roger B. Holnback**

540-342-3104holnback@aol.com

New River to Damascus, Steve Reisinger

504-951-7580srei38@hotmail.com

Roanoke Valley Greenways Liaison, Don Nulph

774-8618nulph-d@home.com

CALENDAR OF CLUB ACTIVITIES**Saturday, December 15
Holiday Pot Luck****Saturday, March 9 – 2002
Annual Meeting & Banquet****WORK HIKES****Sunday, October 28 - 8:30 AM
Miller's Cove****Sunday, November 11 - 8:30 AM
Miller's Cove****Sunday, December 9 - 8:00 AM
Bailey Gap Area****Monday, November 12 - 7:00 PM
Winter Blazer Scheduling****BOARD MEETINGS****(All members are always welcome. Please
let the host know you plan to attend.)****Thursday, October 11, 7:30 p.m.
Hosted by *Dick Clark*****Thursday, November 8, 7:30 p.m.
Host *Brian Chisom – Rke. College*****Thursday, December 13, 7:30 p.m.
Hosted by *Lucien Metayer*****Thursday, January 17, 7:30 p.m.
Hosted by *Suzanne Barnett*****The Roanoke Appalachian Trail Club is an affiliate of
The Appalachian Trail Conference
and a member of The Nature Conservancy**

Hike Schedule

Guests Visitors are always welcome. Come dressed for hiking. You are expected to follow the directions of the hike leaders.

Transportation You may drive your own car if you wish; however, the hike leader is responsible for arranging transportation and all will follow his/her directions. The carpool fee to help defray car expenses is noted on the schedule and should be given to the driver.

Meeting Place The point of departure is at the discretion of the hike leader, so always check with the leader when planning to attend.

**Sunday, October 7, 2001 - 7:30 AM
Blue Bend, Monongahela National Forest**

10.5 miles, strenuous, \$4.50 carpool fee
John Lynham 336-292-7637,
Rusty and Laura Schundler 344-4745

**Sunday, October 7, 2001 - 1:00 PM
James River Footbridge Hike**

6 miles, moderate, \$3.00 carpool fee
Bobbie Stitche 890-2140,
Mike Ferguson 344-8525

**Saturday, October 13, 2001
Call about Sarver Hollow Dedication**

Dave Cheslow, 353-2611 See page 5.

**Sunday, October 14, 2001 - 7:30 AM
Elk Garden to Grayson Highlands**

11 miles, moderate, \$4.50 carpool fee
Bobbie Stitche 890-2140, H R Blankenship 776-3468

**Sunday, October 14, 2001 - 1:00 PM
McAfee's Knob**

7 miles, moderate, \$1.50 carpool fee
Linda Akers 776-1969, Terri McClure 375-2650

**Saturday, October 20, 2001 9:15 AM
Sarver Hollow Shelter Dedication**

2 miles, strenuous, \$3.00 carpool fee
Call Dave Cheslow by Oct. 13th, 353-2611
See page 5 for more details.

**Sunday, October 21, 2001 - 8:00 AM
Douthat State Park**

9.5 miles, strenuous, \$3.50 carpool fee
John Lynham 336-292-7637, Dick Clark 989-7053

**Sunday, October 28, 2001 - 8:30 AM
Miller's Cove Workhike**

\$2.00 carpool fee, Charles Parry 540-951-1402,
Bob and Kris Peckman 366-7780

**Sunday, October 28, 2001 - 1:00 PM
Deer/Grouse/North Mountain Loop**

3.5 miles, moderate, \$2.00 carpool fee
Zetta Campbell 366-8165,
Mary Lou Gaminde 344-1637

**Saturday, November 3, 2001 - 7:30 AM
Rt. 759 to Damascus**

12 miles, moderate to strenuous, \$4.50 carpool fee
Jimmy Whitney 344-4117, Dave Leaman 345-5345

**Sunday, November 4, 2001 - 1:00 PM
Rt. 621 to Niday Shelter**

2 miles, easy, \$2.50 carpool fee
Terri McClure 375-2650, Linda Akers 776-1969

**Sunday, November 11, 2001 - 8:30 AM
Miller's Cove workhike**

\$2.00 carpool fee Charles Parry 540-951-1402,
Bob and Kris Peckman 366-7780

**Sunday, November 11, 2001 - 1:00 PM
Fenwick Mines/Waterfall**

3 miles, easy, \$3.00 carpool fee
Ed Wallace 774-0175, Dick Clark 989-7053

**Monday, November 12, 2001 7:00 PM
Winter Blazer Scheduling**

Please call me before November 12 to indicate any hikes you would like to lead or assist on.
Suzanne Barnett 772-4273, suz349cat@aol.com.

Continued inside back cover

Welcome New Members

The Roanoke Appalachian Trail Club welcomes the following new members:

Carl Bagby	Jennifer Falvey	Jan Nelson	Rusty & Laura Schundler
Cynthia Bowles	Georgia M. Gallaher	Mark Nelson	Greg Still
Mark, Barbara, & Katie Dayton	Doug Hibshman	Reynold Orchard	Scott Vail
Rebecca Doolittle	James Law	Samuel Purviance	Dan Wood
Amy Edwards	Rod Liebl	Tom Scott	
	Lee Mitchell	Mike Shelor	

We look forward to meeting you soon – hiking on the trail, at a work hike, a social event, or a board meeting. All members are always welcome at board meetings. Come to meet board members and find out about RATC projects and concerns. Just call the host ahead of time so he/she can set out enough chairs and have a good estimate for refreshment time.

Thanks go to Shirley Kothierner who is "retiring" as social chairman for her excellent work planning our social activities. Dave and Lucy Downs are the new social chairmen.

Liz Lamson

President's Message

At the recent Appalachian Trail Conference in Shippensburg, Pennsylvania, the Appalachian Trail Park Office presented awards to active volunteers for long years of service to the Appalachian Trail. These included Golden Service Awards for 50 years of active service and Silver Service Awards for 25.

On behalf of the Board and membership of RATC, I am taking this opportunity to acknowledge the five members of our club who were honored with the Silver Service Award: Linda Akers, Zetta Campbell, Bill Gordge, Siegfried Kolmstetter, and Charles Parry.

Linda Akers is actually the only one of the group from the greater Roanoke area. She grew up in Blacksburg and joined the club in 1968. She has served as Secretary and, more recently, as Social Chairman. In the past, Linda has helped to maintain a section of trail in the Sinking Creek Mountain area and she continues to be one of our most active hike leaders.

Zetta Campbell is originally from Oil City, Pennsylvania. She moved to Roanoke in 1955 and became a member of RATC in 1959. Over the years, Zetta has served the club as Secretary (twice) and, as the result of such contributions as the design of our patch, she holds the (unofficial) position of Club Artist. She also co-maintains a trail section on Tinker Ridge. At the annual club banquet in March, Zetta was recognized as having led the most hikes over the past year.

From Melbourne, Australia, Bill Gordge moved to Roanoke in 1957 and joined the club in the mid-sixties. Bill, who is an honorary life member of ATC, started out on the Board as its Conservation-Environmental Officer – a position that no longer exists. Subsequently, he served as Vice President, President, Counselor, and Land Management Supervisor and was chairman of the steering committee for Lynchburg '87. At present, Bill maintains the section of trail that includes Tinker Cliffs and supervises many trail projects (both A.T. and non-A.T. related) as leader of the Mid-week Crew.

Siegfried Kolmstetter grew up in Germany and came to Roanoke in 1970. He became a member of RATC in 1971 and served on the Board as Vice President and Counselor. Over the years, Siegfried has put in many hours with the Konnarock Crew and has an impressive collection of T-shirts to show for his efforts. For well over 25 years, he and his wife, Ursula, maintained the section of trail over McAfee Knob – a mountain that Siegfried has climbed more times than he can remember.

Charles Parry comes from a dairy farm in upstate New York and moved to Blacksburg in 1971. He joined the club in 1976 and soon had a section of trail to maintain. In 1979, Charles became Trail Supervisor – a position he has continued to hold for 22 years. Under his leadership, RATC has completed a truly amazing number of trail projects – ranging from A.T. upgrades and relocations to shelter and bridge construction. A good example of Charles's high standard of trail work is the recently-completed Andy Layne Trail to Tinker Cliffs.

Thanks, and congratulations to each of you. Your contributions to the club are impressive and we look forward to a continued association for many years to come.

And...although Jim Hutchings hasn't been in RATC long enough to receive a service award (he joined the club in 1983), I would be remiss if I didn't recognize him as well. After six years of serving as the Southern Regional Vice Chairman of ATC, Jim stepped down from that position in July. During his tenure, he represented the region, in general, and RATC, specifically, in a highly professional manner. Really, though, Jim is just switching hats. He will now chair ATC's Recruitment, Development & Training Committee which oversees work crew and ridgerunner programs. Thanks, Jim.

Dick Clark

Trail Supervisor's Report

The Konnarock Crews have come and gone. We had a good time, got a lot of work done, had 11 people earn Konnarock T-shirts by working 5 or more days with the crews and 23 people work with the crews. The T-shirt winners are Laurie Adkins, Suzanne Barnett, Jimmie Black, Malcolm Black, Bill Gordge, David Hicks, Jim Hutchings, Linda Hutchings, Charles Parry, Kris Peckman and Jimmy Whitney. Some of these people did part of their workdays with other clubs. Part of the relocation is already open and the remaining part should get finished during our fall work hikes.

Finishing the Miller's Cove relocation ahead of schedule gives us the opportunity to use our two weeks of Konnarock next summer on other project(s). One of the leading candidates is repair work and / or relocation on the AT between 311 and

McAfee's Knob. Some parts of this trail are in terrible shape. The causes of the problems are heavy use, poor location in some places and inadequate construction in others. The first step is to work with the ATC field staff to determine the best solution to the problems. This fall a group of interested club members will do a few days of field work to try to answer this question. Once this is done, we will report our findings to the Park Service to see what, if any, environmental work is needed before we can begin construction. If all this is completed before next summer, we will probably work there. Otherwise there are several other options, including the Angel's Rest and Bailey Gap sections of trail.

Charles Parry

Trail-Maintenance Injuries

The cost of medical care and / or hospital care for injuries resulting from maintenance or monitoring work on Appalachian Trail lands is covered under workmen's compensation. Club members are covered under the federal VIP, VIF and Tort Claims Acts as if they were federal employees. To be covered, you must be a club member working on a Club-approved project, or be on an official work project and have signed the register sheet at the beginning of the day. Travel to and from the project is not included.

A CA-1 form must be completed within 48 hours or as soon as possible after the accident or illness (such as poison ivy) occurs whether or not medical treatment seems necessary. This form provides information about the accident and is sent to the appropriate agency partner. Hal Cantrill, Ron McCorkle and Charles Parry have copies of the forms and will help you with the process.

Before treatment is begun, the agency partner must fill out a CA-16 form. Emergency treatment need not wait for any forms. The Forest Service will pay the bills as they are received. If you must pay a bill, the Forest Service will reimburse you, but it might take a year!

Fine Print: When are you not covered? Three activities that are not covered because you are not authorized to do them are:

law enforcement, fire suppression and unusual activity not authorized by the Club and agency partner. You will not be covered unless you are a Club member **or** have signed the register at an official work hike. Children under sixteen years using power tools, which is in violation of child labor laws, are not covered. Children without signed parental permission are also not covered. Property losses, lost time from work, and injuries while traveling are not covered. Coverage will also be denied if negligence was involved. Negligence includes failure to wear safety equipment and using a chain saw without certification.

You may find it preferable to use your own insurance rather than making a claim with the federal government, because the USA's internal workers' compensation procedures can be protracted and time consuming. If you are injured and elect to use your own protection, that is fine, but you should still fill out form CA-1.

Charles reminds us to use safe working practices and keep a safe distance between you and fellow workers. Avoiding accidents is preferable to filing compensation claims

RATC Pot Luck Holiday Dinner

The **RATC Holiday Dinner** will be on December 15 at 6 P.M. at Christ Lutheran Church at the corner of Grandin Rd and Brandon Ave. It is Pot Luck cuisine so please bring a dish to share (beverages provided)

Presentation: Gloria Parry on Peru.

RSVP by 12/13: Dave and Lucy Downs 384-7219 or dwnhmbb@rbnet.com
also RSVP if you can help set up by 5 PM.

Dave and Lucy Downs

Sarver Hollow Shelter Dedication

The Sarver Hollow Shelter, a memorial to Scott Marshall Riddick, will be dedicated on Sunday, October 20th, 2001 at 12:00 noon. All club members and guests are welcome to attend. Due to limited parking, we encourage people to car pool. We will meet at the Orange Market on the corner of Rt. 311 and Rt. 419 at 9:15 AM and car pool from that point. The

hike to the shelter is only one mile long, but it is very strenuous. Please **RSVP by October 13**. Special arrangements can be made for those unable to make the hike. Please contact Dave Cheslow 540-353-2611.

David Cheslow

Zoning Protection for Roanoke County's Forested Mountains

The Roanoke County Board of Supervisors is about to consider a bold new set of ordinances to protect the beauty of the region and the quality of life for those of us who reside in the Roanoke Valley. The Appalachian Trail goes through 58 counties and 158 townships. The good news is that almost all of these localities have recognized, in their long-range planning policies, that the forested mountains and the AT are important quality of life assets to their communities. The bad news is that it is difficult and controversial to implement these policies. Almost without exception, these same localities have not adopted effective zoning regulations to protect the very mountains they value so much. Today, in Roanoke County as elsewhere, there are limited regulatory mechanisms in place to effectively protect the mountainsides, ridge tops and viewsheds on private lands adjoining the AT.

Under the leadership of Janet Scheid, Senior Planner, Roanoke County will be one of the first counties along the AT to put some teeth in their zoning ordinance. She and her staff are drafting a viewshed protection ordinance for private lands adjoining the Appalachian Trail and the Blue Ridge Parkway and a mountain protection ordinance.

This is not a simple thing to do in the face of landowner and developer opposition. In other localities where similar legislation has been attempted, the opposition has claimed that such ordinances infringe on private landowners' rights, and are therefore unacceptable. In Roanoke County, working with

the support of the Board of Supervisors, Ms. Scheid is attempting to balance the need for protection of steep slopes and the preservation of viewsheds and ridgelines with the rights of landowners to reasonably use their land. It might be nice (from our perspective) to not allow development on any slopes over a certain grade, or on ridgelines at all, but that is not possible, nor would it be fair. Only ordinances that give fair compensation to the affected landowners will be politically acceptable, and for that matter, defensible in court.

This fall the first of these proposed ordinances will be discussed at a series of public meetings. It is in the interest of the RATC membership to review this ordinance, provide comments and attend these meetings in support of this bold effort. We ask those of you who enjoy and appreciate these views and mountains or have any influence with board members to please voice your support of this effort. We know this ordinance will have well-organized, well-funded opposition. If we want to protect our mountains this is our chance!

Look in the Roanoke Times for the times and locations for the public hearings. Please make your voices heard.

Roger Holnback

Roger is the Southern Regional Administrator for the Appalachian Trail Conference Land Trust. He can be contacted at 540-342-3104 or Holnback@aol.com

Hike Reports

Sunday, May 20, 2001

**AT: Bearwallow Gap to Little Cove Mountain Trail
(Lady Slipper Hike)**

Dick Clark (Leader – sitting in for Zetta), Blanche Brower, Mervin Brower, Jackie Thomas

Zetta had a conflict, so I ended up as the leader of our annual "Lady Slipper" excursion. With just three other hikers and a very easy chunk of the Appalachian Trail to navigate, I simply put it on automatic pilot and we took off.

The overcast skies produced a light, misty rain that helped to keep things relatively cool. We saw a lot of thru-hikers but not that much in the way of lady slippers – I guess they had passed their peak.

Just as we reached the Little Cove Mountain Trail, the rain began to pick up. Otherwise, we would probably have gone on a bit farther. In any case, it was a nice leg-stretcher with pleasant company.

**Sunday, May 27, 2001
Peters Mountain**

Kenny Garrett (leader), Dana Helsley, Rhonda Mick, and Gary Hale (assistant leaders)

I believe this is the first time the club has enjoyed the hike from Pine Swamp Branch to Narrows as a day hike. It was an overcast day with the high of 65 degrees. The rain held off for most of the day. We met many thru-hikers during the day. The leader was threatened by the assistant leaders with mutiny for walking too fast and not taking enough water breaks. We all laughed and enjoyed this extended stroll.

**Sunday, May 27, 2001
Rock Castle Creek**

Sue Scanlin (substitute leader), Bobbie Stitcher, Mary Lou Gaminde, Doug Hibshman, Sharon Harrison

Five or six non-believers in weather forecasting called to find out where we'd meet. The five that did show up were rewarded by an all-dry walk in the woods. Actually, it turned out to be a gorgeous afternoon. Right at the beginning of the hike, Sharon spotted a big black snake winding its way up a tree trunk. If it was searching for a bird's nest with eggs in it, it still had a long way to go. Wonder if it made it before or after we got to our rest stop at Rock Castle? Along the fire road, we met quite a few people, several of them accompanied by dogs. Some spiderwort were the only of the 200+ wildflowers supposedly growing in the area that were in bloom. And Marianne wasn't with us to identify the large fungus at the bottom of a tree that caught our eyes.

All in all a very nice hike.

P.S. Thanks, Dick, for the directions.

Saturday/Sunday, June 2-3, 2001

White Rocks Campout & Workhike

Charles Parry (leader), Hal Cantrill (assistant), Don Hoke, Dana Helsley, Mike Ferguson

On Saturday morning Hal, Don and I met at the War Spur parking area where we left Hal's car and drove to the Wind Rock parking area. We began clipping and removing blowdowns, and had gone less than a mile when Dana joined us. At that point I decided to leave the others and remove blowdowns between the Turnpike and Bailey Gap. On the way back along the fire road a couple of 4-wheelers gave me a lift back to the parking lot, but Hal and Don had already started clipping down towards Bailey Gap. Eventually, we got together and headed down to the campground for a pleasant evening and some of Hal's good baking. It started raining just as we went to bed and rained about half the night.

On Sunday morning I took Hal and Don up to the Wind Rock parking area and they continued clipping the trail toward Bailey Gap. I went down to Stony Creek where I met Mike. We clipped along Stony Creek in the morning, and in the afternoon headed up the mountain. We met Hal and Don just before reaching the next road crossing. We all walked down the mountain, taking out a few blowdowns with Hal's crosscut. After retrieving everybody's vehicle, we headed home.

**Sunday, June 3, 2001 - Thunder Ridge Overlook to
Cornelius Creek Shelter**

Liz Lamson (leader), Lois Smith, Sarah Burns, Mary Lou Gaminde, Merle Heckman, Dave Miller, Doug Hibshman, Mervin Brower, Gene Downs, Sherry Kessel, Charlotte Lomax and Diane and John Lynham

This was listed as a rhododendron hike, and the rhododendron obliged by being in full glorious bloom. The weather was wonderful, too. Various fauna and flora seen include many through hikers, one snake, ten yellow lady slippers, two jack-in-the-pulpits, and a large edible mushroom. We could hear the through hikers talking and laughing as we approached the Cornelius Creek Shelter in the late afternoon. It was fun to see their camaraderie as they unwound at the end of the day in that lovely setting, a shelter ringed with flowering rhododendron. It doesn't get any better than that, for a through hiker or a day hiker.

**Saturday June 9, 2001
759 to Damascus**

Cancelled due to no calls.

**Sunday, June 10, 2001
Rt. 621 to Niday Shelter**

Zetta Campbell (leader), Sue Scanlin (assistant), Paul Blaiklock, Doug Hibshman, Georgia Gallaher, Jean Warren, Jimmy Lee Ribble

It was just nicely warm, with summery weather, although it was still technically spring. Zetta, Number 1 leader, was very glad she was able to join the hike. Lately her mother had been having physical problems, but by afternoon she was well enough that Zetta could leave. Assistant Sue Scanlin was prepared to take over, which she did. Number 1 just got to write the hike report.

It was quite a crew. Jimmy was rather a character, and fun. About half of the way to the shelter he walked backwards! The reason was, as a runner, he wanted to use some muscles he didn't while running—or something like that. At the shelter were three fellows, at least one of whom was hiking the whole trail. At the picnic table we had a good social time and some picture taking. We had to have a picture of Sue's "German shirt." On it were cartoon characters with German names. Before we headed back, we explored the water supply, which meant a downhill stroll to the stream—very pretty—and therefore a climb back up. Then there were minor ups and downs back to the cars.

It is always cheering to see the green foliage of the trees against the blue sky with the splashes of golden sunlight slanting through the trees.

**June 14-18, 2001
Miller's Cove Relocation Workhike**

Charles Parry, Suzanne Barnett, Laurie Adkins, Fred Coughlan, Dana Helsley, Malcolm and Jimmie Black, Mark Totty, Jim and Linda Hutchings, Bill Gordge, Jimmy Whitney, Bob and Kris Peckman, Homer, Therese and Kevin Witcher. Konnarock Crew members Josh Adams, Sarah Scott, Bob Reid, Mel Cooper, Bernie Fries, Sylvia Swain, Amelia Nageski, Chandra Little, Joe "Cool Breeze" Ferrelly

Due to summer school teaching, I only worked Saturday and Sunday, but several club members worked Thursday and Friday. By the time we arrived at the site on Saturday morning, a good start had been made on the southern end of the relocation. Unfortunately, due to a missed turn, three of our members were a bit late joining us on Saturday morning. By quitting time on Sunday, the end of the southern part was in sight and had already been brushed out. Unfortunately, when we got back to the truck, one of our new picks was missing. Laurie said she would walk out and try to find it. Meanwhile, Josh, Kris and I went over to recover some of the flag line on the north end of the relocation. When Kris and I got back to Trout Creek, Laurie had gone, but the pick was still missing. I decided to go back and find it, which I did, hidden in the blueberry bushes above the trail. As always, it is a pleasure to work with the Konnarock Crew.

Sunday, June 17, 2001

Carvins Cove Boat Launch to Graveyard

Maurice Turner (leader), Jean Huffman (assistant), Members: Mary Lou Gaminde, Georgia Gallaher, Merle Heckman, Doug Hibshman, Sherry Kessel and Rod Liebl

This was a nice leisurely hike on this sunny Father's Day with temperatures in the 80s with a light wind. According to the mile markers on the trail, we actually hiked closer to five miles since we hiked beyond the graveyard to the water's edge. The cove was near full pond. We were back to our cars by 3:30.

June 21-26, 2001

Miller's Cove Relocation Workhike

Charles Parry, Kris and Bob Peckman, Malcolm and Jimmie Black, Dana Helsley, Jimmy Whitney, Linda and Jim Hutchings, Suzanne Barnett, Laurie Adkins, David Hicks, Homer, Therese, Taylor and Bennett Witcher, Don Hoke, and Konnarock crew members Josh Adams, Megan Millett, Craig Dodson, Jennifer Ahern, Rhonda Slaydon, Heidi Hubbard, Dennis Crowley

Jim Hutchings called me on Friday evening, telling me to bring paint on Saturday to open the southern leg of the relocation. Kris and I spent a good bit of time blazing the new trail, as well as a part of the old blue blaze which is now a temporary AT. There is now a very sharp V in the AT. The only question is how long will it be there? Again, a good start had been made on the northern leg by the time I got there. By the time we finished on Sunday, we were approaching a beautiful old rock wall which will be a switchback corner on the new trail. Perhaps this leg of the relocation can be completed when the Konnarock crew returns in August. We will find out when that time comes.

**Sunday, June 24, 2001
Buffalo Mountain**

Linda Akers (leader), Betty Mathews (assistant), Jim Wray, Bobbie Stitcher, Bill Clarkson, Aqiraube Jurhi, Kris Shandor, Paul Blaiklock, Mary Lou Gaminde, Doug Hibshman, Jim Law, Marianne Demkó, and Charlotte Lomax.

The group met at Cave Spring Corners Shopping Center and carpooled for the drive up 221. We took the scenic route up the Blue Ridge Parkway from Bent Mountain. After a doubtful start (missed the turn-off from parkway) we had no trouble finding the trailhead. The dirt road has had some work done on it, and some signs have gone up since I last led this hike. An earlier rain had cooled the air a bit, so it wasn't as uncomfortably hot as I had anticipated. After scrambling around and enjoying the views and exploring the rocks, and debating what kind of large egg had been stashed in a rock crevice, the group began its descent. Or, should I say, the remainder of the group. Seems like those who had gone ahead got worried at the time it was taking and sent a driver up the mountain to look for the wayward hikers. All was well, everyone enjoyed the outing, and we headed for Roanoke.

Sunday, July 1, 2001 - 1:00 PM**Sawtooth Ridge**

Maurice Turner (leader), Ray Lawson (assistant), Jim Law, Bobbie Stitche, Charlotte Lomax, Teresa Bonamo, Doug Hibshman, Betty Mathews, Zetta Campbell, Paul, Dana Helsley, Georgia Gallaher, and guests: Jimmy Ribble and Cindy Bowles

We left a car at Rt. 624 and started our hike from Rt. 311 parking lot on this partly cloudy afternoon. There was an occasional breeze while walking Sawtooth Ridge, making it a more enjoyable hike. Some of us finished ahead of the rest, making the car switch in time to be back for the other hikers. We picked up four hikers who had decided to get out at Rt. 785. One hiker, who also does jogging, decided he hadn't enough exercise hiking, ran from Rt. 624 to his car at the 311 parking lot. Overall, the afternoon was ideal for the hike.

Saturday, July 7, 7:00 PM**Moonlight Hike to McAfee's Knob**

Zetta Campbell (leader), Mary Lou Gaminde (assistant), Sharon Rippee, Joyce Fisher, Tony and Lynette Martin, Whitney Forbes, Sharon Harrison, Linda Akers, Beckie Johnson, Bobbie Stitche, Marianne Demkó, Tina Welcher

Moonlight? Ahem, wait. The moon was actually on the wane, having been full the Thursday before. I learned from expert Sharon Rippee that the moon rises a full 50 minutes later each night; so, maybe it didn't rise while we were hiking. The trees obscured much of the sky even though the sky was clear.

The hike did not go quite as expected. This is how it was. More people showed up than the leaders expected. Most went in by the trail. Tony, Lynette, Sharon R., Bobbie and Tina chose the fire road. For No. 1 leader, the enjoyment of the hike was dampened by anxiety over her mother (98 years) who had developed edema in her legs. Some said this could mean danger of congestive heart failure. She had left someone with her mother, so she was not alone. No. 1 then determined she would not linger with the group at the Adkins' old place to view the moon as planned, but would return immediately by the fire road. This decision was reinforced by the presence of a rattlesnake stretched across the road. No. 1, in the rear, met the group coming back toward her, having met said snake and having had no desire to challenge the guardian. Besides, Linda opined that the grass at the Adkins place would be tall and a haven for snakes. Therefore, there was no lingering to watch the sky. Maybe this would be better in winter. Back they all went by the road and flashlights came out. Still, night hiking has a beauty of its own. Back at the parking lot, No. 1 questioned Tina, a nurse, and was assured that her mother was likely not in an emergency situation since she had not been having breathing problems. When No. 1 arrived home, her mother was all right, to her relief.

**Sunday, July 8, 2001 - 8:30 AM
AT & Andy Layne Trail: 311 to 779**

Cancelled due to rain.

Bobbie's Trip to the A.T. Conference

On Friday July 13, I drove north on I-81 to attend the A.T. Conference at Shippensburg University in Shippensburg, Pennsylvania. After registering, Maurice Turner and I went to Gettysburg. It was a very moving experience especially at the Virginia Monument with Lee sitting on his horse. I camped in a shaded area with a shelter that had electricity. I hiked 50 miles on the A.T. from Caledonia State Park to the Scott's Farm. I had a picture taken at the sign that is the half-way point for the A.T. I met many hikers from other states and saw some of the hikers I hiked with at Radford in 1999. I met Earl Shaffer who hiked the entire 2024 miles of the trail in 1948 in 4 months!!!! In the evenings I ate delicious food in the cafeteria and went to entertainment each night. The next conference will be in New Hampshire in 2003. I can't wait to attend!!!!

Sunday, July 15, 2001 - 8:00 AM**Brushy Mountain Workhike**

Charles Parry, Kenny Garrett, Dana Helsley

We got our usual small turnout for Bland County workhikes. The job for the day was to move some of the trail higher on the old road along the mountainside where it appeared to be sliding off the lower edge. Kenny and I met at Kimberling Creek and carried up extra tools as we expected Dana to arrive later. We got one area completed and moved to a second before our lunch break when Dana arrived. We did two or three more bad spots in the afternoon and finally reached the point where the trail leaves the road. On the return trip, Kenny clipped while Dana and I went ahead and found spots that we had skipped earlier in the day. We got two more spots and Kenny caught up with us both times. It was 4 o'clock by the time we finished the last one and we decided to quit digging. We had repaired all the worst spots along the road.

However, I knew from an earlier trip there were a few blowdowns on the other side of the highway, not more than half a mile in. It took Dana and me another hour to clean these out, so it was after 5:00 before we headed home. For a small group we got quite a bit of work done.

Sunday, July 15, 2001 - 1:00 PM**Chessie Nature Trail**

Suzanne Barnett (leader), Linda Akers (assistant), Jim Law, Jennifer Pfister, Mary Lou Gaminde, Doug Hibshman, Cindy Bowles, Mervin Brower, Blanche Brower, Georgia Gallaher, Sherry Kessel, Guests: Kathy Burton, Charlotte Hanks, Marianne Demkó, Teresa Bonamo, Paul Blaiklock, and Jimmy Lee Ribble

We had a nice afternoon to hike the old Chessie rail bed along the Maury River from Lexington to Buena Vista. There were not many wildflowers at this time, but green vegetation was abundant.

This greenery did block a lot of our view of the river and the old stone locks along the way.

Saturday, July 21, 2001 - 8:30 AM

Upper Hoop Hole Trail

Cancelled.

Sunday, July 22, 2001 - 1:00 PM

McAfee's Knob

Maurice Turner (leader), Gloria Parry (assistant), Jim Law, Lois Smith, Doug Hibshman, Bobbie Stitche, Charles Parry

We hiked the trail to the Catawba shelter and took a short break before heading on the service road where we hiked for a distance before taking the trail via the power line and Devil's Kitchen. We took time out for some photo shots at the big rock and the Roanoke Valley below. At McAfee's the view was spectacular and we spent some time enjoying the scenery. We encountered some hikers both on the trail and at the top. We met Charles coming back down the trail near the power lines; he had been checking out the shelters and trail. When we got to the service road, we took it back to the parking lot. Charles had driven his truck to the Catawba Shelter cut-off so he and Gloria departed from this point.

Sunday, July 29, 2001 - 8:30 AM

AT: Trout Creek to 785 Via Dragons Tooth

Cancelled due to down-pouring rain.

Sunday, July 29, 2001 - 1:00 PM

Otter Creek Trail

Kenny Garrett (leader), Terri McClure (assistant), Jim Law, Georgia Gallaher, Dave Sutton, Cindy Bowles

The day was semi-warm, with rain (sometimes heavy). We decided that we were not afraid of the wet weather and braved the downpours. The creek was up, which meant every creek crossing was slippery and wet. We laughed a lot, slipped a few times, and generally enjoyed a nice walk in the rain. Mother Nature was beautiful, and no one regretted the decision to enjoy it even though most normal people stayed home where it was dry.

Saturday, August 4, 2001

Moonlight Hike to Apple Orchard Mountain

Zetta Campbell (leader), Suzanne Barnett (assistant), D.L. Sutton, Don Lawhorn, Dick Clark, Walt and Marie Haines, Betty Field

Of course it was the leader's fault that a rattlesnake showed up again on a moonlight hike as it did on the first one in July. This one did not stop the hike, though. It just slithered across the road down from Sunset Field Overlook and went on into the woods while giving warning rattles, probably because some of the group got too close to it. It was thick in the middle and skinny on the ends. Probably just had a meal. It took less than an hour to reach the open area on top of the mountain. There we watched the sun go down. Two motorcyclists were camping up there and joined us as we socialized, waiting for the moon to appear. It was still pretty light. We could see a few stars in spite of the haze, and Mars was visible, too. Finally, we got up and moved around and

ended up walking back by the Parkway. Didn't realize the road to the Parkway was so long. Only then did we see the moon rise like an orange ball. A few brought out their flashlights, but most just used their night vision. You could easily see the Parkway, and the black silhouette of the trees against the gray sky had a beauty of its own. Back at Sunset Field, Doug Webber and Sharon Rippee met the group. Sharon had been camping at the Peaks. She and Doug did not join the hike because they had heard thunder and were afraid they would get caught in a thunderstorm. Actually, not a drop fell all during the hike.

Sunday, August 5, 2001

AT & Andy Layne Trail: Rt. 220 to Rt. 779

Laurie Adkins (leader), Laura and Rusty Schundler (assistants), Jim Folger, Harry Neumann, Doug Hibshman, and Mac McAfee.

The group met at the Andy Layne Trail parking lot and carpooled to the commuter parking lot on 220. The hike started in the fog. As we climbed up the fog climbed with us and bathed us in high humidity the whole day. The sun came out and the heat rose up as well. We felt the 100+ heat index with every climb. Sweat dripped into eyes and off noses, and soaked T-shirts and backpacks. Despite the heat and the strenuous nature of the hike we enjoyed views of Carvins Cove and Daleville from Tinker Ridge and Hay Rock. We had a close up look at the effect of the forest fire, which blackened the earth right up to the trail for several hundred yards North of Hay Rock. After the long dry ridge Lambert's Meadow campsite with its stream and picnic tables was a relief to behold. Some washed sweaty faces and splashed water on their heads, Mac took a refreshing dip, Rusty filtered some water from upstream. We all rested on the picnic table enjoying a cooling breeze and the secluded setting. We were reluctant to face the climb to Scorched Earth Gap, but face it we did, with a short side trip to check out the Shelter. Then it was down, down, down the Andy Layne Trail and then one final climb back to the parking lot. One of the nicest things about this hike was that we all started and finished together.

Sat & Sun, August 11&12, 2001 - 8:30 AM

Konnarock Crew at Miller's Cove

Charles Parry (leader), Kris Peckman (assistant), Bill Gordge, Jim and Linda Hutchings, Josh Meltzer, Casey Templeton, Suzanne Barnett, Dana Helsley, Gloria Parry, Laurie Adkins, Lee Mitchell, Malcolm Black, Chuck McNeill, Homer, Therese, Taylor and Bennett Witcher, Don Nulph, and Konnarock crew members Erin Walker, Megan Millet, Ryan Kuck, Allen Gould, Chandra Little, Joe Lowe, Joe and Fran Kossan, Jenn Crumley, Ray Norton, Christina Kemp, Jody Bickel

Have two people from Camden, New York ever worked together on the A.T. before? Erin and I don't think so. It turns out that I knew Erin's father in high school, he graduating two years after me. We were both very surprised to learn the other was from Camden.

The week started out too hot, and Sunday was a bit wet, but nevertheless, it was a great week. We got about 1650 feet of new trail dug on very steep sidehill and in many places very rocky conditions. The Club should be able to finish the relocation in three or fewer workhikes this fall!

The crew thoroughly enjoyed the good eats at the Corn Boil, all the more so because Suzanne graciously offered them a shower at her aunt's cabin beforehand.

**Sunday, August 12, 2001 - 1:00 PM
Harkening Hill**

Ed Wallace, Mary Lou Gaminde

**Saturday, August 18, 2001
Burke's Garden - VA 42 to Route 623**

Jimmy Whitney (leader), Dave Leaman (assistant),
Kris Peckman, Lee Mitchell

We hit the AT at 10:15 to begin our journey. Lots of mushrooms and toadstools were visible for most of the hike. We ran into some volunteers from Piedmont AT Hikers doing maintenance—a few had driven quite a distance. We reached the meadows on top of the mountain south of Chestnut Knob and observed several different colored butterflies—quite a sight. Lunch was in one meadow near the pond and the old water heater. We reached Chestnut Knob and the shelter after 4PM but what a view into Burke's Garden. The bike riders that were journeying there during a 100-mile ride were long gone—but it was a pretty clear view down from 4409'. It was wonderful to look in a valley and see no power lines or cell towers. It was 7:45 PM when we reached the cars—a long day, but the sights were well worth it.

Jimmy forgot to mention that we also saw grouse and a sweet little fawn, quite close up. (Kris)

**Sunday, August 19, 2001 - 1:00 PM
Brush Mountain**

Gloria Parry (leader), Ray Lawson (assistant), Amy Edwards, Doug Hibshman, Aqiraube Jurhi, Mervin and Blanche Brower, Cynthia Chan, Lois Smith, Jim Law, Laura Montague, Dana Helsley, Lee Mitchell, Gene Downs, Georgia Gallaher

Ray met me on Route 620 and we proceeded to Route 621 to start our hike. Hot and humid says it all. Ray led the hikers, 15 in number, and I did the sweep (Ray's the faster hiker).

It was nice to see so many familiar faces and chat with the new hikers. The day was uneventful. I do want to remind

hikers to bring at least 2 liters of water. Ray and I had not checked for water supplies before starting to hike, and one person was very short (maybe 20 ounces max). We shared what we had but we should have checked the hikers' supplies before beginning. This has happened to me twice this year. Enjoyed the hike—see you next time!

**Sunday, August 26, 2001 - 8:30 AM
Hoop Hole/Iron Mountain/Roaring Run Trails**

Larry Metayer (Leader), Eric Miller (Co-Leader), Jim Wray, Doug Hibshman, Lois Smith, HR Blankenship, Larry Austin, Nancy Chapin, Laura Montague, Bobbie Stitche, Maurice Turner, and Kris Peckman

It was going to be a great day for a hike in the mountains. The temperature was in low 80's with a slight chance of rain late in the afternoon.

We met at the Daleville Commuter Parking lot where we discussed how the car shuttle was going to be handled. We were to meet at Roaring Run Parking area. BUT we lost our co-leader, Eric. I think he missed the Roaring Run turn off on Rt. 220. At Roaring Run picnic area we worked out our shuttle and headed for the Hoop Hole trailhead, hoping that Eric would be there.

BUT no Eric!

The group headed up the Hoop Hole Trail heading to the Iron Ore trailhead. The Hoop Hole Trail follows a mountain stream up through a hollow that was very peaceful and beautiful. The hike was moderate but the trail needed some work. At the intersection of the Hoop Hole and Iron Ore Trail, five of the group wanted to hike the complete Hoop Hole Trail which is 9 miles. After we said our goodbyes, the two groups headed their separate ways.

The Iron Ore Trail is a string of old fire roads which is about 3 miles long and down hill. The trail goes around Iron Ore Knob and was in great shape. Iron ore deposits were still visible on the trail. When we reached the end of the Iron Ore Trail, the group had lunch while Jim and I retrieved my car. After lunch we hiked the .7 mile to Roaring Run Waterfall. I always enjoy this short hike. We encountered many people enjoying the area. Some were hiking, others were enjoying a family picnic.

It was a good day. But where did Eric go?? Wherever Eric did go, I know he must have had a good time.

"Take only pictures, leave only footprints"

Hike Schedule (Continued)

**Sunday, November 18, 2001 - 8:30 AM
John's Creek Mountain Rt. 658 to Rt. 42**

6 miles, moderate, \$3.50 carpool fee
Glory Parry 540-951-1402, Linda Akers 776-1969

**Sunday, November 18, 2001 - 1:00 PM
Smart View Loop**

3 miles, easy, \$3.50 carpool fee
Ken Garrett 890-8946, Mervin Brower 387-9732

**Sunday, November 25, 2001 - 1:00 PM
Chestnut Ridge Trail**

5 miles, easy, No car fee,
Suzanne Barnett 772-4273, Dave Sutton 774-0648

**Saturday, December 1, 2001 - 3:30 PM
Moonlight Hike-Sharp Top**

3 miles, moderate, \$3.00,
Zetta Campbell 366-8165, Mervin Brower 387-9732

**Sunday, December 2, 2001 - 9:00 AM
Ferrier Trail**

7 miles, easy-moderate, \$2.50 carpool fee
Ken Garrett 890-8946, Lucien Metayer 344-1877

**Sunday, December 9, 2001 - 8:00 AM
Bailey Gap Area Workhike**

\$3.50 carpool fee
Charles Parry 540-951-1402, Mike Ferguson 344-8525

**Sunday, December 9, 2001 - 1:00 PM
Johnson Farm and Abbott Loop
+ Buffet at Peaks of Otter**

3 miles, easy, \$3.50 carpool fee + Buffet Cost
Ed Wallace 774-0175, Lucien Metayer 344-1877

**Friday, December 13
RSVP for Holiday Pot Luck**

Dave & Lucy Downs 384-7219, dwnhmbb@rbnet.com
also RSVP if you can help set up by 5 P.M.

**Saturday, December 15, 2001 - 6 PM
Holiday Pot Luck Dinner - Christ Lutheran**

Dave & Lucy Downs 384-7219
dwnhmbb@rbnet.com

**Sunday, December 16, 2001 - 7:30 AM
McAfee's Knob-Tinker Cliffs-Andy Layne Trail**

10 miles, moderate to strenuous, \$2.00 carpool fee
Rusty and Laura Schundler 344-4745

**Sunday, December 16, 2001 - 1:00 PM
Wolf Creek Greenway**

3 miles-easy, \$1.50 carpool fee
Suzanne Barnett 772-4273,
Mary Lou Gaminde 344-1637

**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

Names(s) _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ - _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Email _____ Amount Enclosed \$ _____

- | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| Family Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> New 1 year \$20 | <input type="checkbox"/> New 2 year \$35 | <input type="checkbox"/> Renew 1 year \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Renew 2 year \$30 |
| Individual Member | <input type="checkbox"/> New 1 year \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> New 2 year \$25 | <input type="checkbox"/> Renew 1 year \$10 | <input type="checkbox"/> Renew 2 year \$20 |
| Make checks payable to RATC, PO Box 12282, Roanoke, 24024-2282 | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Life \$500 |