TRAIL BLAZER

SUMMER 1999

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.

NEWSLETTER OF THE ROANOKE APPALACHIAN TRAIL CLUB

HELP!!

ATC BIENNIAL CONFERENCE - RADFORD '99

We need your help at Radford University between July 9 through July 16. Leaders for excursions are needed as well as people to work in the campground area. Can you spare day to help us?

Contact

Jim Whitney – Excursions

Phone: 344-4117

Email: jwhitjr@juno.com

Larry Metayer – RV/Camping

Phone: 344-1877

Email: metayer@Roanoke.infi.net

President's Report

The 765 kV AEP power line project is back. Hal Cantrill and Mike Dawson are putting in enormous amount of time and energy trying to protect the Trail from the proposed power line. Although many people have been a big help, I would like to especially thank Hal and Mike for their time, effort and dedication in their work to protect the Trail from the power line.

When we talk about protecting the Trail, we are talking about something more than a path from Maine to Georgia. The Trail provides the hiker with the opportunities to have special kinds

The President's Report continues on page 4

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TRAIL BLAZER

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

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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Hike Schedule - SUMMER 1999

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 cost 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, JULY 4

7:00 PM FLASHLIGHT HIKE TO McAFEE KNOB

7 miles - Moderate \$1.00 carpool fee Mike Ferguson 344-8525

SAT - SUN, JULY 10 - 11

8:00 AM KONNAROCK CREW <u>WORKHIKE</u> -BRUSH MTN

\$2.50 carpool fee Charles Parry (540) 951-1402 Jean Huffman 268-5051

SUNDAY, JULY 18

1:00 PM MILL MTN LOOP INCLUDING STAR TRAIL

6 miles – Moderate \$1.00 carpool fee Dick Clark 989-7053 Kay Clatterbuck 989-8275

SAT - SUN, JULY 24 - 25

8:00 AM KONNAROCK CREW WORKHIKE - WAR SPUR

\$3.00 carpool fee Charles Parry (540) 951 1402 Hal Cantrill 387-2347

SUNDAY, AUGUST 1

8:00 AM A.T., SINKING CREEK MTN

12 miles – Moderate \$2:50 carpool fee Maurice Turner 334-2128 Jill Gawne 384-7023

1:00 PM A.T., HAYROCK

7 miles – Moderate No carpool fee Zetta Campbell 366-8165 Joyce Castelli 342-6198

SAT - SUN, AUGUST 7 - 8

8:30 AM KONNAROCK CREW <u>WORKHIKE</u> - DRAGON'S TOOTH

\$1.50 carpool fee Charles Parry (540) 951-1402 Bob and Kris Peckman 366-7780

SATURDAY, AUGUST 7

6:00 PM CORN BOIL WHISPERING PINES

Catawba route 311 to right on Absolom Smith Road Shirley Kothiemer 562-0356 Hal Cantrill 387-2347

SUNDAY, AUGUST 15

7:00 AM CANOE TRIP JAMES RIVER -ALPINE TO GLASGOW

\$3.00 carpool fee

10 Miles easy - Class I & II rapids
Rain or shine - NO REFUNDS
\$47.03 per 2 person canoe or
\$33.49 per 1 person kayak
MUST PAY BY JULY 15
Mike Ferguson 344-8525

Hike Schedule continues on page 19

Welcome New Members

The Roanoke Appalachian Trail Club welcomes the following new members. We look forward to meeting you on the trail soon.

LARRY & LINDA BEARD CYNTHIA BOWMAN LES & ANN BURNLEY J. R. DAVIDSON III & IV JOHN & GENEVIEVE GOSS MARY BETH KLARE JIM & TRENDA LEAVITT SHARON McCULLEY LEE PATTERSON JOHN & CATHY PARKER TOM & PAM RICKARD PAULA SCOTT QUINN

Membership Coordinator Report

Just a reminder, the 1999 membership dues are due. I will be sending out notices to the members who have not paid their dues for 1999. As of June 1, 1999, if a member has not paid his/her dues, that member will be dropped from the membership roaster and that member will not receive the RATC Trail Blazer or be listed in the summer RATC Trail Blazer. We need your support, please keep you membership current.

We need a person to take on the job as **RATC Publicity Coordinator**. This requires someone to promote the club's activities, events and accomplishments. This person will work with the

Membership Coordinator in promoting the Roanoke Appalachian Trail Club. If you are interested in learning more, contact Larry Metayer at the address below.

We have received a grant from ATC in the amount of \$500 to create a "Leave No Trace" program. I am looking for volunteers to work on this worthwhile project. If you are interested in learning more, contact Larry Metayer at the address below.

The Membership Coordinator is:

Lucien (Larry) Metayer

ROANOKE APPALACHIAN TRAIL CLUB

1999 MEMBERSHIP & RENEWAL APPLICATION

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
- 5. Abide by instructions of the leader on group hikes and trips

Name(s):			
Address:			
Telephone Day:	Evening:	Email:	
New Family Membership	\$20	Family Membership Renewal	\$15
New Individual Membership	\$15	Individual Membership Renewal	\$10
Lifetime Membership	\$500	Amount Enclosed: \$	

Make checks payable to: RATC, PO BOX 12282, ROANOKE VA 24024-2282

President's Report (continued)

of experiences as he hikes the Appalachian Trail. These opportunities are called the Appalachian Trail Experience. So when we are talking about protecting the Trail, we are talking about protecting the following:

- A continuous foot path from Maine to Georgia
- A corridor of land on which the path is located
- 3. Those things that contribute to the Appalachian Trail Experience

Imagine you are hiking in a remote/wilderness location and thinking you are a long ways from civilization when you look through the trees and

see a power line. The trail does not seem quite as remote. Your remote/wilderness experience has been compromised. Civilization is not that far away after all. If this keeps happening as you hike the A.T., the opportunity to have a remote/wilderness experience is lost and the A.T. is not what we would like it to be. We, as well as future generations, will have lost something very special.

If you would like to work on Trail protection, please give Hal or me a call. We are trying to form a committee to work on Trail protection.

The President is:

Don Nulph

Hikemaster's Report

Let me begin by commending Jill and all of the past hikemasters for their hard work in preparing hike schedules in the past. You never realize how hard it is until you try it yourself. There were times when I felt like a telemarketer trying to trick somebody into buying something they did not need. I realize that committing to something four months hence is difficult, but the nature of the beast makes it necessary. Let me also thank Dick Clark and Ed Wallace for their invaluable help in getting the schedule for this quarter underway. Most importantly, I would like to thank all those who volunteered to lead and assist.

Please take note of the hike offerings this summer. We have two waterfall trips, a canoe trip, a flashlight hike to watch fireworks, lots of standard hikes, and most importantly five workhikes, three of which are assisted by the Konnarock Crew. One hike I highly recommend is Old Rag, lots of fun rock scrambling. I even remember Gary Close talking about it being the most fun hike in Virginia.

I would like to close by sending out a request to all members; the trail club needs you. Without your willingness to lead and assist hikes, we cannot fill the schedule. If you are new to the club, call me about assisting on a hike. If you were not called this time and would like to help, please call me.

The Hikemaster is:

Mike Ferguson

NOTE FROM THE TREASURER

I would like to express my thanks and appreciation to each of you for your patience while I processed your 1999 membership and renewal payments. I know the time it took to receive your canceled check was lengthy in many cases. As you can imagine, with almost 300 members renewing at the beginning of the year along with our new memberships, the administrative workload is daunting! We are

going to offer multiyear renewals as an option next year. This should improve the turnaround for your renewal payments.

The Treasurer is:

Jim Gawne

Trail Supervisor's Report

Summer means Konnarock Crew visits. This summer the crews will be visiting us three times. Please remember that the Konnarock crews are our guests and are coming to help us. Let's try to be good hosts and make them welcome. The best way to do that is to spend a day or two or five working with them. Five days will earn you a beautiful 1999 Konnarock T-shirt. After a not so great performance last year, let's try to do better this year. I would like to see us win at least 10 T-shirts, have at least 30 people work with the crews, including at least 8 to 10 board members. The projects and dates this year are:

Brushy Mountain Relocation, July 8 - 12 War Spur Relocation, July 22 - 26 Dragon's Tooth Rehabilitation, August 5 - 9 We have workhikes scheduled for Saturday and Sunday during these visits, but I hope to work everyday, so give me a call anytime you wish to come out. We hope to finish, or at least come close to finishing, the Brushy Mountain relocation this summer. We will have another week on War Spur in 2000, which will finish what is currently planned for that area. We have one new overseer: Ron McCorkle has taken over the section going from Campbell Shelter to Brickey's Gap. Welcome aboard Ron.

Hope to see you working on the trail this summer.

The Trail Supervisor is:

Charles Parry

Land Management Supervisor's Report

If you have been watching the news or reading the paper during the last week of May you may realize that the club has been very busy again with the proposed 765 kV power line that American Electric Power has proposed. As you may know the club has taken a lead role for the Appalachian Trail and filed with the Virginia State Corporation Commission as a "Protestant". Therefore, when in early May American Electric Power published to the Virginia State Corporation Commission it's proposed Wyoming, WV to Jacksons Ferry, VA route, the club working with the Appalachian Trail Conference and the Outing Club of Virginia Tech reviewed the five-volume submission. We then filed a response to the SCC through the Club's lawyer within the 21day filing period.

Basically the club has a role of monitoring and protecting the Appalachian Trail. We found this route to be significantly less intrusive to the Appalachian Trail Experience than the previous proposals have been. This route crosses the Appalachian Trail beside I-77 so that the impact at the crossing is minimal. The power line does impact a section of trail with views of the line. The club has asked that sufficient mitigation be done by American Electric Power to have the end result of "No Net Loss" to the Trail Experience. Within that context the Club has said this crossing is acceptable to the Trail Management Community.

This is one step in the continuing process. The next major steps that must occur include:

- The SCC must declare this to be a route open for consideration and hold public hearings.
- Some time in this process, discussions with AEP will take place to talk about mitigation.
- The SCC must approve a route for American Electric Power.
- The US Forest Service must complete a Final Environmental Impact Study and provide a license to cross Federal Lands.

There are, of course, other small actions that must be included. Also, the answer to the above actions could be "No". RATC will be involved in this complete process.

In other actions in the last few months, we now have all of our boundaries on Park Service Land re-ax blazed. Some areas still need to have the ax blazes painted. Action is proceeding to let a contract to enlarge the parking lot on Route 311 for McAfee Knob. Quotes are being sought to finish the demolition of the houses on Park Service lands. A summer ridge runner has been hired for McAfee Knob.

The club has been participating in community meetings for the revision of Jefferson National Forest Plan. The club has also been

participating in meetings on recreation in Carvins Cove

If you would like more information on any of these subjects, feel free to call me or other RATC Club Board members.

The Land Management Supervisor is:

Hal Cantrill

Appalachian Trail Section Hiking Group

Hot Springs, NC to Davenport, TN - 35.4 miles

We had five hikers on this trip – Karl Kunkel, John Lynham, Larry Metayer, Maurice Turner and Ed Wallace. We did not backpack this section but day hiked it. We stayed at the Inn at Hot Springs in Hot Spring, NC. This is an old Victorian Bed & Breakfast that serves only vegetarian food and caters to through hikers. This is bare bone - no hot tubs here.

Day 1. Max Patch Mountain Rd (NC 1182) to Garentflo Gap 13.6 miles

We did the middle section first to accommodate two of our hikers who could only hike one day. The view from Max Patch bald (4629 ft) was outstanding. We could see Clingman Dome and the Smoky Mountains to the west and Mt. Mitchell (6684 ft) and the Black Mountains to the east.

We had one casualty. Ed took a fall and hit the ground hard. After checking him over and making sure he was OK, we continued. We found out later that he broke a rib and dislocated his jaw in the fall. He was a trooper to continue hiking even though he was in pain the rest of the day.

Day 2. Max Patch Mountain Rd (NC 1182) to Davenport Gap (TN 32/NC 284) 15.2 miles

We were down to three hikers. Ed and Karl had to go home for other commitments. The best part of this hike was the car switch. We went through one of the most beautiful valleys that North Carolina has to offer.

We had a little excitement on this day. The Forest Service had been fighting a forest fire in the area for the last couple of days and we passed the staging area the fire fighters were using. We saw 50 to 100 fire fighters at the site. All during the day, we saw helicopters shuttling water to fire. Also, we saw a large plane fly by carrying chemicals to the fire. There were many wildflower on this section on trail - Fire Pinks, White and Purple Trillium, Spring Beauty and Bloodroot. This was our hardest hike of the trip. The steep descent into

Davenport Gap was a killer on the feet and ankles.

Day 3. Garentflo Gap, NC to Hot Springs NC 6.6 miles

This would be a short hike back to Hot Spring. We began our day with breakfast at the Inn with other guests (all through hikers). The night had been cold in the mountains of North Carolina and we all used our rain gear to keep warm in the morning. What a change from the warm temperatures of the last two days. This was the best section of A.T. that we had hiked so far. We completed our hike by 1 pm, changed clothes, ate sub sandwiches at the campground by the French Broad River and headed home.

RT 311 Catawba, VA to RT 220 Daleville, VA 19.6 miles

Day 1 - RT 311 to Lamberts Meadow Campsite 10.5 miles

There were three hikers on this backpacking trip - Tina Welcher, Baron Gibson and Larry Metayer. We started our hike by taking the old A.T. (Fire Rd) to where the A.T. crosses the fire road. We took time off at McAfee Knob to take pictures and enjoy the best view on the A.T. We continued down the Trail to Campbell Shelter. There was a family of four who were planning to send the night at the shelter. Our next stop was nice overlook of Carvin's Cove. The low water level was very noticeable from the far end of the cove. We continued hiking to Tinker Cliff and took a break to enjoy the view of Catawba Valley and all that we had hiked that day.

We made it into camp about 4:30 p.m. We setup camp and prepared our suppers. We had company for the evening, a couple from Carvin's Cove that we met earlier that morning at the parking lot on RT 311. We shared a campfire and burnt popcorn that night.

Day 2 - Lamberts Meadow Campsite to RT 220 9.1 miles

We broke camp and were back on the trail by 9 a.m. We saw many wildflowers on our hike, most

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MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY – JUNE 1999

NAME	ADDRESS	CITY/STATE	ZIP	HOME PH
ADAMS, WILLIAM ADKINS, LEONARD & LAURIE AKERS, LINDA ANDERSON, WILLIAM & MERYLE AUSTIN, A. LARRY	2226 BERKLEY AVE SW #UPPER P.O. BOX 286 3142 WOODLAWN AVE SW 4670 PEACHTREE VALLEY DR P.O. BOX 171	ROANOKE, VA CATAWBA, VA ROANOKE, VA ROANOKE, VA BUCHANAN, VA	24015 24070 24015 24012 24066	982-8272 384-7485 776-1969 977-4648 254-2092
BABB, LOIS VIRGINIA BAHR, LINDA BANE, MARTHA PITT BANE JR, EUGENE M. BARATTA, CAROLYN L.	P.O. BOX 4162 736 GREEN TREE CIR APT 303 7263 SCARLET OAK DR P.O. BOX 1538 2607 OREGON AVE SW	ROANOKE, VA CHESAPEAKE, VA ROANOKE, VA SALEM, VA ROANOKE, VA	24015 23320 24019 24153 24015	344-6859 (757)436-6276 366-5997 989-3887 774-5651
BARNETT, SUZANNE BARROWS, ROBERT BEARD, LARRY & LINDA BERNSTEIN, CAROL L. BESSELL, ED	5031 BRUCETON ROAD SW 2079 BRECKINRIDGE MILL RD 316 ROLLINGWOOD CT 348 NORTHRIDGE DR 6803 FAIR OAKS RD	ROANOKE, VA FINCASTLE, VA TROUTVILLE, VA HURRICANE, WV ROANOKE, VA	24018 24090 24175 25526 24019	772-4273 473-3661 977-3009 362-2274
BLACK, MALCOLM & JIMMIE BLACK, KEVIN BLACK, KARL BLANKENSHIP, ANGELA BLANKENSHIP, H. R.	9645 PINE FOREST RD NE 9737 PINE FOREST RD NE 8977 AUTUMN DRIVE NE 2147 OLD FORGE RD 1864 PELHAM DR SW	BENT MOUNTAIN,VA BENT MOUNTAIN,VA COPPER HILL, VA CALLAWAY, VA ROANOKE, VA	24059 24059 24079 24067 24018	929-4369 929-4651 929-4681 483-5818 776-3468
BOITNOTT, WENDELL BOLLING, CHRIS & CRYSTAL BORNEMAN JR, CHARLES BOTTOMLEY, SHARON R. BOWEN LOHR, NANCY	5005 WADES GAP RD 4901 SHADOW LN 1401 WEST TAYLOR ST. 2536 OREGON AVE 3707 SOUTHWAY DR #85	BOONES MILL, VA ROANOKE, VA KOKOMO, IN ROANOKE, VA ROANOKE, VA	24065 24019 46901 24015 24014	334-5384 562-2541 (765)459-3656 989-1818
BOWER, NANCY BOWERS, ESQ, DAVID A. BOWLES, STEVE BOWLES, JACK & ANN BOWMAN, CYNTHIA R.	3426 LONDONDERRY CT SW 335 W CHURCH AVE 3870 WOODRIDGE RD 14301 BRANDON MILL WOODS 3428 POTOMAC AVE	ROANOKE, VA ROANOKE, VA TROUTVILLE, VA MIDLOTHIAN, VA ROANOKE, VA	24018 24016 24175 23112 24018	989-3813 427-4150 772-8084
BOXWELL, DAVID BOYLE, TOM & MARIANNE BRIGGS, DOT & BETSY BROOKS, GUY BROWER, MERVIN W.	49660 CEDAR LN 1440 IDLEWOOD RD 1834 LANGDON ROAD SW 565 CHAMBERLAIN LN 862 BOULEVARD	DAMERON, MD HARDY, VA ROANOKE, VA SALEM, VA SALEM, VA	20628 24101 24015 24153 24153	(301)872-5998 721-2506 344-4567 389-0890 387-9732
BRYANT, L. G. BRYANT, TOM BRYANT, PEGGY BURCH, ELLEN BURNLEY, LES & ANN	723 MORRISON AVE 1827 MT VERNON RD SW 723 MORRISON AVE 16 FORSYTHIA LOOP 3511 MUD LICK RD	VINTON, VA ROANOKE, VA VINTON, VA LEXINGTON, VA ROANOKE, VA	24179 24015 24179 24450 24018	343-2084 343-2084 464-6979 774-5057
CAMPBELL, ZETTA M. CANTRILL, HAL CAUVET, TODD CHESLOW, DAVID CHILDRESS, DILLARD	6621 SHERRY RD. NW 208 EAGLE DRIVE 3015 ORDWAY DR NW APT B 730 APPERSON DR 2111 SHERWOOD AVE SW	ROANOKE, VA SALEM, VA ROANOKE, VA SALEM, VA ROANOKE, VA	24019 24153 24017 24153 24015	366-8165 387-2347 366-1605 389-7791 344-8373
CHISOM, BRIAN T. CHRISTIANSEN, LEON & JANE CLARK, DICK & JUDY CLATTERBUCK, KAY L. CLINTON, STEPHEN	2239 LAUREL WOODS DR 59 GIBSON ROAD 4529 ROYAL OAK DRIVE 2709 GRANDIN ROAD SW 1837 ASPEN DR	SALEM, VA ASHEVILLE, NC ROANOKE, VA ROANOKE, VA DALEVILLE, VA	24153 28804 24018 24015 24083	389-7383 989-7053 989-8275 992-3066

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY – JUNE 1999

NAME	ADDRESS	CITY/STATE	ZIP	HOME PH
CLONTZ, REID COCHRAN, BILL & KATHERINE COLLINS, KRIN COMETA, KATRINA COUGHLAN, FRED J.	405 SAMMY'S RD APT 4 5880 BLACKSBURG RD 735 GOOD NEIGHBORS RD NE 7088 HICKMAN CEMETERY RD 1882 LAUREL MOUNTAIN DR	COVINGTON, VA CATAWBA, VA CHECK, VA RADFORD, VA SALEM, VA	24426 24070 24072 24141 24153	384-7188 651-4358 639-6541 387-2331
CRADDOCK, TRAVIS R. CRAWLEY, RYAN CRESSMAN, CHIP CRONE, RED CURD, GENE	8491 SANDERSON DR P.O. BOX 20734 180 PINE HAVEN LN RT 1 BOX 596 2859 NESTER RD	ROANOKE, VA ROANOKE, VA UNION HALL, VA CATAWBA, VA THAXTON, VA	24019 24018 24176 24070 24174	992-4564 981-9164 576-1597 864-7186 586-9729
CUTLER, MARY CUTLER, RUPERT DANCO, DAVID DAVIDSON, LARRY DAVIDSON III & IV, J.R.	4451 ST RD 43 N 2865 S. JEFFERSON ST. 3326 DAWN CIRCLE 412 SOUTH JEFFERSON ST 1602 WESTOVER AVE SW	W. LAFAYETTE, IN ROANOKE, VA ROANOKE, VA ROANOKE, VA ROANOKE, VA	47906 24014 24018 24011 24015	(765)497-7271 345-7653 725-9658 343-1194
DICKERSON, SHELBY & BONNIE DICKEY, ROSE DORRIES, BRUCE & OLIMPIA DOWNS, GENE DOWNS, DAVE & LUCY	3040 TREETOP LN SW 955 LONG ISLAND DR 802 N MILL RD PO BOX 422 5209 CATAWBA VALLEY RD	ROANOKE, VA MONETA, VA SALEM, VA FINCASTLE, VA CATAWBA, VA	24018 24121 24153 24090 24070	774-1870 721-3803 473-2326
DUERK, GARY & BARBARA DUNCAN, MARILYN G. DUTCHER, RENEE EDWARDS, TOM EGBERT, ROBERT & FAMILY	2607 ROSALIND AVE SW 6214 HAMPTON ST 2774 DERWENT DR SW 5352 SUNDANCE RD 3571 BRADSHAW ROAD	ROANOKE, VA PITTSBURGH, PA ROANOKE, VA SALEM, VA SALEM, VA	24014 15206 24015 24153 24153	343-1616 (412)665-1003 989-0914 380-3421 384-7448
ELLINGTON, SAM & DORA LEE ELLIS, CARLOS MARIE FARRAN, MARILYN FERGUSON, MIKE FETTER, BOB & SUSIE	2608 OREGON AVE S.W. 2621 CANNADAY RD N.E. 8145 RIVER BAY DR E 1008 CLAIBORNE AVE 2923 CAROLINA AVE. SW	ROANOKE, VA ROANOKE, VA INDIANAPOLIS, IN VINTON, VA ROANOKE, VA	24015 24012 46240 24179 24014	989-4742 344-0584 344-8525 342-9950
FISHER, JOYCE FITZGERALD, KEN FITZPATRICK, NEIL & DEBBIE FLOYD, BILL FRANCISCO, ED & LINDA	6653 BRYANT CIRCLE NE 2539 WINDSOR 329 DRAKE TRAIL 205 PRIMROSE DR. 460 HEMLOCK RD	ROANOKE, VA ROANOKE, VA CLOVERDALE, VA BLACKSBURG, VA SALEM, VA	24019 24015 24077 24060 24153	362-1143 992-2446 951-7744 342-4915
FRANKLIN, FRANCES M. GALBREATH, NATHAN GAMINDE, MARY LOU GARDNER, LAURA M. GARDNER, HARFORD & LINDA	1091 FALLON DR 470 SHAMROCK DR 316 EUGENE DR NW 1725 WILBUR RD SW 1609 BLANKENSHIP RD	VINTON, VA RIDGEWAY, VA ROANOKE, VA ROANOKE, VA GOODVIEW, VA	24179 24148 24017 24015 24095	890-3081 956-3505 344-1637 345-5935 890-1485
GARRETT, KEN & RENEE GARST, BOB & MARIA GAWNE, JIM & JILL GENTRY, MATTHEW GIBSON, BARON	12789 HARDY RD 1817 SHEFFIELD RD SW 8083 ARABIAN LN 1607 KENNEDY ST PO BOX 601	HARDY, VA ROANOKE, VA CATAWBA, VA BLACKSBURG, VA ELLISTON, VA	24101 24015 24070 24060 24087	890-8946 384-7023 552-1698 268-5766
GIBSON, TOM GILBERT, MARY J. GILLS, O. WATTS GIMBERT, ELIZABETH GLEASON, JOHN	7334 MAPLE CT SW 3118 CLEARVIEW DR. SW 2231-A BROADWAY SW 4164 FAIRFIELD LN 5060 YOUNGWOOD DR NW	ROANOKE, VA ROANOKE, VA ROANOKE, VA TROUTVILLE, VA ROANOKE, VA	24014 24018 24014 24175 24017	772-7644 343-2745 977-0301 562-4207

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY – JUNE 1999

NAME	ADDRESS	CITY/STATE	ZIP	HOME PH
GODFREY, JANE B. GOODES, MARILYN GORDGE, BILL & BUZ GOSS, JOHN & GENEVIEVE GRANT, CONNIE	1509 4th ST 6214 SLEEPY HOLLOW RD 3130 EVERGREEN LN. SW 932 LEE LANE 1727-D13 BRAEBURN DR	ROANOKE, VA SALEM, VA ROANOKE, VA FINCASTLE, VA SALEM, VA	24016 24153 24015 24090 24153	982-2388 380-4801 774-3016 966-4606 989-6131
GREEN, MARY FIELD GRIFFITH, MARJORIE GRUBBS, ROBERT HALE, BLANCHE HALE, GARY J.	3161 STONERIGE RD PO BOX 21271 1096 COALING RD 862 ROANOKE, VA BLVD P.O. BOX 303	ROANOKE, VA ROANOKE, VA TROUTVILLE, VA SALEM, VA ELLISTON, VA	24014 24018 24175 24153 24087	345-8521 774-0693 387-9732 268-5283
HALLING, MARY HANNA, ANNE T. HANOOD JR, PHILLIP A. HARMAN, MIKE & JANET HARMAN, HARRY	3333-G CIRCLE BROOK DR 1415 CAROLTON DRIVE PO BOX 412 5570 CYNTHIA DR 549 CRAFTY FOX DR	ROANOKE, VA COVINGTON, VA JAY, ME ROANOKE, VA BOONES MILL, VA	24014 24426 04239 24018 24065	965-3521 989-1773 334-1032
HARRIS, CANDI HART, RALPH HAWKINS, JACKIE HAYNIE, MICHAEL G. HENDRY, JAMIE	1522 ROANOKE, VA AVE SW 5969 VILLAGE LANE 2402 CHESAPEAKE AVE APT 4 6153 RAN LYNN DR 7335 MAPLE CT SW	ROANOKE, VA ROANOKE, VA HAMPTON, VA ROANOKE, VA ROANOKE, VA	24015 24019 23661 24018 24014	366-8129 (757)244-0473 989-9456 772-7644
HILLON, CHARLES & NAOMI HOLDGREVE, DAN & KATIE HOLNBACK, ROGER & LAUREN HOLT, ROLAND P. HOOVER, JONATHAN & TRACY	15907 WATERFALL ROAD 225 WALNUT TRACE DR 184 SPRINKLE RD 2505 STEPHENSON AVE SW 305 HANLEY CIR	HAYMARKET, VA HARDY, VA FINCASTLE, VA ROANOKE, VA DANVILLE, VA	22069 24101 24090 24014 24541	754-7388 890-2027 985-9542
HOUGHTON, CHARLES HOWELL, PAUL M. HUFFMAN, JEANNIE L. HUTCHINGS, JIM & LINDA IRVING, ED	6846 BRIAR RIDGE AVE 4408 KIRKWOOD DR. 3725 JACOB DRIVE 551 WINDRIDGE PARKWAY 4829 NORTHWOOD DR NW	ROANOKE, VA ROANOKE, VA SHAWSVILLE, VA HARDY, VA ROANOKE, VA	24018 24018 24162 24101 24017	989-0557 774-2619 268-5051 427-4536 562-2314
JESSEE, ELLEN JILK, LINDA F. JOHNSON, BECKIE JOHNSON, ESTHER JONES, JIM	45 HERBERT ST 4963 POOR MOUNTAIN RD 184 PIN OAK DR. 1336 EAST DR 245 GILMORE LN	ROCKY MOUNT, VA SALEM, VA BLUE RIDGE, VA ROANOKE, VA LEXINGTON, VA	24151 24153 24064 24015 24450	489-1802 380-2409 977-3833 345-1498 463-3697
KAPSALAKIS, DEAN & CAROL KAY, LESLIE KAYSER, KEN & BETSY KEGLEY, GEORGE A. KELLEY, BRIAN & LEIGH ANNE	BOX 25 205 PR9IMROSE DR 7048 WREN RD 301 TINKER CREEK LANE, NE 210 WILSON AVE	CATAWBA, VA BLACKSBURG, VA ROANOKE, VA ROANOKE, VA BLACKSBURG, VA	24070 24060 24018 24019 24060	384-6161 951-7744 776-6875 366-4607 951-0814
KELLEY, JOE KELLY, MARCIA KING, EVELYN KING, LINDA R. KLARE, MARY BETH	P.O. BOX 542 2926 CREEKWOOD DR. 1737 BRAEBURN DR #C 27 2215-C SOUTH JEFFERSON ST 3605 MEADOWLARK RD	BLACKSBURG, VA SALEM, VA SALEM, VA ROANOKE, VA ROANOKE, VA	24063 24153 24153 24014 24018	387-1956 772-0783 342-2411 774-7960
KNIGHT, ROBERT & MARY JO KOLMSTETTER, SIEGFRIED & URSUL/ KOTHEIMER, SHIRLEY KOVACICH, JOHN & DEBBIE KUNKEL, KARL F.	511 CONCORD CHURCH RD 4 4125 HIGH ACRES RD NW 5914 JANDA DR 1010 GOLF COURSE RD 1508 WAVERLY ST	STUART, VA ROANOKE, VA ROANOKE, VA SPARTA, NC HIGH POINT, NC		694-3771 362-9671 562-0356 (910)372-2365 (336)882-8711

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LACY, MARTHA	2043 WESTOVER AVE. SW	ROANOKE, VA	24015	345-3414
LAMAR, ROB & REBECCA	2794 IRON RIDGE RD	ROCKY MOUNT, VA	24151	489-4893
LAMB, B.R. & ELIZABETH	3772 DAWNRIDGE LANE	TROUTVILLE, VA	24175	977-2060
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MARTIN, TONY & LYNNETTE	3831 KENTLAND DRIVE SW	ROANOKE, VA	24018	989-4218
MAYE, LETITIA	864 GLEBE RD	DALEVILLE, VA	24083	992-5986
McCLURE, TERRI & REID	643 BROOKFIELD DRIVE	SALEM, VA	24153	375-2650
McCORKLE, RON	2130 ROSALIND AVE	ROANOKE, VA	24014	982-8289
McCULLEY, SHARON	3366 KINGSBURY CIR	ROANOKE, VA	24014	982-2681
McDANIEL, G.A. (MAC)	310 HILLCREST AVE	INDEPENDENCE, VA	24348	773-2691
McKIM, DENNIS	1948 JOPPA MILL RD	BEDFORD, VA	24523	562-0653
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McPEAK, CAROLYN R.	615 BUFF CREEK DR	HARDY, VA	24101	890-5606
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MILLER, WALTER	2721 CAROLINA AVE SW	ROANOKE, VA	24014	982-2265
MISTELE, BILL & JEAN	4424 BROOKWOOD CIR	ROANOKE, VA	24019	992-1221
MITCHEM, KIM & CJ	P.O. BOX 252	HARDY, VA	24101	890-6631
MITNICK, BLAKE	1810 SPRUCE ST #111	MARTINSVILLE	24112	638-3719
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MOORE, MARK & LORI	4658 WHIPPLEWOOD CT	ROANOKE, VA	24014	772-7052
MORAN, LEROY	2552 SWEETBRIER AVE SW	ROANOKE, VA	24015	774-5448
MORAN, RICHARD & MARGARET	1654 MILLBRIDGE RD	SALEM, VA	24153	389-3744
MURPHY, TIMOTHY	7222 LONGLEAF DR NW	ROANOKE, VA	24019	366-1002
NATION, STEVE	2411 DALEVIEW DR.	DALEVILLE, VA	24083	992-3926
NEILL, LIN	2714 WYCLIFFE AVE SW	ROANOKE, VA	24014	343-0344
NELSON, BONNIE	2721 CAROLINA AVE SW	ROANOKE, VA	24014	982-2265
NELSON, SALLY M.	3651 DOGWOOD LANE	ROANOKE, VA	24015	344-4481
NEUMANN, HARRY	3005 McLEAN CT	BLACKSBURG, VA	24060	552-5346
NEWCOMB, FRANCES	111 SOUTHAMPTON DR	VINTON, VA	24179	345-7584
NGUYEN, AN V.	318 PRESTON AVE	ROANOKE, VA	24012	362-9767
NULPH, DONALD	5787 TWELVE O'CLOCK KNOB	ROANOKE, VA	24018	774-8618
O'DELL, REV. THOMAS P.	2632 S JEFFERSON ST	ROANOKE, VA	24014	345-8687
O'KEEFE, PATRICK E.	49 WINDY LANE	WOODSTOCK, VA	22664	459-9651
OAKEY, SAM, MITZI & SAMMY	2507 LABURNUM AVE SW	ROANOKE, VA	24015	342-9124
OGLE, STEPHEN & JUDITH	1333 VIVIAN AVE	ROANOKE, VA	24019	366-8899

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PATTERSON, KEITH & DEBRA	7378 BOTETOURT RD	FINCASTLE, VA	24090	473-2773
PATTERSON, LEE	7020 SUGAR MAPLE CT	ROANOKE, VA	24019	366-0355
PECKMAN, BOB AND KRIS	8131 WEBSTER DRIVE	ROANOKE, VA	24019	366-7780
PERDUE, CLYDE	1794 DRY RUN ROAD	BLACKSBURG, VA	24060	961-2803
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PHLEGAR, DAN & KATHY	751 SHIRLEY RD	SALEM, VA	24153	389-1783
PULLIAM, BONNIE	1839 ATKINSON HOLLOW RD	VINTON, VA	24179	890-6922
QUERY, STAFFORD M.	1402 DEYERLE ROAD SW	ROANOKE, VA	24018	989-5582
QUINN, PAULA SCOTT	P.O. BOX 204	BOONES MILL, VA	24065	334-2738
QUESENBERRY, LINDSEY	3426 LONDONDERRY CT SW	ROANOKE, VA	24018	989-3813
REILLY, MIKE	4606 SIDNEY CHURCH RD	RINER, VA	24149	
RICKARD, TOM & PAM	2626 EDGEWOOD ST SW	ROANOKE, VA	24015	857-0037
RIPPEE, SHARON	503 KESLER MILL ROAD	SALEM, VA	24153	387-3495
ROBBINS, DEBBIE	95 NUTHATCH CIR	MONETA, VA	24121	721-1191
ROGERS, ANN	P.O. BOX 14224	ROANOKE, VA	24038	725-8222
ROSS, WILLIAM & KELLIE	2006 SCOTT DRIVE	BLACKSBURG, VA	24060	961-3821
ROSS, RON	P.O. BOX 175	RODANTHE, VA	27968	(252)987-1297
ROSS, BRIANA E.	2639 WILSHIRE AVE	ROANOKE, VA	24015	774-3747
SAFERIGHT, WES	5178 WIPLEDALE AVE	ROANOKE, VA	24019	562-1961
SALAMON, STEPHEN J.	5227 CHUKAR DR	ROANOKE, VA	24014	725-8571
SAWYERS, REBECCA	910 JEFFERSON CIR	MARTINSVILLE, VA	24112	989-0497
SCANLIN, SUE	3686 BOWER RD. SW	ROANOKE, VA	24018	
SELLARS, BRUCE	3057 DOVER DRIVE	ROANOKE, VA	24018	774-7068
SHACKELFORD, SCOTT & VIRGINIA	2919 WYCLIFFE AVE SW	ROANOKE, VA	24014	343-8420
SHEPARD, KAREN W.	7136 STONE MOUNTAIN RD	ROANOKE, VA	24018	772-2733
SHIFFLETT, BILL	4471 ALEAN RD	BOONES MILL, VA	24065	334-5324
SHINER, KEITH	1717 BRANDON AVE	ROANOKE, VA	24015	982-7557
SHIRES, DONALD E.	7255 SCARLET OAK DR	ROANOKE, VA	24019	366-4792
SHIVELY, ROBERT & JOYCE	4222 CATAWBA RD	TROUTVILLE, VA	24175	992-4969
SIEMON, GLENN & LYNNE	532 ORLANDO AVE	ROANOKE, VA	24019	362-2873
SIMMS, PAUL	2099 GRIFFITH HILL RD	FERRUM, VA	24088	365-2353
SIMPSON JR, ROBERT	5363 CHAUCERS CT	ROANOKE, VA	24018	774-6438
SLAUGHTER, NANCE	310 HILLCREST AVE	INDEPENDENCE, VA	24348	773-2691
SLOVER, LEE	2317 FRANKLIN ST	SALEM, VA	24153	389-3932
SNEAD, WILLIAM C.	2443 POST OAK RD	SALEM, VA	24153	389-6422
SNEBOLD, DAVID & MARIANNE	5704 ARCTURUS DR	ROANOKE, VA	24018	776-9665
SNELLER, MAURICE P.	402 HIGH STREET	FARMVILLE, VA	23901	(804)392-3828
SOWDER, JAMES MICHAEL SOWERS, TOM & JO STAMPER, JANEAL	209 SO. FRANKLIN ST 4927 ROWE RIDGE RD NW 1718 RUTROUGH RD SE APT 13	CHRISTIANSBURG,VA ROANOKE, VA ROANOKE, VA	24073 24017 24014	381-2965 343-9276
STANFILL, DAVID J.	RT 2 BOX 118	BUCHANAN, VA	24066	312-5241
STEPHENS, MIKE	19 OVERLOOK RD	HARDY, VA	24101	721-3789

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STEWART, MARY STEWART, AL STEWART, JONATHAN D. STITCHER, BOBBIE SUESS, BUD & ALICE	2528 MONTGOMERY AVE SW 6708 GARMAN DR 333 CROFTON DR 2800 PATMOS CHURCH RD	LOUISVILLE, KY ROANOKE, VA ROANOKE, VA VINTON, VA HUDDLESTON	24015 24019 24179 24104	989-0483 362-4118 890-2140 297-2140
SUTTON, SCOTT SVITZER, RICK & JO TAYLOR III, JOHN E. THOMAS, LINDA THOMAS II, ROBERT B.	213 N BLAIR ST 2498 WOLF RUN 205 ST PAULS DR 5928 WAYBURN DRIVE NW 2329 WINTHROP AVE SW APT 16	VINTON, VA VINTON, VA LYNCHBURG, VA ROANOKE, VA ROANOKE, VA	24179 24179 24503 24019 24015	343-3019 890-5820 (804)384-0209 343-7623
TROUTMAN, CAROL A. TROWER, W. PETER TURNER, MAURICE TYREE, PATTI VAN RHEIN, ERIK	221 NIVER DR 1105 HIGHLAND CIRCLE SE 240 EASY ST 1610 ALBERTA DR 4720 LOS FELIZ BLVD APT 6	UNION HALL, VA BLACKSBURG, VA BOONES MILL, VA SALEM, VA LOS ANGELES, CA	24176 24060 24065 24153 90027	576-3304 953-2249 334-2128 389-0097 (323)662-8337
VAUGHN, MICHAEL J. WALLACE, RANDY WALLACE, ED & MARY WALLENBORN SR, ROBERT C. WELCHER, TINA	3760 MCINTOSH RD BOX 229 6121 MONET DRIVE SW 2206 BROADWAY AV SW 3891 FLATWOODS ROAD	ROANOKE, VA PICKAWAY, VA ROANOKE, VA ROANOKE, VA ELLISTON, VA	24019 24976 24018 24014 24087	992-1350 (304)772-5964 774-0175 982-2678 268-5958
WELLFORD, JR, NORVELL WERTZ, LAURA E. WHITNEY, JIMMY & KELLY WILLIAMS, RICHARD WILLIAMS, JEFF	2632 AVENEL AVE SW 4531 EDEN DR NW 1910 WARRINGTON RD 3786 KENWICK TRAIL 3403 WHITEHURST RD	ROANOKE, VA ROANOKE, VA ROANOKE, VA ROANOKE, VA GREENSBORO, NC	24015 24012 24015 24018 27410	343-7750 265-0084 344-4117 774-0522 (336)282-5333
WINGE, LINDA K. WINSTON, G. TURNER WITCHER, HOMER & THERESE WRIGHT, JENNY YOUNG, MICHAEL	4914 N SPRING DR NW 1408 CRAVENS CREEK LN P.O. BOX 562 4609 BELFORD ST SW 532 JANETTE AVE SW	ROANOKE, VA ROANOKE, VA DALEVILLE, VA ROANOKE, VA ROANOKE, VA	24019 24018 24083 24018 24016	562-0962 989-6991 992-3932 774-6679

1999 MULTI-CLUB MEETING OF SOUTHERN A.T. CLUBS Friday, September 3 through Monday, September 6, 1999

Labor Day weekend is a special time for Southern Appalachian Trail (A.T.) maintaining Clubs. Every year at this time all the Southern A.T. Clubs get together for an event called Multi-Club. This is a weekend of hiking, renewing old friendships, making new friends, and just having fun with the people who maintain the Appalachian Trail in the Southern Region.

This year's host for Multi-Club is the Georgia A.T. Club and will be held at Unicoi State Park near Helen, Georgia. For more information contact:

Jim Hutchings 551 Windridge Pkwy Hardy, VA 24101 (540) 427-4536 (home) (540) 387-8652 (work) James.Hutchings@indsys.ge.com

RATC baseball caps and t-shirts have arrived. Members pay \$5 per cap and \$10 per shirt.

Non-members pay \$5 more per item.

Contact Don Nulph @ 774-8618

Spring Hike Reports

A.T., Route 610 to I-81 at Atkins

January 24, 1999

Tina Welcher (leader), Bobbie Stitcher (assistant), Bob and Kris Peckman, Baron Gibson, H.R. Blankenship, Gary Hale

The group drove to Groseclose and left a car at the motel then took I-81 to Marion, got on Route 16 to Route 42, and then turned onto Route 610 to reach the start of the hike. We started hiking through fields of cattle and climbed to the crest of Big Walker Mountain in Tilson Gap. The trail was quite wet from the recent rains. We then descended to Crawfish Valley and climbed up Gullion Moutain or Little Brushy Mountain. This section has a lot of ups and downs and after reaching the ridge top of Gullion Mountain we lunched beside the trail. After lunch we checked out Davis Path Shelter, and none of us can understand the hole in the floor of the shelter. We must seek wisdom from our members of PATH. We also passed the Davis family cemetery but no one left the trail for a closer look. The highlight of this section came at the end as we reached Dry Run. Due to recent rainfall and the industrious work of a busy colony of beavers, the area around Dry Run was slightly flooded, but most navigated the area without getting wet feet. The beaver den was just to the left of the trail at Dry Run and the hillside that followed showed great signs of the active beavers. There were gnawed-on trees all around, some as large as two feet in diameter. and leftover stumps everywhere. We understand that the PATH club is planning a work hike to extend the elevated walkway at Dry Run that is no longer dry due to the busiest area of beaver activity I have ever seen. After our beaver study we came to Route 683 and crossed under I-81 to our awaiting car. After our drive back to 610 we followed Route 42 back to I-77 for the return home.

Dragon's Tooth

February 21, 1999

Liz Lamson (leader, subbing for Linda Akers), Sharon Bottomley (assistant), Steve Salamon, Dave Miller, Rose Dickey, Suzanne Barnett, Mark Rice, Mary Gilbert, Brian Zomorodian The wind made February 21 a "bracing" day, but a nice one, especially where the trail was protected from the wind. It was one of those days when gloves, hats, and jackets go on and off repeatedly. Rose Dickey looked forward to hot chocolate at the top, but was disappointed to find she had left it at the rest stop. We didn't linger long at the top and were back in the parking lot before 4:30. It was a nice, short hike for a cold, windy day.

A.T., Route 603 (Fox Creek) to Route 16 (Troutdale)

February 28, 1999

Tina Welcher (leader), Bobbie Stitcher (assistant), Baron Gibson, Linda King, H.R. Blankenship, Karl Kunkel

This hike almost didn't happen due to questionable weather conditions, but the group decided not to be fair weather hikers only. After driving in rain, we arrived at Route 16 and Route 650 to meet Karl, who drove up from N.C. to spend the day with us. John the "wimp" Lynham had decided to be a fair weather hiker and missed a great day. The group drove to Fox Creek at Route 603 and was on the trail at 10 am. We climbed Iron Mt. and began the descent before we stopped for lunch. The temperature was in the 30s and there were scant areas of snow on the ground, so we did not linger long. It took the group a while to warm up after lunch while still descending the mountain. The wind was howling and we hiked through a sleet storm that didn't last over 15 minutes, thank goodness. Then we arrived at Comer's Creek to the beautiful 10-foot waterfall where photos were a must. We finished at Rt. 16 and 650 and found H.R. waiting for the rest of us slower hikers. We drove to Fox Creek to pick up Bobbie's car and wish Karl a safe trip home. We hadn't been on the road 10 minutes when the rain and sleet poured down. There was a narrow window of opportunity today, and we took advantage of that window to finish another section of the A.T. in Virginia.

Spring Hike Reports continue

Pine Swamp Shelter to Simms Gap

March 14, 1999

Dick Clark (leader), Eric Miller (Assistant) No report received.

Pickle Branch Shelter

March 14, 1999

Linda Akers (leader), Susan Barnett (assistant)
Cancelled due to heavy rain.

Andy Layne Trail Workhike

March 21, 1999

Han Cantrill (leader), Joyce Castelli (assistant)
Cancelled due to heavy rain.

Thunder Ridge to Cornelius Creek Shelter

March 21, 1999

Several hikers called. Hal Cantrill (leader), Joyce Castelli (assistant) met at Market Square off 460.

They had a nice conversation. It started to rain again. No one else showed up. The leaders went home.

A.T., Route 728 to Route 58 at Damascus

March 27, 1999

Tina Welcher (leader), Bobbie Stitcher (assistant), Baron Gibson, Beckie Johnson, H.R. Blankenship, Gary Hale

A 7:00 am departure time may have deterred some people for this Saturday hike. After a 3hour drive to Damascus and a little confusion regarding the endpoint, the group was on the trail at 10:15. We started at 728 on the Virginia Creeper Trail, but soon we were climbing up the ridge. Some hikers discussed that when age impairs our climbing, we can hike Virginia Creeper and other rail trails with their easy grades. We passed a neat man-made pond near Rt. 58 and continued our climb. The climbing was fairly easy and after four miles we found the blue-blaze trail to Saunders Shelter (1/4 mile) with a note from Bobbie. Lunch was enjoyed at the shelter where the sun was shining on the picnic table. Then we were off to the crest of Straight Mountain for a nice view of Whitetop

and other mountains close by. After a group photo, we were off on the descent with views of Taylors Valley. We passed a small waterfall and followed the ridge above Whitetop Laurel Creek. This was a very pretty section and the 50degree weather added to our delight. At the crossing of Route 58 there was a lot of litter by the parking area, and several of us picked up some and placed it in the trash bin on our way. An amazing thing happened on our way up Iron Mt. The leader got in a groove going uphill and left behind some dazed and panting hikers. We descended Iron Mt. to find our cars waiting and ready for the return trip. We had the foresight to give the keys to Gary and H.R., who always hike faster than those of us with shorter leas, so they had already picked up the car from Route 728. Along the trail we had seen a deer and a hairy woodpecker. The deer bounded down the trail in front of us for a short way as if to add her own blaze of white to our trail experience. The trail and the weather were beautiful and the group

A.T., Sunset Field to Petite's Gap

had enjoyed the day. Four more miles and we

could have hiked into Tennessee, but we headed for home at a little after 5 pm.

March 28, 1999

Zetta Campbell (leader), Ed Wallace (assistant), Suzanne Barnett, Sharon Rippee, Carolyn Baratta, Neil and Debbie Fitzpatrick, Maurice Turner, Blake Mitnick, Quenton Ratliff

Since we had a long drive and a long hike for an afternoon, we decided to do a key switch instead of a car switch. The hikers divided into two groups, hiked in opposite directions, met in the middle, got the keys into the hands of the owners, and when finished with the hike, the owners simply got into their cars with their passengers and drove back to the meeting place. There were many fine views, especially from the open field where the old radar station is located. Northbound hikers ended with the long descent into Petite's Gap. They did not envy the southbounders with their long climb up from it at the beginning of their hike. It was getting dark when we drove back on the Parkway, just the time for the deer to come out. We saw so many

Spring Hike Reports continue

Spring Hike Reports (continued)

that we never counted them. Some ran across the road, so we had to be careful. Unfortunately, Ed hit a deer which "came out of nowhere". However, it got up and ran into the woods, so, we can only hope it was not badly hurt.

Piney Ridge Trail/AT Loop

April 4, 1999 - Easter

Kris Peckman (leader), Bob Peckman, Bobbie Stitcher

It was a warm, almost hot, Easter Sunday. It was also the first day of Daylight Saving Time, so we delayed the hike by an hour in order not to suffer from sleep deprivation before our hike. We started up the A.T. from Route 501 at Snowden about 10:30 am, and had made enough elevation gain by the time we realized that we were supposed to have started on the Piney Ridge Trail that we decided to do the hike in the opposite direction from the plan. It probably doesn't make any difference which way you do this hike: either way, you climb incessantly up, walk a little on the level, and then go incessantly down.

The views of the James River Gorge and Balcony Falls from the A.T. are spectacular, especially with no leaves on the trees yet. There is a lot of rhododendron on this stretch of the A.T.; we have to remember to come back here when it is in bloom. The Piney Ridge Trail is fast becoming the Formerly Piney Ridge Trail. All the pine trees of any size have been killed by the pine bark beetle. The trail has recently been cleared and reblazed in bright blue, so it is easy to follow, and there are signs at both top and bottom (although the one at the top was lying on the ground).

Spring wildflowers have begun to appear. We saw lots of trailing arbutus, pussytoes, cinquefoil, and violets of many colors, including birdsfoot violets and a yellow Halberd-leaved violet. Serviceberry was in full bloom, and redbuds have started to come out.

The hike ended with about 2 miles of road walking, on a side road and then along Route 501. Local residents were very friendly, all wishing us a Happy Easter. Apparently the James River produced a big catch of

smallmouth for one group of fishermen. Best of all, unlike our last hike on this road, there were NO DOGS.

Cove Mountain Loop from Dragon's Tooth Parking Lot

April 4, 1999 - Easter

Linda Akers (leader), Jeanne Huffman (assistant), Ralph Hart, Mary Lou Gaminde, Zetta Campbell, Joe Porfert, Dan Reichel, Jim Hewitt

This small but congenial group met on a beautiful sunny Sunday afternoon to enjoy the serenity of Cove Mountain. We were treated to trout lilies in bloom at the beginning and end of the trail. Trees still had no leaves, so the sun warmed our skin. Took several "catch your breath" breaks on the ascent, evidence of not enough hiking during the winter months. We were treated to a long, slim, black racer lazily basking beside the trail as we started the return loop. Took note that the old ramshackle house across the creek had finally toppled in on itself. Thanks to those who have done trail work here-it was quite an improvement. Back to Orange Market in due time, leaving Ralph in search of an ice cream parlor to guench his craving.

A.T., Route 311 to Route 220

April 10, 1999

Bobbie Stitcher, Linda King, Kris Peckman

On the way home from a hike, Bobbie mentioned she wanted to hike the 19.4-mile stretch from Route 311 (Catawba) to Route 220 (Daleville). Quickly several others chimed in, and the plot was hatched. H.R., who was in the car, said it would be allowed as long as it was written up for the Blazer. Today's date was picked, not because it is exactly 67 years since the Nomads did it, but because it was the first weekend after Daylight Saving Time began, so the day should be long enough but the weather not too hot. Good planning, because we enjoyed both of those features.

Spring Hike Reports continue

Spring Hike Reports (continued)

There were a few personnel changes between the conception and the realization, but at 7:30 am, three of us were on our way. The wildflower book came out almost immediately,

as we discovered field pansies and birdsfoot violets in our path. Later Bobbie spotted rue anemone, and Kris identified yellow corydalis on the way up to Tinker Cliffs. But the big winner in the flower department for today was trailing arbutus, which we spotted at many points along the way, but was especially abundant on the north slope of Tinker Mountain as we descended into Daleville.

We met several overnighters leaving the woods as we entered it. We were overtaken by Travis Craddock and some of his cross country teammates on the way up to McAfee's Knob. The gnats were fierce on the way up to and at the Knob, so we lingered only long enough to get an overview of the route we were to follow, which is almost entirely visible from the Knob. A troop of Boy Scouts and their visibly sleepdeprived leaders came roaring up from Campbell Shelter, where their tents were pitched. A chilled breeze came at us from the east as we walked the ridge, and looking back. we could see fog approaching McAfee's. However, by the time we got to Tinker Cliffs, the sun was coming out, and we had a comfortable, leisurely lunch on the Cliffs as we admired the bright spring green of the fields below.

The afternoon walk along Tinker Ridge was very pleasant, with sunshine and a light breeze to keep us from getting too hot. We stopped to admire the Lambert's Meadow Shelter with its fine stonework from 1972 (ask Siegfried Kolmstetter about that project!). Carvin's Cove looked rather like a mud puddle. We all remarked how we didn't feel any more tired than we would have if we had just come up to Hay Rock for the afternoon. After Angel's Gap, Linda stopped waiting for Kris and Bobbie, and in the end she arrived in the parking lot an hour ahead of them, so she did the total 19.4 miles in 11 1/2 hours, while it took Kris and Bobbie 12 1/2. But we didn't want to hurry this hike along, there was so much to see and the day was so delightful.

A.T., Rice Field from Pearisburg

April 11, 1999

Ed Wallace (leader), Gary Hale (assistant) Cancelled for no apparent reason.

Tinker Cliffs from Andy Layne Trail

April 11, 1999

Sharon Rippee (leader), Susan Barnett (assistant)
No report received.

A.T., 113-Mile Hike #8, Sinking Creek Mtn

April 17, 1999

Dave Leaman (leader), Jill Gawne (assistant) No report received.

Sandstone Ridge Bloodroot Hike

April 18, 1999

Don Nulph (leader), Zetta Campbell (assistant) No report received.

A.T., Peters Mountain, Dickenson Gap Trail to Turnhole Knob

April 25, 1999

Tina Welcher (leader), John Lynham (assistant), H.R. Blankenship, Bobbie Stitcher, Gary Hale, Beckie Johnson, Linda King

We had a beautiful spring day for hiking. The air was clear and the views into West Virginia from Rice Fields and Syms Gap Meadow were terrific. We decided to do the hike south to north and climbed up from Turnhole Knob. The group quickly divided into very fast hikers and "sane" hikers, with the two very fastest finishing two hours ahead of the main group. Peters Mountain could use some trail maintenance, as there are quite a few blowdowns.

Sinking Creek Mountain Workhike

April 25, 1999

Charles Parry (leader), Jill Gawne (assistant), Jim Gawne, Brian Kelley, Bill Gordge, Bo Thomas

Spring Hike Reports continue

Spring Hike Reports (continued)

We had just the bare minimum needed for two crews. Crew one consisiting of the three Bs

started at Route 621 with Brian scraping and running a

chainsaw when needed, Bill reblazing and Bo clipping. The other crew consisting of two Js and one CJ, took an old road to the top of Sinking Creek Mountain coming out under the power line. I scraped and occasionally ran a chainsaw, while Jim blazed and Jill clipped. The weather was beautiful, making it a pleasant day to be on the mountain. It was close to 5 pm before the two crews met. Shortly before we met, Jim and I ran across four goats: a billy, a nanny and two kids. We saw the goats again while backtracking to the Sarver trail. We wondered what the goats found to eat and drink this time of the year on the dry mountaintop. We hoped that they liked greenbrier. A tired group of workers made their way down the Sarver trail to the road where cold soft drinks awaited us.

Bearwallow Gap to Buchanan Trail to Route 625

April 25, 1999

Maurice Turner (leader), Larry Austin (assistant), Gene Downs, Midge Hanna, Bill Mistele, Eric Carlson, Rick Garcia, Tom Penlard

It was an excellent day for hiking, sunny skies with temperatures in the 60s. The beginning of the hike at Bearwallow still showed the ugliness of the ice damage from past winters, but this gave way to all the wildflowers in bloom, i.e., rue anemone, chickweed, wood vetch, Solomon's seal, stonecrop, violet, crested dwarf iris, bluets, heart leaf, bellwort, yellow lady's slipper and bird-on-the-wing.

The A.T. and Buchanan Trail was enjoyable hiking, but part of the horse trail was rocky and had downed trees which slowed our pace. Two hikers decided to wait at Route 43 to be picked up by our car switch rather than finishing the extra mile--the horse trail had taken its toll. Thanks to Larry for the refreshments and flower identification.

A.T., 113 Mile Hike #3, US 220 to Rt 779

May 2, 1999

Dave Miller (leader), Kris Peckman (assistant), Bob Peckman, Malcolm Black, Roger Newton

Roger, temporarily working in Roanoke, was welcomed on his first RATC hike. Kris and Bob offered to show Roger Tinker Cliffs. The "senior citizen" group (Malcolm and Dave) opted for the original plan. We saw much flora (see Malcolm's challenge, below) and fauna (some deer, a garter snake, and a green snake). Both groups arrived at Daleville at about the same time, on this nice sunny spring day.

Here is Malcolm's challenge. The following list contains the Latin names of all the wildflowers that we saw on this hike (or at least all those that we remember seeing). See how many of them you can give the common name for. Answers are at the end of the hike reports.

Along Catawba Creek and on the Andy Layne Trail:

Mertensia virginica
Anemonella thalictroides
Asimina triloba
Jeffersonia diphylla
Aquilegia canadensis
Stellaria pubera
Viola blanda
Viola papilionacea
Viola pensylvanica
Viola canadensis
Geranium maculatum
Michela esculenta

Along the A.T. on Tinker Mountain:

Convallaria majalis
Iris verna
Rhododendron nudiflorum
Viola pedata
Houstonia caerulea
Cypripedium acaule
Phlox pilosa
Dentaria laciniata

On the descent from Tinker Mountain:

Sisyrinchium atlanticum
Potentilla canadensis
Ranunculus acris
Podophyllum peltatum
Spring Hike Reports continue

Spring Hike Reports (continued)

Flat Top Mountain - Trillium hike

May 2, 1999

Gloria Parry (leader), Carolyn Baratta (assistant), Charles Parry, Suzanne Barnett, Connie Grant, Bill Mistele, Zetta Campbell, Jean Huffman, Blake Mitnick

Beautiful, warm spring day and lots of wildflowers. The group divided into three segments: very fast, medium pace, and wildflower enthusiasts. Carolyn and Zetta were very helpful in identifying plant species. We saw large-flowered trillium, bluebells, chickweed, multi-violets, Cranesbill geraniums, May apples, Dutchman's breeches, lily-of-the-valley, lousewort, cancer root, toothwort, liverwort, sweet cicely, poison ivy, yellow bellwort, and others. Wildlife was on vacation. It was a good day to exchange laughs and renew friendships.

Answers to Malcolm's challenge: (See hike report of May 2)

Along Catawba Creek and on the Andy Layne Trail:

Virginia bluebells Rue anemone Paw paws Twinleaf Columbine Star chickweed Viola blanda White violet
Viola papilionacea Common blue violet
Viola pensylvanica Yellow violet
Viola canadensis Canadian violet
Geranium maculatum Wild geranium
Michela esculenta Morel mushroom

Along the A.T. on Tinker Mountain:

Convallaria majalis Lily-of-the-valley Iris verna Dwarf vernal iris Rhododendron nudiflorum Viola pedata Bird's foot violet

Houstonia caerulea Bluets

Cypripedium acaule Pink ladyslipper
Phlox pilosa Downy phlox
Dentaria laciniata Cut-leaved

toothwort

On the descent from Tinker Mountain:

Sisyrinchium atlanticum
Potentilla canadensis
Ranunculus acris
Podophyllum peltatum

Blue-eyed grass
Cinquefoil
Buttercup
May apple

Your hike report editor apologizes to all the diligent hike leaders who submitted their reports after May 15, when she left on vacation. Those reports will appear in the next issue of the <u>Trail Blazer</u>.

The Hike Report Editor is:

Kris Peckman

The RATC Mid-Week Crew

The Mid-week crew works independently on hikes and trail maintenance (A.T. and other) on, as the name applies, weekdays.

To learn more about the mid-week crew, contact.

Bill Gordge

A.T. Section Hiking continued

notably Pink Lady Slippers and Turkey Beards, and had outstanding views of Daleville and Carvin's Cove through this section. We completed our hike around 4 p.m. and headed to buy some Snow Cones to celebrate the completion of our hike.

This was Tina's second and Baron's first backpacking trip. They did great. I'm sure a lot was learned on this trip. Experience is a great

teacher. Also, I'm sure you will see them on another backpacking trip soon.

If you are interested in joining our group or just want some additional information or a schedule of the trips planned, contact:

Lucien (Larry) Metayer

Hike Schedule - SUMMER 1999 - (continued)

3 Miles - Moderate \$2.50 carpool fee Mervin Brower 387-9732 Jimmy Whitney 344-4117

SUNDAY, AUGUST 22

8:00 AM A.T., RT 311 TO RT 779

12 Miles - Strenuous \$1.50 carpool fee Homer and Teresa Witcher 992-3932 Gary Hale 268-5283

1:00 PM STILES FALLS

4 Miles - Easy \$2.00 carpool fee Jean Huffman 268-5051 Kay Clatterbuck 989-8275

SUNDAY, AUGUST 29

8:00 AM A.T., PETERS MTN - PINE SWAMP TO SYMMS GAP

10 Miles - Moderate/strenuous \$3.00 carpool fee Mike Ferguson 344-8525 Jill Gawne 384-7023

1:00 PM CARVIN COVE BOAT LAUNCH TO CATAWBA CREEK TUNNEL

5 Miles - Easy \$2.00 carpool fee Zetta Campbell 366-8465 Don Nulph 774-8618

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

8:30 AM ANDY LAYNE TRAIL WORKHIKE

\$1.50 carpool fee Charles Parry (540) 951-1402 Bob and Kris Peckman 366-7780

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

1:00 PM A.T., BLACKHORSE GAP TO SALT POND ROAD

5 Miles - Moderate \$2.50 carpool fee Linda Akers 776-1969 Sue Scanlin 989-0497

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

8:00 AM TORRY RIDGE - SHERANDO LAKE - WHITE ROCK FALLS LOOP

10 Miles - Moderate \$3.50 carpool fee Dick Clark 989-7053 Jill Gawne 384-7023

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

1:00 PM SAWTOOTH RIDGE

5 Miles - Moderate \$1.00 carpool fee Zetta Campbell 366-8165 Mervin Brower 387-9732

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

6:30 AM OLD RAG

9 Miles - Strenuous with rock scrambling \$6.00 carpool fee plus hiker fee Ed wallace 774-0175 Gloria Parry (540) 951-1402

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

8:00 AM SHELTER WORKHIKE

Place and carpool fee TBA Maurice Turner 334-2128 Lin and Peggy Bryant 343-2084

1:00 PM APPLE ORCHARD FALLS

3 Miles - Easy/moderate \$3.00 carpool fee Linda Akers 776-1969 Liz Lamson 774-8981

CALENDAR OF CLUB ACTIVITIES

ATC BIENNIAL CONFERENCE - RADFORD '99

July 9-16
Radford University Campus

CORN BOIL

August 7
Whispering Pines

SUMMER WORK HIKES

Sat-Sun, July 10-11
Konnarock Crew – Brush Mtn.
Sat-Sun, July 24-25
Konnarock Crew – War Spur
Sat-Sun, August 7-8
Konnarock Crew – Dragon's Tooth
Sunday, September 12
Andy Layne Trail
Sunday, September 25
Shelter Workhike

SUMMER BOARD MEETINGS

(Open to all Club members who "register" with the host in advance.)

Thursday, July 1, 7:30 p.m.

Hosted by Charles Parry

Thursday, August 5, 7:30 p.m.

Hosted by Sharon Bottomley

Thursday, September 16, 7:30 p.m.

Hosted by Don Nulph

SOUTHERN CLUBS MULTI-CLUB MEET

September 3-6 Unicoi State Park, Helen, GA

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The Roanoke Appalachian Trail Club is an affiliate of

The Appalachian Trail Conference and a member of The Nature Conservancy And The American Hiking Society