

Tidewater Appalachian Trail Club Appalachian Hiker

www.tidewateratc.com



June 2008 - July 2008

PREZ SEZ

We had a great weekend with maintenance on the trail. I want to thank all of you who participated. However, as Scott and Bruce our intrepid trail supervisory team know all too well, we are committed to completing the Tye River relocation this year. Yes, we have Konnarock for two weeks and SCA another service group for two weeks but we will need every member of the club to assist with this project. Volunteer opportunities are varied and abundant. Volunteer for a day or more to work along with one of these crews clearing, digging, placing etc... If the physical work is not suitable we need people to provide the weekly evening meal we do as a thanks. You could be a trail angel and provide something nice to the crew. You could help transport and in other ways support our own club members who are working up there. Think of all the things and all the ways we need to do trail maintenance and support trail maintenance and it applies here only many times over. **Remember, this can only happen if you participate to make it happen!**

Mark Wenger (Animal)
TATC President
president@tidewateratc.com

Membership Report

March and April are the regular months to renew your Membership in the TATC. I have sent reminders to all those who didn't renew and have updated the list of members. Next newsletter I will give you some statistics regarding membership in the various cities, families, singles, Life members, etc.

We have had lots of new and returning members join us since April 1. They are: Mary Bennett, Debra Hall, Bob & Cyndee Fedak, Ken Schmidt/Sara Lewis, Chantal Dejoui/Joni Klemencic, David & Abigail Bowles, Don Youngs, Linda Clapp, Stephen Cyrus, Margaret Gibson, Ryan Jackson, Larry & Darva Gruber, Ed Freyfogle, Tom Chamberlain and Family, Jim Smith, Robert Van Dyke, George & Sherri Riddle, and John Haugh.

Mary Hormell
Membership Committee Chair
membership@tidewateratc.com

HELP!

As you know we have moved to a new location and are working to spread the word about what we do and who we are. However, we need a volunteer who would be willing to do this. The position is Publicity/Outreach chair. This would be a great way to meet people and serve your club with highly flexible hours. Please give me a call (757-253-0056) or Email me at president@tidewateratc.com if interested.

Mark Wenger (Animal)
TATC President

Table of Contents

PREZ SEZ	1
Membership Report	1
HELP	1
Club Officers and Chairs	2
Minute for Maintenance	3
Silent Auction	3
Photo Show and Tell	3
Scary Monsters (Of the North)	4-5
Nalgene Bottles	5
TATC Cabin News	6
Shenandoah National Park	6
Konnarock is Coming!!!	7
ATC Volunteers Needed!	7
Local Trails	8
Sign up for a Virginia A.T. License Plate	8
Blue Ridge Mountain Sports Ad	9
Activities Schedule	10-11
Chocolate Hike Photo by Kevin Du Bois	12

(banner photo by Mark Ferguson)

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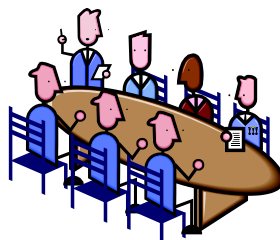
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Minute for Maintenance

By Scott Hilton

TATC Trails Supervisor

The Spring maintenance weekend is past. If you weren't there, you missed a lot. We had work for all, and the trail is in fine shape for the season. Thanks to all that came out, and gave of your time and energy. We accomplished the following work; trail repair, removal of blowdowns, replacement and cleaning out of water bars, brush trimming, freshening trail blazes, and the cleaning of shelters, privies and campsites. A total of 50 people including 4 kids participated.

Hourly trail awards will be given at the June general meeting.

Mike Mureddu once again served up a feast Saturday night for the returning workers, Irish style. Great job, Mike, and thanks to all that helped Mike get things set up and cleaned up afterwards.

The next trips on the schedule are: a backpacking work trip into St Mary's Wilderness June 12-15, and the Konnarock trail relocation weekend July 3-7, with follow-up weekends to continue this work throughout July. Hope to see you there. For more info see me at the general meetings, or call, or e-mail.

Once again, thanks for all your hard work, it makes my job a lot easier. trailssupervisor@tidewateratc.com

Silent Auction & Refreshments

By Debbie Bellucci & Nancy Babor

Back by popular demand! TATC's annual silent auction will be held on Wednesday, July 9th. We are asking members to donate their **Time, Talent or Treasures** that can be auctioned off to the highest bidder. When you are shopping, on vacation, or practicing your creative talents, please keep the TATC auction in mind. Pick up something and bring it to the auction on July 9th at the Mary Pretlow Library. We always have quite a selection of items from food baskets, wine, books, trail and backpacking items to ?????????? We will auction off new and gently used items.

Come early, since plenty of browsing is required and the club will provide some finger foods to go along with it. We'll have five-foot subs, veggies, desserts, drinks and maybe a few other things. Any donations of finger foods or dessert items would be greatly appreciated.

Questions about auction items? Please contact Debbie Bellucci at 757-222-5460, or camp-girl830@yahoo.com.

Questions about the food, or to donate a finger food item? Please contact Nancy Babor at 757-588-7501 or nbabor@cox.net.

Photo Show and Tell

By Jane Martin

We want to see your pictures! Trail Club folks love to take and view photographs.

Each year club members bring their favorite trail and club related pictures to the September General Meeting. It is a lot of fun to share these and it gives us an opportunity to swap stories and maybe even exaggerate our adventures a bit.

Pictures depicting various club endeavors and in horizontal format will also be candidates for inclusion in the TATC 2009 calendar, with your permission.

So as you take photos of your adventures this spring and summer, remember to save them (as well as those you took in the fall and winter) in a format which you can bring to the club in September to show and tell.



Scary Monsters (Of the North)

By Bob Adkisson

I've been writing a series of articles about scary animal encounters on the A.T., personal encounters from back when I hiked the trail in the mid 1970's. As I said earlier, the scariest, most dangerous animal you will encounter on the trail is people, but, as you may have read in my last 2 articles (about scary encounters with people on the southern half of the trail) even then it is usually a matter of misperception, a misreading of the situation—a 'vandal' trying to break into a car near my trailhead campsite turned out to be a young lost hiker seeking shelter inside a vehicle that belonged to his hiking group; a threatening vehicle that climbed up a rough road to my mountaintop campsite after dark turned out *not* to be filled with drunken rednecks, but was a local family arriving late for a view of the sunset.

You may have noticed that most all of my stories about 4 legged animals met along the trail end the same way as the ones above, the lesson being, *Surprise!* The world is really not as dangerous as we fear and often make it out to be.

These next two 'stories' from my 4 year section hike of the A.T. should maybe more properly be called 'non-stories' because, be forewarned, there are no scary monsters, nothing much 'happens'. Still, I thought they were instructive and enlightening 'encounters'; they say something about the A.T. 'experience', at least as I experienced it.

In late June of 1977 I set out on a solo hike of the A.T., from Interstate 70 in Maryland north, to either the Delaware or the Hudson River crossing (either a 250 mile hike, or one of about 350 miles). A funny thing happened though..... I wound up walking all the way from Maryland to Mt. Katahdin instead-- 1,100 miles (in 3 months).

Turns out I just happened to land right into the middle of the thru hiker stream heading north on the trail. I quickly found companionship and encouragement from a few dozen fellow hikers and, within a week, I decided to complete the northern half of the trail that year. (My original plan for 1977 was to hike about 300 miles of the A.T., then spend the bulk of the hiking season out west, hiking sections of the Pacific Crest Trail. A big reason I decided to stay in the east and stick with the A.T.: there was a severe drought in the west, with hundreds of forest fires.)

Up to this point I had about 700 miles of the A.T. under my belt, 99% of it done solo. I knew little of the history of the trail as, back then, there were few first hand accounts of hiking it; I wasn't a member of the A.T.C. and over the years had only glanced at a couple of their Newsletters. Sharing the trail experience with various thru hikers rounded out my knowledge, and appreciation, of the A.T. In some ways, hiking with others made the trip more enjoyable, made it feel safer. (From several hikers that year I heard that there had been a murder on the trail a few years before, at a certain shelter in Tenn. After I reached Mt. Katahdin in September I took a month off from hiking. I then returned to the trail, to the southern half, to finish up my one remaining, 250 mile section; turns out I spent a foggy, spooky night alone in the very shelter where I heard the murder occurred.)

Early one morning in mid-July, near the N.J. / N.Y. state line, as I walked with 3 new thru hiker friends, we met a rare thing—a long distance south-bounder. Atop the sunny ridge crest there above Greenwood Lake we paused and talked for about 20 minutes. Actually, he did most of the talking, for he had a tale that he needed to tell.

In junior high school I barely remember studying *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*. As I vaguely recall it had something to do with a sailor, the sole survivor of a shipwreck for which he felt responsible. He was condemned to live out his life stopping people on the street, telling his story, confessing his guilt. The hiker immediately brought this to mind as he quickly slipped from small talk about the trail to his story.

I forget the exact details, but he was from somewhere in the deep south, like Alabama, and this was definitely his 1st time anywhere north of the Mason-Dixon Line. He hadn't traveled much, and this may have been his 1st trip any distance away from home. It was his 1st long hike on the A.T. as well. For some reason he started in Vermont and was heading south to somewhere like Tenn. or the Smoky Mtns.—hiking a big chunk in the middle of the trail. Like the 3 of us, he was in his early 20's.

He almost immediately confided to us that, for personal safety reasons, not knowing what to expect, he'd started his hike carrying a handgun. Not knowing what to expect, I guess you'd say he'd prepared for the worst. Did he think he'd meet up with N.Y. City street gangs prowling the trail, or Northern rednecks with a chip on their shoulders for their side having won the War Between the States?

By the end of his 1st day on the trail he realized how badly he'd miscalculated, and he was both embarrassed and ashamed. The 2nd day out he had the horrible feeling that his fellow hikers could look right thru him and tell he was carrying a gun; the gun screamed out that he suspected, distrusted, and feared them. Whenever it was he carried it (in his pack?), it was burning a hole in his conscience; it was all he could think about.

(Continued on next page ...)

He said he absolutely couldn't get to his first trail town fast enough; he went straight to the Post Office and mailed the offensive thing home.

And, since then, he'd often felt the need to unburden himself to those who's trust he felt he'd betrayed or insulted--his fellow hikers--trying to make amends by telling them how badly he'd misjudged the kind of people he'd meet along the trail.

Both surprising and touching, it was an educative morality tale, one I was glad he shared it with us.

Guns on the trail, guns in our society at large, are of course a personal, and controversial, matter. Last year, when I did a bit of research on-line to learn more about the number of violent incidents on the A.T., I briefly got sidetracked into what I guess was a chat room site about the subject. One man from N.C., who identified himself as a law enforcement officer (of some sort), said he wouldn't think about going out on the trail without a weapon.

Though others may share that view, there was the whiff of a fanatic about him, and I can only say I never even considered carrying a weapon on the trail (or while hitch-hiking across country, for that matter). Life requires a certain amount of common sense, as well as everyday bravery.

As we proceeded north, into N.Y. and then Conn., we began to hear, from other hikers, from trail shelter registers, about 2 north bound hikers a few weeks ahead of us. The story was they were rough characters, ones who, at a shelter, would go out and trap a porcupine or other small animal, skin it right there in front of other hikers, and feed it to their 2 dogs.

Not something your average hiker wanted to be around, for sure.

Word then came down that they got off the A.T. at Shelburne, Vermont to continue north on the Long Trail. They planned, however, to return to the A.T. after that detour. This meant there was a good chance we'd close the 2 to 3 week lead they had on us and that we might overtake them somewhere in New Hampshire.

We were worried. None of us wanted to get weather bound in a shelter with such as them.

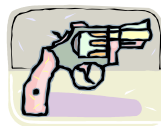
But a funny thing happened-- as we actually got up into Vermont, all trace and tale of them mysteriously vanished; no one had heard about them or any such thing; there was nothing in the registers. The silence continued into New Hampshire.

We finally had to conclude that it was all most probably a lie, a rumor getting passed down the trail like some crazy urban legend.

For nearly a month we'd been hearing the unsettling stories but, apparently, there'd been nothing to worry about, all along.

• • •

Scary Monsters (of the north) will continue in the next Newsletter. It will tell the tale of my one and only, truly threatening encounter with a human along the trail, one in which, somewhat contradicting what I said above, I did pick up a primitive sort of weapon for protection and reassurance. Following that, I will conclude this series of articles by revealing what to me was, hands down, the scariest animal encountered on the A. T.



Nalgene Bottles being Removed from Market

Nalgene has announced that it will stop production of its plastic bottles that contain Bisphenol A (BPA). Bisphenol A is a chemical used in the manufacture of many polycarbonate plastic products. This compound has been linked to several diseases and disorders, including cancer, diabetes, behavioral problems in children, and obesity. The company that manufactures Nalgene, Nalge Nunc International, is set to release a new line of bottles made from alternative plastics. Many commercial plastic products contain Bisphenol A, including; baby bottles, soda bottles, canned food liners, and dental sealants. BPA has been found to leach from bottles into food, water, and beverages and it is found in the mouths of people who've recently had their teeth sealed. A study by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in 2004 indicates that Ninety-five percent of Americans have this chemical in their urine. So look for water bottles and plastic products that indicate that they are "Bisphenol A or BPA Free", and you might want to think of retiring those old Nalgene water bottles.



TATC Cabin News

By Steve Babor

Another year is off to a great start at the Douglas Putman Memorial Cabin. In March we raked and cleaned the area around the cabin and dug the footers for the John Donovan Memorial Shelter. We even had a little sleet that Sunday morning. We also cut black locust for winter firewood and wore out the bars on two chainsaws while doing so. Through the summer, please us the downed limbs and sticks from around the cabin and beyond. We want to use up some of the fuel on the forest floor before touching the cut wood piles.

I also have to ask everyone to do a better job of conserving the firewood. We didn't do very well last year and almost ran out of wood to split. Using the fireplace and woodstove at the same time is just plain wasteful. Remember, if you use it, you must replace it. The fireplace firebrick was repaired last September. Please be careful not to have unusually large roaring fires in the fireplace. It will only damage the bricks sooner and just burns the wood up faster. We've also been finding fireplace ashes too close to the cabin. Please do not dump the fireplace or woodstove ashes. This will be done by the work crews to ensure it is done properly. If you absolutely must dump them, make sure they are completely out and cold. Scatter them widely at least 100 yards away from the cabin and its gardens.

Occasionally we find items that should not be left behind. Example: If something says "refrigerate after opening" and you opened it, then take it home. The work crews end up throwing it away anyway. If you think a mouse could eat it (like oatmeal), they may. Unless it's an unopened canned good, you should plan on taking it home. If you think the cabin needs something it doesn't already have, please check with the cabin committee first. About once a year we go through the whole place and pack out the needless "stuff". Then we don't know what to do with it, perhaps it may wind up at the Silent Auction?

In closing, we are trying to construct the John Donovan Memorial Picnic Shelter by the last work trip in October. So please look at the dates for the cabin work trips this year and set at least one of those weekends aside. Come join us as we continue to have a great time constructing a great shelter that will cover a great outdoor picnic table (to be built and installed after the shelter is complete). When it comes to hauling (24) 60 pound bags of concrete by cart ½ mile from the parkway to the cabin, a special thank you goes out to Boy Scout leaders Wayne and Mary Lou Mortimer and Ron Misfeldt. But a huge "Bravo Zulu" goes out to some of the best young men I've ever worked with like RJ Hart, John Cayo, Alex Mayer, Cody Liner, Paul Mattingly, and Robert (Robbie) Lyons. You guys give mules a bad name. Give yourselves a big pat on the back for a job well done. We're looking forward to having your help again in the very near future.

Shenandoah National Park, Virginia

Shenandoah National Park in north/central Virginia offers an opportunity for continuous hiking, with lodging at ten-mile intervals along the Appalachian Trail (which roughly parallels and frequently crosses the scenic Skyline Drive). Although there is some up and down, the Trail is well-graded, and climbs and descents are seldom steep. Rewarding views from 3,000-4,000 foot mountains and an abundance of flowers and wildlife make this a popular destination.

If you would like to stay in a lodge, motel room, or cabin, you could stay at the following locations:

- Skyland, which has motel-type rooms, furnished cabins, and a restaurant.
- Big Meadows, which offers a lodge, motel rooms, furnished cabins, and a restaurant.
- Lewis Mountain, which offers furnished cabins and a camp store.

Facilities are open from late April until the end of October. For more information on the facilities and to make reservations go to the following website: www.visitshenandoah.com



Visit our website at www.tidewateratc.com

Konnarock is Coming!!!

by Phyllis Neumann

In just over one month, the Konnarock Trail Crew will be visiting out section of the AT to continue work on the Tye River Relocation Project. This project was begun in 2004/2005 to move a section of our trail away from a privately owned section of land and to make the trail more "hiker friendly". The work continues (and hopefully will be completed) this summer with two weeks of Konnarock (July 3-7, Aug 7-11) and two weeks with the Student Conservation Association (July 3-7, July 10-14).

You've probably heard a lot about the Konnarock Crew but aren't exactly sure what it is. The Appalachian Trail Conservancy (ATC) recruits six volunteer trail crews each year to work on AT projects throughout the spring, summer and fall. Each crew has a name related to the section of trail to which they are assigned. Konnarock is ATC's flagship crew program, named after its original base camp in southwest Virginia. Originating in 1983, it covers the Appalachian Trail from Rockfish Gap, VA to Springer Mountain, GA. The program is a joint venture among ATC, the southern Trail clubs, the U.S. Forest Service and the National Park Service. The paid crew leaders are experienced trail builders but the rest of the crew is entirely volunteer-some with experience and many without!

The Crew's work week is Thursday to Monday with a Tue/Wed "weekend" to recoup and get ready for the next week. The first day, the Crew travels from their base camp in Sugar Grove, VA to the designated work site. They set up camp, carry in tools and typically make a start on the project. Work continues throughout the week as an 8 to 5 workday with one hour for lunch and rest/water/snack breaks as needed.

As a volunteer you have two options to participate. You could apply to be an actual member of the Konnarock Crew. An application is made to ATC and if selected then you would join the Crew in Sugar Grove and live and work with them for the next five days. The other option would be to participate as a member of TATC, joining the Crew for as many days as you like. (Forty volunteer hours will earn you the official 2008 Konnarock t-shirt!) You would camp at Sherando and be responsible for your own food. Besides that, wear clothes that you won't mind getting dirty! Really dirty!! Bring car camping gear for Sherando and a daypack for working with the Crew. Include water, lunch, snacks, bug spray, sunscreen, raingear, sturdy work or hiking boots and work gloves. The Konnarock Crew leader will help you get started by either working directly with you or placing you with a buddy to help you get started. Before long, you'll be training somebody else! You'll never be asked to do anything you don't want to do and there's lots to choose from: trimming bush, raking, digging side hill, building rock steps, hauling dirt, etc. And remember, NO EXPERIENCE IS NECESSARY. However, a good sense of humor is mandatory!!

TATC will provide a group dinner at Sherando on Saturday night for club and Konnarock volunteers. This is always a fun event and something everyone looks forward to during the week.

Are there pitfalls to volunteering with the Crew? Maybe a few. You're building trail so you have to be mindful of forest critters (bees, snakes, bugs), poison ivy and other trail maintainers swinging tools! Expect some sore muscles and did I mention the part about getting dirty?!

The benefits include your very own personal contribution to the AT which will last for generations, pride in your AT maintaining club, new friends and new skills. I personally believe the joys far outweigh any drawbacks as evidenced by the volunteers who return year after year.

If you think that you are up to the challenge of a day (or more) with Konnarock, then contact Scott Hilton for all the particulars. A good time is GUARANTEED!!!!

Volunteers Needed!

**ATC Biennial Conference 2009
July 17-24, 2009 in Castleton, Vermont**

The Green Mountain Club (GMC) will host the 2009 Appalachian Trail Conservancy Biennial Conference at Castleton State College in Vermont. We need hundreds of volunteers to plan and run the conference, which will accommodate 800-1000 outdoor enthusiasts.

July 17-24, 2009 will be a week of celebrating and learning about the 2,170-mile Appalachian Trail. Hikers will come to Vermont from all over the U.S. Many will be AT thru-hikers or section hikers still working to complete the trail. Volunteers are needed to lead hikes and excursions; register and greet guests; sell T-shirts; staff workshop information centers; manage logistics including signs, parking and camping; and much, much more. Please contact Jean Anderson at jeanoutdoors@aol.com to let her know when you would like to help out. And thank you.

For more information, updates and registration information, visit www.Vermont2009.org.

Shawn Flanigan
Volunteer and Membership Coordinator
Green Mountain Club
4711 Waterbury-Stowe Road
Waterbury Center, VT 05677

Local Trails

by Chris Sexton

In addition to our primary mission of maintaining a section of the Appalachian Trail, TATC also assists in the maintenance of several trails in the local Tidewater area. TATC volunteers participate in the following areas:

- Quarterly maintenance is performed on the 3 mile long Osmanthus Trail at First Landing State Park in Virginia Beach
- TATC helps maintain trails at Sandy Bottom Nature Park in Hampton twice a year
- Volunteers may participate in work days at Hoffer Creek Wildlife Preserve
- Semi-annual beach clean-up at Eastern Shore of Virginia and Fisherman Island National Wildlife Refuge
- Back Bay National Wildlife Refuge and False Cape State Park trail and construction projects
- Merchants Millpond State Park in North Carolina trail maintenance
- Trail Maintenance at New Quarter Park in York County

Periodically, TATC will all assess and construct new local trails. In 2005 and 2007 the trail club constructed trails at New Quarter Park. TATC received several Appreciation Awards from York County. Local trail maintenance may include weed cutting, brush and tree trimming, removal of blown down trees, painting of trail blazes, nailing walkways, removing trash, and trail building. Other special projects may be performed such as building water bars to prevent erosion, repairing foot bridges, and building benches and other structures. Club tools or park tools may be used on these trips. Skills learned locally are also used to maintain our section of the Appalachian Trail.

At all of TATC's maintenance events we want to remember that "SAFETY COMES FIRST." A trail safety refresher talk precedes each local trail work day. Local trails participants should wear a whistle, use the buddy system, and let group leaders know when they plan to leave the group. Sun screen, insecticide, hats, protective clothing, and protective shoes are used for health and safety on local trails trips. The trail club roster and waiver of claims form is signed by all participants in local trails activities.

The local trails participants average about 1000 hours/year on local trails maintenance and projects. Rocker bars, certificates, and local trails hats are awarded for reaching designated hours of work on local trails as incentive and appreciation for our members. A spread sheet is maintained annually to document trip and work hours for each park. At the May Meeting, 12 hour rocker bars patches were awarded to Laura Bon-tems, Mark Connolly, Greg Hodges, John Pessagno, and Milton Beale. 30 hour award certificates were awarded to Milton Beale, Dan Cheche, and Pat Parker. The new local trails caps for earning at least 75 hours of local trails work were awarded to Sandy Baylor, Mary Jo Kennedy, Reese Lukei, Ellis Malabad, Gordon Rothrock, Chris Sexton, Jim Sexton, Richard Tarr, Wes Warr, Susan Arey, John Gillikin, Margaret Julian, Phyllis Neumann, Bill Rogers, Dewey Phelps, and Bruce Julian.

Local trails work is an excellent way to begin getting to know people in the club without having to travel a great distance, or spending a lot of money for equipment. Bring water, snacks, and a friendly smile, and join us on some of the local trips.

Sign up for a Virginia A.T. License Plate

A.T. enthusiasts and ATC are working with the Virginia Legislature to establish a revenue sharing license plate that will provide funds to ATC for long-term capacity to help A.T. volunteers manage, maintain, and conserve the Trail. It is also a great way to showcase support for the A.T. Please visit http://www.appalachiantrail.org/site/c.jkLXJ8MQKtH/b.3903983/k.6890/Virginia_AT_License_Plate.htm for information on how to get an A.T. License Plate for Virginia.





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- ★ Let us outfit you for your international trip
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KEEN

Activities Schedule

PLEASE NOTE: Most hikes are limited in the number of participants. The hike leader will take reservations on a first-come, first-served basis. You can include your name on the sign up sheets available at each meeting or call the hike leader. If you sign up for an activity and then decide not to participate, please contact the leader in advance.

June 3, 2008 Tuesday	Mark Wenger 253-0056	TATC Board of Director's Meeting - 7:00 p.m. at the new Pretlow Library 111 West Ocean View Ave. in Ocean View. See back cover of this newsletter for map and directions. Open to all members.
June 6-8, 2008 Fri-Sun	Mark Wenger 253-0056	AT- Apple Orchard Falls Loop Hike (MODERATE) - We will leave from Williamsburg around 5:00PM Friday and pick up anyone in Richmond on the way. We will eat a quick dinner on the road and drive to the Appalachian Trail head parking at VA 614 from Arcadia and hike 4 miles in to Bryant Ridge Shelter and camp. On Saturday we will hike north 15 miles on the AT and Apple Orchard Falls loop trail back to Cornelius Creek Shelter and camp. On Sunday we will hike 8 miles south on the AT back to the cars and head for home. The falls may not be big but the trip will be beautiful. Call or e-mail Mark for further information. markwenger@cox.net
June 7-8, 2008 Sat-Sun	Kerry Wood 540-953-3571	CrossCut Certification Course - Location: Sugar Grove, VA. Contact Kerry for details; kwood@appalachiantrail.org
June 11, 2008 Wednesday	Mark Wenger 253-0056	TATC General Membership Meeting - 7:00 p.m. at tnew Pretlow Library, 111 West Ocean View Ave, Norfolk . Visit http://www.npl.lib.va.us/branches/pretlow/pretlow.html for more info. Program: Bob Adkisson talks about bagging peaks out west.
June 12-15, 2008 Thurs-Sun	Scott Hilton 625-6062	St. Marys Maintenance - Plan to hike into St. Marys and camp in the glade north of the Mine Bank intersection. We'll be clearing blow downs and trimming trail. Contact Scott for details.
June 20-22, 2008 Fri-Sun	Steve Babor 588-7501	Cabin Maintenance - We'll be continuing construction of the John Donovan Picnic Shelter. Hopefully we'll be putting the sheathing on the roof, still have to get the material in there first. We'll have a community meal at the cabin Saturday night. We'll also have a small crew doing dome swing blading of our trails in there. This trip is limited to 15 participants.
June 20, 2008 Friday	Kevin Brandt 927-2216	ATC Wildlife Study - Contact Kevin to participate in this summer long project to place cameras along the AT
June 21, 2008 Saturday	Jim & Chris Sexton 484-2827	First Landing State Park Maintenance - Celebrate summer's entrance with a trip to this VA Beach wonder. Light maintenance along scenic trails. Eat lunch out afterwards. Wear comfy shoes, bring snacks, water and work gloves. Tools will be provided. Call Jim or Chris for details. Meet promptly at 9am at the Trail Center.
July 1, 2008 Tuesday	Mark Wenger 253-0056	TATC Board of Director's Meeting - 7:00 p.m. at the new Pretlow Library 111 West Ocean View Ave. in Ocean View. See back cover of this newsletter for map and directions. Open to all members.
July 3-7 July10-14 August 7-11, 2008 Thurs-Monday	Scott Hilton 625-6062	Tye River Relocation Project - We will have 3 weeks to work on this rehabilitation project to our section of the AT. Konnarock will be assisting us as will members of the Student Conservation Association. You may participate for a day, week or 3 weeks. Forty hours will earn you an official 2008 Konnarock T-Shirt. Visit www.appalachiantrail.org and type Konnarock Trail Crew into the search box. contact Scott for more info.
July 9, 2008 Wednesday	Mark Wenger 253-0056	TATC General Membership Meeting 7:00 p.m. at the new Pretlow Library, 111 West Ocean View Ave, Norfolk . Visit http://www.npl.lib.va.us/branches/pretlow/pretlow.html for more info. Program: Silent Auction . We are asking members to donate their Time, Talent or Treasures to be auctioned off to the highest bidder. When you are shopping, on vacation, or practicing your creative talents, please keep the TATC auction in mind. Contact Debbie Bellucci 222-5460 campgirl830@yahoo.com
July 18-20, 2008 Fri-Sun	Scott Hilton 625-6062	Mid-Season Maintenance - Grab a swing-blade, some bug spray and head out for a glorious summer day on the trail!! Contact Scott for details.
July 20, 2008 Friday	Kevin Brandt 927-2216	ATC Wildlife Study - Contact Kevin to participate in this summer long project to place cameras along the AT

(Continued on Page 11 ...)

July 27, 2008 Sunday	Rosanne Scott 583-5960	First Landing State Park Bike and Swim - Meet at First Landing State Park at 10 a.m. Bike through park to the ocean front, take a swim, play on the beach awhile. Make a detour to Dairy Queen, then bike back to the Park. Bring swimsuits, towel, sunscreen, water, snack (\$ for ice cream). Helmets required!
August 2, 2008 Saturday	Rosanne Scott 583-5960	Hot August Nights #1 - Saturday Night Dancing - Time: 6:30 or 7 p.m. - ? Celebrate summer with the first of the Hot August Nights series! Come out for an evening of dancing - lesson included! We will meet at a dance studio that offers a lesson followed by a dance party. Fee - usually around \$10. Wear smooth-soled shoes. Location TBD. More info to come.
Date – TBD, 2nd Week in August	Rosanne Scott 583-5960	Hot August Nights #2 - NEED AN ACTIVITY LEADER.PLEASE CALL IF INTERESTED IN ORGANIZING AN ACTIVITY DURING The 2ND Week in August - Plan an activity for whatever you wish, on whatever night you want.
August 16, 2008 Saturday	Bill Rogers 484-6001	BACKPACKING SEMINAR - Last one for the year. The footwear, the head wear, the wear and tear on the body. Bear bags. Many of the good and bad things you need to know about this fascinating activity. Much information also applicable to day hiking & canoe/kayak camping. Come - get ready for autumn hiking. 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Call Bill for location, details, etc.
August 16, 2008 Saturday	Kevin Brandt 927-2216	ATC Wildlife Study - Contact Kevin to participate in this summer long project to place cameras along the AT
August 16, 2008 Saturday	Rosanne Scott 583-5960	Hot August Nights #3 - Sunset/Full Moonrise Beach Walk Time: 7:30 p.m. Ocean View Beach Park. The sunset and full moonrise are within minutes of each other this evening. We'll meet at the pavilion and head out for a walk on the beach. Bring a blanket and snacks and beverages for a post-walk, social hour, if you like.
August 21, 2008 Thursday	Rosanne Scott 583-5960	Hot August Nights #4 - Evening dance lesson and dance party - Time: 7 p.m. - ? Attucks Theater in Norfolk. Get ready for HAN #5 by coming out for swing dance lessons! Begin with lessons (\$) and then practice your new moves at the dance party. Great way to break up the work week!
August 24, 2008 Sunday	Rosanne Scott 583-5960	Hot August Nights #5 - Evening beach picnic and dancing - Time: 6pm - 9 p.m. Ocean View Beach Park. If you've taken dance lessons, it's time to put them to work! If not, come out anyway and have some fun with old and new friends. We'll meet on the beach in front of the pavilion for a picnic supper (bring your own - blanket, chairs, food, etc.) There will be a band at the pavilion (free and open to the public) beginning at 7 p.m. for our listening and dancing pleasure.
Sept 13, 2008 Saturday	Kevin Brandt 927-2216	ATC Wildlife Study - Contact Kevin to participate in this summer long project to place cameras along the AT
October 3-6, 2008 Fri-Mon	Rosanne Scott 583-5960 or Steve Babor 588-7501	Lions Head Loop, Dolly Sods, WVA - Backpack through beautiful Dolly Sods Wilderness in West Virginia. Car camp first night at Red Creek Campground (fee). Spend 2 full days and nights in the wilderness, hiking through hardwood forest, open expanse and crossing streams. Car pooling a must. Trip limited to 10 total.
The TATC/Douglas Lee Putman Memorial Cabin is available for rent. You must be a member and first attend an orientation / work weekend in order to rent. The cabin can be reserved 8 weeks (56 days) in advance. Please call Bob Adkisson at 627-5514 if you have any questions, or to check on availability / make reservations.		
Hikes and Activities. Please call Hikemaster Phyllis Neumann at 566-4584 or e-mail at VicePres@TidewaterATC.com with all hike and activities information. If you e-mail then be sure to identify yourself by full name and that this is a TATC event. Sign up sheets must be returned to the Hikemaster after the event, and will be saved for a period of several years. You may bring sign up sheets to the board or general meeting following the event, or mail them to the Hikemaster.		

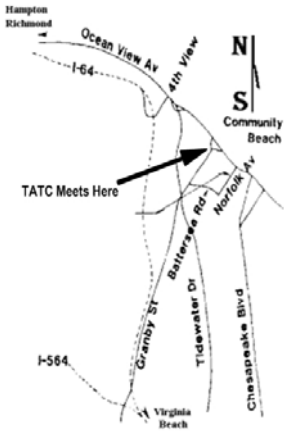


See page 12 for directions



Tidewater Appalachian
Trail Club
P. O. Box 8246
Norfolk, VA 23503

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TATC Meetings are held at the Pretlow Library, 111 West Ocean View Ave, Norfolk, VA

From Peninsula: Take 64 East to 4th View Exit 273. At bottom of ramp, turn left at stop sign, turn right onto Ocean View Ave and follow over Tidewater Drive to Granby St. Take right onto Granby St., take next right onto A View Ave, and then immediately turn right onto Portview Ave., bear right around the Library into the Library parking lot, meeting is held in Meeting Room #2

From Norfolk and Virginia Beach: Take 64 West toward Hampton/Richmond. Take the Chesapeake Blvd. exit. Go to end of Chesapeake Blvd., then turn left onto Ocean View Ave. and take left onto Granby St., take next right onto A View Ave, and then immediately turn right onto Portview Ave., bear right around the Library into the Library parking lot, meeting is held in Meeting Room # 2

