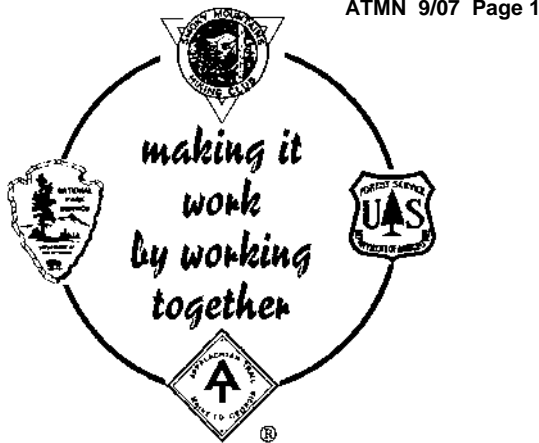


Appalachian Trail Maintainers News

Remote for detachment; Narrow for chosen company; Winding for leisure; Lonely for contemplation;

It beckons not merely north and south, but upward to the body, mind and soul of man...Harold Allen



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September 2007

Work Trip September 1

Call Mac McNutt at 865 983-3237 to sign up for the September work trip to Davenport Gap. This will be a brush cutting trip from the edge of the park toward Mt. Cammerer. We will meet at the Food Lion on Asheville Highway at 7:30*am. Out 1 mile from exit 394.

* time changed vs printed newsletter

ATC SWEAT Crews

The ATC sponsored three SWEAT crews this summer to work in the “back of beyond” sections of the A.T. through GSMNP. Reports from hikers indicate that the crews, led by Hannah Jacobson-Hardy and Randy Puckett, did an amazing job. Participants report they had a great time, the leadership was wonderful, and they recommend trying it out next year.

The first crew worked from June 8-13 from Siler’s bald to Derrick Knob. They accomplished 4.5 miles of brush cutting and waterbar cleaning, and installed 31 rock steps, 20 log steps, 10 rock waterbars, and 17 log waterbars. Members of this crew were Wayne Mailliard, Gordon Hadley, and Wayne Williams.

The second crew worked from June 17-22 from Derrick Knob to Spence Field. They did 3.5 miles of brush cutting, cleaned waterbars and did general

maintenance. They installed 19 rock steps, 15 log steps, 6 rock waterbars, 8 log waterbars, dug 450 feet of sidehill, and built 40 feet of new tread. Crew members were Graham Jarvis, Alan Day, Lamar Powell, Trena Paulus, Michael Volino, and Randy Mitchell.

The third crew worked June 26-July first between Laurel Top and Mt. Sequoia. They did 5 miles of brush cutting, waterbar cleaning, and basic maintenance, and installed 8 rock steps, 10 log steps, 1 rock waterbar, 18 log waterbars, and 450 feet of sidehill repair. Members of this crew were Stew Taylor, Ray Bruce, Eric Chaudhary, Mac McNutt, Brittany Bishop, Christopher Molitoris, Karen Brackett, and Andy Kruse.

Donation

Thirteen members of the Knox County, TN Chapter of *Thrivent Financial for Lutherans* participated in an AT work trip on 6/30/07, which they called “Join Hands Day.” Following that trip the Chapter donated \$400.00 to SMHC for shelter rehabilitation!

Volunteer Opportunity.

SMHC needs two representatives for the ATC Southern Regional Partnership Committee . This is a two year term attending two meetings per year -- Spring meeting, held at various locations, in conjunction with Virginia RPC and Fall meeting (Southern RPC only) held at ATC Asheville office

A.T. Work

6/27-28/07 T. J. Tolnas and Mike West cleared two large blowdowns and one small one, dug out trail around a new root ball, cleaned all water bars and did some brush cutting from Cody Gap to Brown Fork Gap.

7/13-14/07 Grant Scalf and Jay Elliott cut weeds between Spence and Russell Fields, cleaned both shelters and privies and carried out trash.

7/21/07 Dick Ketelle checked and serviced the data logger at the Spence Field privy, and removed trash from the fireplace and fire-ring.

7/21/07 Ed Peck cut vegetation, checked the shelter and privy bucket and observed that the water bars were working excellently after three days of rain.

7/25/07 Phyllis Henry, Mac McNutt, Ed Peck, Jerry Troxler, and Stew Taylor carried mulch to Icewater Springs.

7/25/07 Ray Payne blazed the AT from Low Gap to Mt Cammerer Trail junction and cleaned up trash at Low Gap.

7/27/07 George Ritter filled 10 bags with mulch to be transported to Pecks Corner.

7/28/08 Ed Peck started at Goshen Prong junction, cut vegetation to privy, in front of and on each side of Double Springs shelter, to water source, then went to southwest side of Jenkins knob to finish up briars.

7/28/08 Phyllis Henry and Bill Clabough loaded mulch at the Oconoluftee Visitor Center. Their plans to accompany the crew hiking to Tricorner were thwarted by car trouble.

7/28-29/07 Mac McNutt, Stew Taylor, Randy Rainey, and Tom Howard, with seven ATC SWEAT crew members moved the privy seat at Tricorner Knob.

7/30/07 Ray Payne blazed the A.T. from NC-28 at Fontana Marina for about 2.5 miles toward Shuckstack.

8/4-5/07 Rob Carter replaced rock in waterbars and trimmed vegetation from Sunup Knob to Low Gap. Cut vegetation from Low Gap to Cosby shelter, filled mulch bucket, and cleaned up shelter floor. Met the ridgerunner at the shelter. He cleaned out the fire pit and I hauled this trash out.

8/4/07 Ed Peck, Jeanine Newman, and Dianne Gruber cut briars and branches, and mowed grass starting at Charlies Bunion and working back towards, but not all the way, to Newfound Gap.

8/10/07 George Ritter, Mac McNutt, Stew Taylor, and Ed Peck moved four GIANT cut-rock anchors into position and secured them to the mulch shelter with stainless steel cables. Took replacement tools to Cosby Ranger Station and placed them in the toolbox.

8/11/07 Susan Faidley and Donald Box inspected the entire segment of trail from the intersection of Lost Cove & Twentymile trails to the gap between Greer Knob and Birch Spring camp site. They did some swing blade work from the camp site spur trail north to the end of the segment, chopped and removed branches of a downed tree obstructing the trail about a tenth of a mile north of the spur trail and used some of the branches to block the path that had been created by people circumventing the obstruction. They also removed about a 6" tree trunk from across the trail about a quarter mile south of the spur trail to the shelter. They lubricated the lock on the tool box with WD40. (Susan donated the can of it to the tool box.)