

## 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*



### Published by the Appalachian Trail Maintainers Committee of the Smoky Mountains Hiking Club

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Do you have pictures that document your AT trail work? I would love to review them for possible inclusion in the Maintainer's Newsletter. Send to me via email and include a short caption.

Thanks!

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### A note from Dana Soehn, Volunteer Coordinator, Great Smoky Mountains National Park

*You donated 123,775 hours of your time to help better protect and preserve this special place and we thank you! We are the 4th largest VIP program for the National Park Service nationwide and accomplished an amazing amount of work because of your partnership. Thank you again for your stewardship. We appreciate all that you do.*

## January 2010

**11/7-11/8: TJ Tolnas, Mike West, Carl Smith--**Cody Gap to Brown Fork Gap--Cleared one very large blowdown, cleaned all water bars and other work. Checked progress on reroute work done by Rocky Top crew. Found there is less than a weeks work left to complete the project.

**11/16: Tony Oberley, Dena Turner, Timothy Lynn--**NOC, Wesser to Grassy Gap. Cleared fall foliage and sediment from water bars. Cleared one small blow down. About 1.6 miles in, there is a 24" blow down. The tree is lying right on the ground, so hikers are stepping over and not making a new trail around. Everything else looks good.

**11/19: Pam Reddoch, Keith Mertz--**Yellow Creek Gap to Cody Gap. Painted blazes, removed several small blow downs, cut back briars, cleaned leaves from spring.

**11/24: Steve Reagan--**Mount Collins Shelter. Worked with Ed Fleming, Stu Taylor and Mac McNutt installing water bars and steps to improve trail conditions and drainage on Sugarland Mt .trail leading to Mt.Collins Shelter. Moved a lot of dirt and rock. Filled mulch buckets at privy.

**11/24: Stewart Taylor, Mac McNutt--**Mount Collins Shelter--On an overnight trip a new drainage ditch was dug near the shelter in order to keep the water from going down to the fire ring. Also new steps and waterbars were installed on the trail from the Mt. Collins shelter toward the AT.

**11/28: Ed Fleming, Pam Brown--** Sunup Knob to Mt Cammerer Trail Junction--Cleaned waterbars, removed small blowdowns, trimmed encroaching vegetation, and picked up litter.

**11/29: Steve Reagan, Doug McFalls, Seth O'Shields, Jake Reagan --** AT Spruce Fir Entrance to Tomahawk Prong--Removed deadfall/old blowdowns that were blocking drainage on three water bars. Installed one new water bar. Cleaned water bars and drainage ditches for final time prior to road being closed for six sad months. Removed a small amount of trash, cleaned privy and filled mulch buckets at Mt.Collins shelter. GOOD TIME & FUN CREW!!!!!!!!!!

**12/1-12/2: Franklin LaFond, Rob Carter, Mike Harrington, Adam Foote--Tri-Corner Knob Privy--** On an overnight trip, emptied the privy bin and moved the privy housing to position #3. Evaluated area around current privy for possible future privy utilizing NF design. Hauled out 15 pounds of trash from the privy. Removed 4 blow downs and a lot of debris between the shelter and Snake Den Ridge Trail junction that had fallen as a result of high winds. Removed 2 blowdowns were removed from along Snake Den Trail that had fallen as a result of high winds.

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Following are photos by Doug "Big Daddy" Weaver which document the mule team project last April. The team hauled a new tool box up to Birch Springs and then brought out the old, damaged box. They worked in shifts, six at a time. It was a tough 6-mile haul up the mountain to an elevation of 3800 feet.

Participants were Phyllis Henry, Steve Reagan, Jerry Troxler, Tony Bolt, Stewart Taylor, Mac McNutt, Mike Wood, Coy Blair, Joey Andrews, Don Dunning, Ed Peck, Terry Elmore, Shawn Eaves, Francis Ayl, Wool Wol, B. Scott Bennett, Lindsay Clark, George Minnigh, Chase Weaver, and Doug Weaver.



**12/7: Jennifer Grady, Patti Grady--Indian Gap to Road Prong Trail to Road Prong--**Cleaned water bars.

**12/14: Steve Higdon--Newfound Gap to Indian Gap--**Picked up debris resulting from recent winds. Cleared one blow down at Indian Gap.

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