

Tidewater Appalachian Trail Club Appalachian Hiker

www.tidewateratc.com



December 2012 - January 2013

Prez Sez

Let's take a moment to consider outreach, accomplishments and goals of TATC. A new direction began about two years ago with Nancy Rinkenberger's attendance at a New Hampshire Youth Outreach Conference. She returned with a driving enthusiasm to reach and recruit younger members. Our first efforts resulted in establishment of the TATC Meetup site and a Facebook page. Positive results were soon realized as web searches on hiking, outdoor activities, etc. produced "hits" on Tidewater Appalachian Trail Club.

Gradually, outsiders and current members (now totaling over 200) joined the Meetup site, allowing them to communicate about club activities. We added approximately 12 club members via this connection. As an added bonus, we have reconnected with a few past club members who have moved away. They were happy with the ability to keep current with TATC doings and impressed with our newly established status.

Although a good beginning, more needs to be done. Greg Seid, nominee for counselor, reminds us that to fully engage youth we must take advantage of their prime means of communication—their smart phones—with which they organize their lives. Greg suggest among other things that we produce YouTube spots demonstrating club functions such as trail maintenance techniques, selection and use of backpacking gear and how to roof a trail shelter, for starters. We could also consider filming the various topics Bill Rogers covers in his backpacking seminars. The talent is available. Bill is an accomplished spokesman and Bill Billings is a professional photographer/videographer.

Speaking of photography, we will be updating our tabletop display board used at community events. Current pictures of club members doing club work is a must. The public should not have to ponder why TATC "youngsters" are wearing 1980s hairstyles!

These ideas are currently being explored by the board of directors and progress is expected early in the new year. We'll keep you informed.

(Continued in next column)

Before closing, here is something you the reader can do easily and immediately: provide us your current email address if you have not done so already. We have addresses for only one third of the membership. Email addresses are being received at jimnewman55@cox.net

The best to all this upcoming season & I hope to see you December 8 at the TATC Holiday Party.

Jim Newman
President
president@tidewateratc.com

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(banner photo by Mark Ferguson)



Visit our website at
www.tidewateratc.com

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| | | | |
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| | | | |
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| | | | |
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| | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------|--|----------|
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2013 TATC Elections

The election of TATC Club Officers will be held on January 9th, 2013 at the Mary Pretlow Library during the TATC General Meeting. The Nominating Committee offers the following names as nominees; which are being posted prior to the elections per the club's By-Laws:

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------------|
| President | Jim Newman |
| Vice President | Christine Woods |
| Treasurer | Joe Turlo |
| Secretary | Diane Ramsey |
| Trail Supervisor | Mark Connolly |
| Assistant Trail Supervisor | Ken Lancaster |
| Counselor | Greg Seid |

Any club member is eligible to run for any one of these positions. Nominations will be accepted from the floor during the meeting, prior to the election for each office.

Respectfully submitted by the nominating committee:

Scott Hilton
Mary Hormell
Dottie Abbott
Chuck Myers

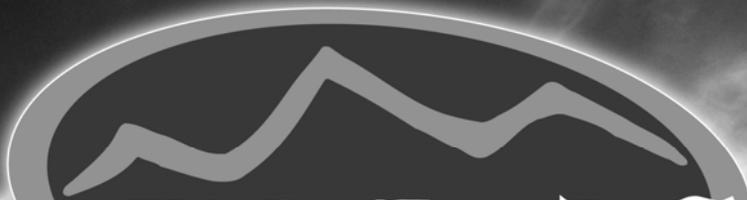
A Paragraph for Maintenance: The TATC Fall Maintenance Family Weekend

Our semi-annual major trail maintenance event went off well this year, based at the Williams Branch Picnic Area at Sherando Lake U.S. Forest Service Campground, with about 60 attendees, including a number of younger (teen and pre-teen) folks. The dates were October 12-14, 2012, with our big work day on Saturday, October 13th, followed by a club-sponsored dinner served from the cooking/dining shelter at Williams Branch Picnic Area on Saturday night. Most people started filtering into the Williams Branch area on Friday afternoon to pick out a spot for the family tent, and parking spot. Some chose a spot convenient to the restrooms with flush toilets and sinks; others sought a quiet, out-of-the-flow spot that might have required a short walk to either the restrooms or the dining shelter. On Friday night we had a fire in the fireplace in the cooking/dining shelter and, in addition to socializing, we had the opportunity to review the sign-up rosters for the various teams that would go out on Saturday to do trail maintenance on several sub-sections of our assigned trail mileage. On Saturday morning, we gathered near the dining shelter to sign up on a specific team roster, hear a safety briefing, pick up our teams' tools, and arrange carpooling to the various trailheads. In the afternoon on Saturday we tried to get back to the Williams Branch area to clean up a bit before the dinner, or have some snacks and beverage. A delicious penne pasta and sauce dinner with salad was offered, with both meat and vegetarian sauce offerings, thanks to the efforts of Dottie Abbott and her assistants, Nancy Rinkenberger and Marsha Miller. This was followed by numerous and too-elaborate desserts of brownies, a multitude of fruit pies, cookies, etc. Socializing around the fireplace, with some tall tales told, carried on into the night, after the cooking equipment and buffet trays were removed to make room.

Earlier in the week, another team of about eight people found their way through a cow pasture at the head of Harpers Creek Road (Route 682 off Route 56), up a little-used trail to get to the Harpers Creek Shelter, one of the two hikers' shelters on our section of the A.T. Some got there on Wednesday, several more showed up on Thursday, and the rest got there on Friday. Through those days, the team worked to remove the old leaking cedar-shingled roof on the shelter, and then worked to install new shingles on the shelter with materials hiked in from the cow pasture, from outside the U.S. Forest Service property. This team, composed of Milton Beale, John Gillikin, John Oakes, Bruce Julian, John Davis, Betsy Powers, and John Pessagno, crafted a roof that we hope will last a couple decades for tired A.T. hikers seeking shelter for the night. John Davis, the Assistant Trail Supervisor, was in charge, from the getting of estimates on the materials last winter, to drafting the L.L. Bean Grant application, getting the materials from the supplier, and coordinating with the Glenwood/Pedlar U.S. Forest Service District for supplemental labor to assist in transporting the new shingles and other materials to the work area.

When the work was all done, some people drove around to pick up some bags or other containers of the plentiful varieties of apples offered at orchards in the area, visited a winery or micro-brewery in the area, or just hit the road for Tidewater.

Mark Connolly
TATC Trail Supervisor
trailsupervisor@tidewateratc.com



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TATC Needs Your Email Address!!

By Phyllis Neumann

TATC is moving ahead on our pledge to be more efficient and ecological in all club business endeavors. We realize that many club members now have computer access and would be willing to receive club news and updates via email. In the past, you may have supplied an email address when you renewed your annual club membership. We encouraged members to do this but weren't very adamant about it. That has changed. We are now requesting all club members to supply a valid email address when they renew their memberships for 2013. There will be a space on the renewal form (in the next newsletter) to provide an email address. The Webmaster will compile the addresses into a form such that emails can be sent to notify all members of important upcoming events, changes in meeting dates, times or locations, newsletter availability on the website as well as other significant and noteworthy information. We want to have as complete a list as possible. This list would be the sole property of TATC and would never be shared with anyone else. It would only be used for club business.

The emails would be sent blind copy so no one else would ever be able to see your email address. In the event you did not want to receive email updates then you would have the opportunity to opt out. The TATC Board of Directors has discussed this at length for several years and has decided that email notification is the best way to reach the most members in a timely fashion for the least cost. We still plan to mail out the bimonthly club newsletter for the next year (at least) but individual post-card mailings will likely cease. Please plan to include your email address when you renew your membership next year. For those of you with Life Memberships, you can send your email address directly to the Webmaster (webmaster@tidewateratc.com) at any time.

Outdoor Gadgets and Things: Introducing a new feature for the monthly meetings.

Admit it! Exploring the isles of an Outfitters is an adventure most TATC members have mastered. Objective: Search out something that will fill the gap in our gear. Make living in the outdoors easier. Make roughing it more comfortable. Now it is your chance for *Show and Tell* and share your finds with the TATC family.

It's really easy. Just four steps:

1. Register* your Gadget at **programs@tidewateratc.com**. Include a web address for item or where it can be purchased, either online or locally. This information will also be listed on the TATC Web Page.
2. One item per person.
3. Must be field tested prior to presentation.
4. Time limit - 5 minutes maximum.

*Due to time constraints **ONLY** registered gadgets will be allowed during the monthly meeting.

Fall Trip to False Cape State Park November 11-15, 2012

By Bruce Julian

This was another fun trip to False Cape St. Pk. and we accomplished almost everything we set out to do. With storms on the two weekends before we were scheduled to be there I wasn't sure if we would be able to do some of the work we had plan. The storms came by heading north and did a number on our beach, taking a lot of sand out to sea. The interior did not receive very much damage, only a few trees uprooted and the lost of power for 3 days. It was good that the first storm was out in the Atlantic Ocean several miles from our beach, with what it did to New Jersey and New York, it could have been a lot worse.

As always, we met at Little Island City Park at 3:00 P.M. and everyone was on time and we loaded the bus and headed down the gravel road to the Environmental Education Center (EEC). We were about one mile down the road when someone hollered out, I need to go back to my car I forgot my camera ! We won't say who it was but she took a lot of pictures, guess it was good we went back. Driving into the yard there at Wash Woods' EEC building around 4:00 P.M. we talked over where each person would be sleeping, some upstairs and some downstairs. Most of the ones that have been coming on this trip for a number of years have their favorite bunk. After this we began unloading our gear and filling up the double door refrigerated with all the food everyone brought.

On this trip I decided to have the GPS Course, which I had laid out two days earlier first. Doing it this way everyone would be fresh and not too tired after working for 3 days and would be able to climb the sand hills there in the park. I had all the Waypoints in the 2 GPS Units with fresh batteries so we divided into two teams, A Team and B Team. We had John G, Margaret J, Mark C, Diana R and Scott B on the A Team and Milton B, Lee G, Dottie A, Sandy B and Bob S on the B Team. Dennis F. and I stay out of the two teams. The 2 teams started off around 5:00 P.M. and it was getting dark by the time both teams finished the course. They all had fun doing the course and I had a box of candy waiting back at the center for the winners, which they all shared with everyone. This was after we had our pizza for dinner which I had brought from Pungo Pizza.

On Monday, after a waffle and sausage breakfast we loaded into the Clampett Mobile and drove up to Barbour Hill Road. We started cutting back some of the Live Oaks and Pine Trees that had grown out into the road over the passed two years. We started out close to the beach and ended at the Visitor Center, here we stopped for our lunch. After about an hour we got back into the truck and drove down to False Cape Landing Road and cut back the trees which took us about 2 hours, then we headed back to the EEC. Monday night Milton was having Bar-B-Que, while some stay in and watched movies four of us drove out of the park to a chainsaw store there in Virginia Beach to get some needed parts for our saws. On the way there we saw a hiker on Sandbridge Road which we had talked to earlier that day there on Barbour Hill Road. He was from Germany and was hiking North America, so we thought he may want a ride, which he did. We dropped him off where he had made plans to spend the night about 10 miles away. We left him and after picking up our saw parts headed back to the park, just in time for Milton's Bar-B-Que.

On Tuesday morning I tried something new for breakfast and with help from Dottie and John we had an egg dish with a little of about everything you can think of. Most everyone liked it and Milton said he loved it. After cleaning up the dishes we loaded onto the truck and headed over to the shop to pick-up our chain-saws and then we started there next to the old trailer and cut back the trees along the Vir-Mar Trail. This took till lunch time because we had rain on and off all morning. Twice we jump into the truck and drove over to the EEC and waited till the rain stopped, to the enjoyment of some. We did finish the area we had started, about 200 yards by lunch time and we had a long lunch because of the rain coming down once again. About 1:30 P.M. we headed down to the south end of the park and began cutting the Live Oak Trees which were trying to over take the road. We worked until about 4:00 P.M. and all were getting tired so we drove back to the center. On this night Diana was having stew and it sure smell good each time you would walk up the steps into the kitchen and it tasted even better.

(Continued from Page 6 ...)

We had a guest on this night, Diana had invited the park manager Kyle Barbour. As we ate and mostly after we had eaten we had a meeting with Kyle about things we could do in the near future, there at the park. Here I asked Kyle if we could cut a new trail down to William Perry's gravesite, which I had just found the week before with the help from one of the deer hunters and he (Kyle) gave us the O K. After we cleaned up the dishes three of us went for a hike to retrieve my Game Cameras and when we return everyone was asleep, so we turn in also.

On our third morning I went back to Waffles and Sausages but this time I added Blue Berries, which Mark had brought, they went over very good. The ones with Blue Berries went fast and the ones without took a little longer to be eaten. Next time Blue Berries will be in all of them! Cleaning up the dishes we headed outside with the sun shining and the temperatures a little cooler than the day before, but just right for the work that we were doing. After picking up our tools we drove over to Wash Woods Road, this is where the gravesite is located, we mapped out a good area for the trail and some started cutting while others went to the gravesite and started cleaning up around it. Diana had attended a class the week before on restoring old gravesites and Kyle had given her the O K to do this on William Perry's site. After we finish the trail and gravesite work we started on Wash Woods Road and this took till about 11:00 A.M., not wanting to stop for lunch so early we headed down to the Cemetery Trail to show this site to the 2 new volunteers and trim a few tree limbs back as we walked to the Church Site. Around 12:15 we drove back to the EEC and had our lunch and some rest which we all wanted. This day was beautiful so around 1:30 we packed up our gear and headed back to the south end of the park to finish cutting the rest of the Live Oaks. We worked here until about 4:00 P.M. and headed back to the EEC. This was our fourth night and it was Dennis night to have our evening meal and he had Bake Chicken. Those chicken breasts were so big you thought you were eating a whole chicken. The meals just kept getting better each night, some didn't want to go home on Thursday, but all good things must come to an end. Not sure if it was the good meal or the hard work but after the dishes were wash and put away some watched a movie while Bob and I drove up to Back Bay Wildlife Refuge to get the bus so we could load the next morning, but when we returned at 9:30 everyone was asleep with all the lights out, so Bob and I turn in also. This for sure was the earliest a group has ever turn in, in the 8 years I have been doing this, are we getting older ?

On Thursday morning we ate some of the egg dish, with biscuits and Scramble eggs and a few things left over from the last four days. We clean-up the center and loaded the bus with all our gear and once again loaded into the Clampett Mobile and I drove the group down to the state line and we had a short hike and a tour at the beach. Back at the EEC around 10:00 A.M. we all got back on the bus and I drove north stopping at two locations for short hikes and then we headed out to Little Island City Park where our vehicles were waiting for all. Of course a trip would not be complete without a trip to Pungo Pizza & Ice Cream Parlor. All but three met there for lunch and of course some had ice cream. This was another good trip and all had fun and I would like to thank everyone for helping out there at the park. Thank You !



Early Club History

(Most of the following information was collected by a former club historian (the late Barbara Kledzik) in the fall of 2002; she interviewed all the founding members of the club that she could locate, got them to reminisce, tried to keep them on subject, and wrote the following account—only slightly edited by me, Bob Adkisson)

In 1971 Herb Coleman and Walton Vaughn (a friend from Hanover County) drove to Washington, D.C. to visit Col. Les Holmes, Executive Director of the Appalachian Trail Conference; they wanted to find out how they could start a hiking club in Tidewater Virginia. Col. Holmes suggested that Herb give a talk about the A.T. and, if he could get a group interested in forming a club, he'd come down and take part in the official inauguration.

Herb put an ad in the paper, advertising that there would be a discussion about the A.T. at The Barn, a community center located in the College Park area of Virginia Beach. Herb gave some introductory remarks to the 30 or 40 people who showed up, then a discussion followed, including "how to" get a local club started.

From this beginning, a group formed, and regular monthly meetings were held. These founding members were: George Ambrose, Bill Newsom, Bill and Kate Nelson, Bill and Joyce Gibbings, Bill Baldwin, and Herb Coleman. Although at first there was no chairman, they agreed to meet monthly, first at George Ambrose's picture gallery shop, then at the YMCA, and then at the Kempsville Library. That summer it was decided that George Ambrose would act as interim president, and the group discussed finding a purpose or aim for the club. Some wanted a group of able-bodied hikers who could take a tough hike, while others wanted to include more casual walkers—each to his own. Sometime in 1972 two more members became active in the group and contributed to the formation of the club: Andy Simpson and Charlie Gillie.

In spite of differing opinions, the group managed to write by-laws and a constitution. When they came to an agreement on these things, they asked Col. Holmes to award them a class "B" status in the A.T.C. This was done, April 6, 1972. That date was the beginning. There was a dinner and ceremony, held at the Lone Pine Restaurant in Kempsville, to install the new club officers; Col. Holmes did indeed come down from Washington to officiate.

The new club was allowed to do maintenance work on the A.T., but was not actually assigned any mileage or section of its own. The club soon realized—the only way for it to become a full fledged, class "A" status member of the Conference was to get its own section of the A.T., mileage for which it would be officially responsible.

While doing maintenance work on part of the trail assigned to the Natural Bridge Club (a fairly small club, responsible for about 100 miles of the A.T.), they noticed a section needing more attention than it seemed to be getting. On January 6, 1973, Bill Newsom, Secretary of the TATC, wrote to Col. Holmes and asked how the club might proceed to gain some of this trail mileage. There followed nine more letters between TATC, the Natural Bridge Club, an ATC concerning the matter and, on September 20 of that same year, our club was officially assigned 9.78 miles of the A.T.—from route 56 and the Tye River north, over Three Ridges Mtn., to Reeds Gap along the Blue Ridge Parkway (at about the same time, the Old Dominion A.T. Club, out of the Richmond, Va. area, was also assigned a portion of the trail previously maintained by the Natural Bridge Club, the section immediately to the north of ours—15 plus miles from Reeds Gap to Rockfish Gap). This was done on the provision that the TATC could handle the maintenance and responsibility entrusted to it. If it couldn't, the mileage would be returned to the Natural Bridge Club.

Our club now had class "A" status within the ATC, was one of approximately 31 clubs whose official duty it was to care for and maintain a specific section the 2,174 mile Appalachian Trail, running from Springer Mtn, Georgia to Mt. Katahdin, Maine.

And here we are, 40 years later, still maintaining our section of the Trail! Maintaining and improving it— not to mention lengthening and re-routing it— while at the same time looking for and accepting other trail maintenance responsibilities in the area (building and maintaining the Mau-Har Trail, maintaining the White Rock Falls Trail (which is adjacent of our club's cabin), and taking on the various trails within the St Mary's River Wilderness, just to the south). All this in addition to local trails here in the Tidewater area that we maintain. We've come a long way, baby!

Post Script Note: I came across a copy of one of the letters sent from our club secretary to Col. Holmes, back in the spring of 1973. Turns out our club made a specific request to take on maintenance of a different, and much longer, section of the A.T. than that which we were eventually granted. We asked to be given the 25 mile section of the trail from the Tye River *SOUTH* to route 60 (across the summit of the Priest, past Spy Rock, over Tar Jacket, Cole, and Bald Mtns)—quite a bold request for a young, unproven club to make!

In Service to the Club

By Bob Adkisson

It is again the time of year to be electing new club officers, to be volunteering to run, or take over a spot on a club committee, and so I will update an article printed here a few years back, listing all of the previous club members who have served as president, vice president, and trail supervisor (and assistant). Besides seeing how many names you recognize, be appreciative of these members for their volunteer spirit, all the time and effort they contributed to the club; consider serving on the board yourself, or being on a committee.

| Year | President | Vice President | Trail Supervisor & Assistant Trail Supervisor |
|----------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| Dec '71-- Aug '72 | George Ambrose (acting) | Bill Nelson (acting) | None |
| 1972 | Bill Baldwin | Bill Gibbings | None |
| 1973 | Bill Gibbings | Bill Baldwin | None |
| 1974 | Phelps Hobart | Quinton Roesser | Ed Smith |
| 1975 | Phelps Hobart | Charlie Gillie | Paul Russel |
| 1976 | Charlie Gillie | Jacque Jenkins | Peter Williams |
| 1977 | Jacque Jenkins | Mike Ashe | Bill Abbott |
| 1978 | Mike Ashe | Curtis Eley | Frances Stafford |
| 1979 | Otey Shelton | Al Miller | Chuck Jesse & Ken King |
| 1980 | Otey Shelton | Cecelia Yeskolski | John Folsom & Chuck Jesse |
| 1981 | Reese Lukei | Lee Hulten | Ken King & Jim Cruse |
| 1982 | Reese Lukei | Gene Krah | Ken King & Chuck Engle |
| 1983 | John Folsom | Susan Sites | Bob Herrman & Jacque Jenkins |
| 1984 | Herb Coleman | John Folsom | B. Herrman & Fred Darling |
| 1985 | Herb Coleman | John Folsom | Rick Hancock & B. Herrman |
| 1986 | John Folsom | Richard Kavanaugh | Rick Hancock & Mike May |
| 1987 | John Folsom | Richard Kavanaugh | Larry Blett & Rick Hancock |
| 1988 | Bill Rogers | Rick Hancock | Larry Blett & Mike Brewer |
| 1989 | Bill Rogers | Rick Hancock | Mike Brewer & Dave Brewer |
| 1990 | Rick Hancock | Luis Seuc | Mike Brewer & D. Brewer |
| 1991 | Rick Hancock | Luis Seuc | Dave Brewer & Jerry Burch |
| 1992 | Mike Brewer | Bob Giffin | Dave Brewer & Jerry Burch |
| 1993 | Mike Brewer | Bob Giffin | Jim Smith & John Murray |
| 1994 | Bob Giffin | Ned Kuhns | Jim Smith & John Murray |
| 1995 | Bob Giffin | Ned Kuhns | Dan Barham & Andy Armano |
| 1996 | Ned Kuhns | Ken Isaac | Dan Barham & Andy Armano |
| 1997 | Ned Kuhns | Ken Isaac | Jim Sexton & Ellis Malabad |
| 1998 | Ken Isaac | Nancy Lewis | Jim Sexton & Ellis Malabad |
| 1999 | Jim Sexton | Nancy Lewis | Cheryl Zebrowski & B. Lynn |
| 2000 | Jim Sexton | Jenny DeArmond | Cheryl Zebrowski & Bill Lynn |
| 2001 | Ken Isaac | Jenny DeArmond | Jim Sexton & Lance Deaver |
| 2002 | Ken Isaac | Rosanne Scott | Phyllis Neumann & Lance Deaver |
| 2003 | Rosanne Scott | Bill Lynn | Phyllis Neumann & Ellis Malabad |
| 2004 | Rosanne Scott | Bill Lynn | Duncan Fairlie & E. Malabad |
| 2005 | Bill Lynn | Mark Wenger | Duncan Fairlie & Joe Turlo |
| 2006 | Bill Lynn | Mark Wenger | Scott Hilton & Bob Hosang |
| 2007 | Mark Wenger | Phyllis Neumann | Scott Hilton & Bruce Julian |
| 2008 | Mark Wenger | Phyllis Neumann | Scott Hilton & Bruce Julian |
| 2009 | Phyllis Neumann | Mark Connolly | Scott Hilton & Bruce Julian |
| 2010 | Phyllis Neumann | Jim Newman | Scott Hilton & Mark Connolly |
| 2011 | Phyllis Neumann | Jim Newman | Mark Connolly & John Davis |
| 2012 | Jim Newman | Scott Hilton | Mark Connolly & John Davis |

Over the last 40 years, so many people have contributed so much to make the TATC what it is! A handful of them have since passed away, others have moved away; some still live nearby but have left the club as their interests or situations have changed over time.

Think of them with appreciation, but also take a moment to thank the many members who have served in various offices and are still with the club, still enjoying the camaraderie and good fun we have maintaining trails, serving the community, and exploring the natural world.

Elsewhere in this newsletter you should find an article that has the slate of officers for the upcoming club election in January. It is not too late to add your name for consideration! And, if not an elected office, there are more than likely a couple of committees that need either a chairman or additional members. Jump right in, get more involved!

Eastern Shore Birding Festival

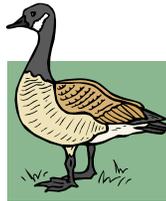
by Martha Holmes

The first, I hope to become annual, Trail Club and friends Eastern Shore Birding Festival weekend, housed at Kiptopeke State Park, successfully took place on Oct. 5th, 6th and 7th. There were 15 lodgers in this very large and very adequately equipped lodge which only cost a total of \$44 for 2 nights and 3 days.

Some of the "birding" lodgers traveled on to Onancock and caught the ferry to Tangier Island, some explored and enjoyed the Birding Festival activities in the quaint town of Cape Charles. Some enjoyed the local hikes at the Park and kayaked from there. Others of us went to scheduled birding outings to Eyre Hall and Fisherman's Island. The same island where the Trail Club has cleaned the beach for many years.

The Fisherman Island tour was given with a great deal of humor by 2 volunteer Master Naturalists. We were fortunate to witness yellow bellied warblers, pine warblers, catbirds, phoebes, cooper hawks and many seabirds in addition to monarch butterflies. We learned that dragon flies also do an annual migration.

Hopefully this trip will "fly" again next year.



TATC Social Media Sites

www.MeetUp.com/Tidewater-ATC-MeetUp

Join the group in order to see full information about and post comments on listed activities

www.Facebook.com

Search: Tidewater Appalachian Trail Club

By clicking "Like It" on a particular item, more people learn of our club

L.L. Bean Grant for Re-Roofing Harpers Creek Shelter

The Tidewater Appalachian Trail Club is grateful for L.L. Bean Grant in re-roofing Harpers Creek Shelter

Earlier this year, the award of a grant from L.L. Bean for re-roofing one of the hikers' shelters on our assigned section of trail allowed the TATC the advantage of having the material costs taken care of, to be supplemented by the volunteer work hours from our club members.

Pictures of this project are available by the link to my Picasa WebAlbum:

https://picasaweb.google.com/101243648313097573980/20121013HarpersCreekShelterRoof?authuser=0&authkey=Gv1sRgCL_R3JLP9bvq9gE&feat=directlink

Sincerely,
Mark Connolly
TATC Trail Supervisor
E-mail: trailsupervisor@tidewateratc.com

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.

December 8th, 2012, Saturday

TATC Holiday party

Jim Newman, 687-6688 jimnewman55@cox.net

WHRO 5200 Hampton Blvd . 6-10 PM.

Potluck dinner, music, and dancing. \$5 at the door. 2013 TATC Calendars will be available for purchase!!!

January 1st, 2013, Tuesday

New Year's Day Hike

Bill Rogers 484-6001

Join in starting the New Year on the 30th Annual New Year's Day Hike. Gentle photographic hike of about 5-miles. We will pass the vehicles at the half-way point to pick up lunches. Wear clothes for the forecast weather. Bring lunch and a beverage, and a plastic bag or similar to sit on for lunch. Participation limited. Call Bill for location and meeting time/place, others surely will.

January 9th, 2013, Wednesday

TATC General Meeting 7:00PM

Mary Pretlow Library, 111 W. Ocean View Ave, Norfolk, VA

Jim Newman, 867-6688 jimnewman55@cox.net

Elections. See Newsletter for slate of officers

February 16th, 2013, Saturday

Hiking-Backpacking Seminar

Bill Rogers 484-6001

This is the first such seminar of the year. It's a good way to spend a winter day; i.e., getting prepared for hiking and backpacking as the weather turns warmer. Learn some of the fascinating ins and outs, do's and don'ts, of these marvelous outdoor activities. Plan all day from 9:55 to 4:30ish. Bring lunch and a beverage. We'll be indoors and comfortable. Course limited. Call Bill for details, directions, and to sign up.

Informational Notes Old Dominion Appalachian Trail Club. We work closely with our neighbor club in Richmond. Please go to the following website for some of their offerings: www.odatc.net

Weekday Activity Group: If you would like to receive e-mail notifications of local hikes, bicycle rides, and paddles taking place during the week (usually on **Tuesdays**) please send e-mail to Ellis Malabad malabad2@gmail.com requesting to be added to the "Tuesday Group" e-mail distribution list.

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 want to check on availability, or want to make reservations.

Local Trails Maintenance Opportunities: If you would like to receive E-mail notification about TATC Local Trails Maintenance activities, please send an E-mail to Bill Buck at LocalTrails@tidewateratc.com requesting to be added to the Local Trails E-mail distribution list. Trail maintenance may include weed cutting, brush and tree trimming, removal of small blown down trees, painting of trail blazes, repairing walkways and creating trails. Other special projects may be performed, such as building water bars to prevent erosion, building and repairing foot bridges, as well as building benches and other structures. Skills used in these efforts are also useful for Appalachian Trail maintenance.

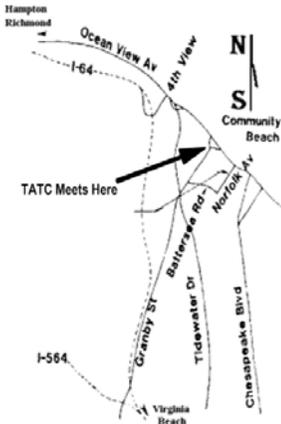
Information for Hike & Activities Schedule, TATC website listings and Meetup postings are collected and edited by the Hikemaster. Contact Scott Hilton at 757 625-6052 or sdhilton@hotmail.com with information for publication.



Tidewater Appalachian
Trail Club
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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



Harpers Creek Shelter Roof Photo by Mark Connolly