

Tidewater Appalachian Trail Club

Appalachian Hiker

www.tidewateratc.com

Banner Photo by Mark Ferguson

August 2022 - September 2022
49th Edition, 4th Issue

PREZ SEZ

TATC is roaring back after the lockdowns of COVID. Our maintenance activities are at pre-COVID levels and our other activities are on the rise. Here are some examples.

We had a very good turnout at the June General Membership Meeting. I didn't count the numbers but I would estimate about 30 members attended.

Andy Grayson made a well received presentation on hike leadership during which we asked members to consider leading a hike. (You have previously seen an eblast on this subject.)

Andy's ultimate objective is to start a Saturday Group modeled on the Tuesday Group, but first, he'll need hike leaders. Please consider signing up.

Michelle Cobb showed off the 50th Anniversary t-shirt and took a number of orders. We'll need 48 orders before we can go into production. Michelle has 33 orders as of July 21st so get your orders in now if you want a t-shirt from the first production run. See Michelle's article elsewhere in this Newsletter.

TATC now has an online Store which I displayed on the large TV at the Parish Hall. It's like an Amazon website for logo items. The site features the 50th Anniversary t-shirts as the first items on the page. You can find the Store on TATC's website under the tab labeled "Catalog," or you can use this link:

<https://tatc.wildapricot.org/Catalog>

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Visit our website at www.tidewateratc.com

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Please take a look. I think you'll be surprised at how many items we have in stock and how slick the process is.

Sharon Salyer sold tickets to the 50th Anniversary Event as well as managing the Membership Table. Members appreciated buying tickets directly from Sharon before the 220 ticket limit is reached. Get yours soon.

John Sima reported on the June Lopperfest and urged members to sign up for the August Lopperfest scheduled for August 27th.

On June 19th, TATC held a pub night at the Maker's Craft Brewery in Norfolk. We sat outside on their palatial front lawn, had a few beers and sodas (they make their own of both), and talked about our hiking adventures. It was a fun night. Our intention is to do one pub night per month and move the location each time. For August, we're targeting somewhere on the peninsula. Standby for details.

Jim Newman will lead a walk/hike at Fort Monroe in Hampton on July 30th starting at 09:00. See TATC's calendar for details.

We have changed the agenda for General Membership Meetings. Now, programs will come first. We'll deal with business issues after the 20 minute break. The August meeting will feature a presentation by Cecil and Sharon Salyer. They had a wonderful hiking trip to Scotland and the Cotswolds in England and brought back loads of pictures.

I'll also make a short presentation about a trip to Banff in Alberta, Canada that my family will be making at the end of July.

At the September and October General Membership Meetings, Kevin Du Bois will describe his 11 day, 105 mile, hut to hut, Tour du Mont Blanc alpine trail adventure. As a teaser, check out this picture from Kevin.



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For November, we are planning the always popular TATC Auction, and in December, Sharon Salyer and her team are planning a Day-in-the-Park that may not be in the park. Intriguing.

So, we are coming back. Please check out our calendar as new items are popping up all the time.

Let me know if you would like the club to undertake a new activity. The Board is always on the hunt for new ideas. president@tidewateratc.com

As all of us know, this year is special for TATC. "50 years of getting stuff done" reflects a record of substantial accomplishments, and I think we need to show off a bit. Even if you are not a usual wearer of logo emblazoned clothing, consider occasionally putting on that TATC t-shirt at the bottom of your drawer. If you don't have one, the Store is open, and Michelle is eager for new orders.

Happy trails.

Lee

Fall Cabin Maintenance & Orientation Trip Friday, September 16, 2022, thru Sunday

The TATC has a stone cabin that comfortably accommodates twelve people inside and has tent sites for others. The requirements to rent the cabin are: 1. Have attended a maintenance and orientation trip, and 2. Be a current club member. Join Gregory Hodges to do some maintenance and get qualified to rent the cabin.

Maintenance activities include: replacing screens in windows, cleaning chimney, inventorying non-perishable food cupboard, organizing dishes and silverware, season cast iron pans, wash windows, weed whack with a sling blade, and small maintenance items. Please bring safety glasses and work gloves or use the ones provided at the cabin.

Maintenance activities are usually complete in time to leave an opportunity to do a local hike, cook a few meals, and to rest & relax. Greg may head to the cabin on Thursday and participants are welcome to join.

Contact Gregory Hodges at cabin@tidewateratc.com or call/text at (757) 439-1552.

Moving TATC Forward with Facebook

The TATC has had a Facebook page for a number of years. During much of this time Juliet Stephenson has been singlehandedly providing the content. I recently joined her by taking on some of the duties of administering the page. Juliet has expressed an interest in stepping away from the administration duties in the future. I do not have a great deal of experience in managing social media, but I believe Facebook provides a great outreach tool for the club. While I have seen “likes” and “comments” from a few TATC members, the majority of the page’s followers are not affiliated with the club and are not in our local service area. We need to increase our local content and TATC member participation for several reasons, most notably to improve our communications with members and to generate interest from prospective members. Almost all of the current content is the memes created by Juliet supplemented by some really beautiful photography by Janice Miller.

To help ensure our page has more appeal to our members and our local audience, we would like to encourage all club members, especially activity leaders, to post their upcoming trail club events, hike experiences and, of course, photos. Please make an effort to “follow the TATC on Facebook”, to like the posts that you appreciate and to share our posts on your own social media channels as this is likely to generate interest in our club activities. *It seems to me that a meaningful goal would be to see all of our events in Facebook posts.*

Here are some guidelines for posting:

- Post about outdoor activities engaged in by club members.
- Post about activities of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy or our Federal agency partners.
- Post about generic outdoor activities, events, equipment, etc. that may be of interest to the membership.

Hope to see and hear from you on Facebook!

Bill Bunch



Paddling Kerr Lake and Roanoke River, Virginia and a visit to MacCallum More Museum and Gardens

By Mal Higgins

Kerr Lake Dam and Reservoir (Buggs Island Lake) in Mecklenburg County, Virginia, was the scene June 26-29, 2022, for a summer campout organized by Stephanie Stringer and Steve Clayton. More than a dozen TATC paddlers camped at the public North Bend Park, operated by the Army Corps of Engineers. We were spread out on very nice campsites on Loop C, which feature their own sandy beaches, a short kayak carry from the tent sites.

<https://www.recreation.gov/camping/campgrounds/233563?tab=info> This website provides a nice overview of the park.

<https://www.saw.usace.army.mil/Locations/District-Lakes-and-Dams/John-H-Kerr/> This website provides a nice overview of the John Kerr Dam and Reservoir. In the 1950's, Kerr Reservoir, also called Bugg's Island Lake, was constructed primarily to provide for flood control and hydropower generation, and was named after a man named Samuel Bugg. Construction of the dam began in March 1947, in a spot on the Roanoke River a few hundred feet upstream from an island belonging to the descendants of Samuel Bugg; hence, the "Bugg's Island Project" was named during the construction years. The reservoir created is huge: 900 miles of wooded shoreline stretch across three counties in Virginia and three in North Carolina.

TATC folks enjoyed a communal gathering the first evening after getting tents up, and getting our kayaks down to the water. Some even got short paddles in the first day. On Day 2 we paddled in various coves and reaches of Kerr Lake. Some went for a bike ride. A hard rain sent everyone into their tents in the midafternoon, but let up in time for another communal meal with everyone supplying various potluck dishes.

On the third day, some of us responded to Richard Tarr's invitation to explore the Roanoke River immediately below the dam on a downstream paddle to Steel Bridge. Richard, Bob Adkisson, Svetlana Kononov and I thought it sounded fun. We shuttled a car to the takeout about 5-6 miles downriver, and then launched just below the dam. We had previously called the dam operations phone number to learn there were no scheduled water releases that morning to take into account. A powerhouse guard had told me that sometimes he had seen kayakers lined up and floating just below the dam to ride the surge, when releases were scheduled,.

As it was, we paddled around the actual Buggs Island, as the Roanoke River splits into two channels just below the dam, and we enjoyed a slow current. Downstream we explored a major tributary creek, Allens Creek. I felt the call of nature, and exited my kayak on what I thought was a slightly solid bit of shoreline. It was the most like quicksand I have ever been in; the mud sucked my feet down 8-10 inches and I had to pull my feet out of my slip-on water shoes and then wrestle my shoes out of the mud. YUK!

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We found an old abandoned, nasty, rusty dock to sit on for lunch on Allens Creek. Then we resumed our paddle, past endless fields of growing corn. Bob saw a large gar fish (3-4 feet) below his canoe. I only saw a few shore birds. The river is wide and Richard explored a couple coves on the other side, river right, and saw evidence of old manmade structures. We saw a type of weir dam/pipe up one short tributary that appeared to be capable of opening and shutting to admit river water to the corn fields beyond.

The Steel Bridge loomed up (route 615) and we took out at a public landing. Shuttling the cars and kayaks, we passed many fields of half-grown tobacco in its flowering stage. That night all of us drove to Boydton, the county seat of Mecklenburg, to enjoy a meal at a restaurant called Rose's. It's owned by a couple from Egypt, and the pizza was really good. Boydton is quaint, and seems to be making it commercially, although not without an abandoned downtown building or two.

On the last day we said our goodbyes and everyone made their own way home. Svetlana and I drove to Chase City, Virginia, to check out a botanical garden I had noticed on a map. This turned out to be a wonderful couple of hours exploring the MacCallum More Museum & Gardens, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and the Virginia Landmark Register. The MacCallum More home on the garden grounds is the home of a former Virginia Supreme Court Chief Justice, Edward Hudgins. A tour of both the home and the gardens/museum costs \$20.00; only \$10.00 for the gardens/museum.

The gardens, though small at six acres, house many unique statuary and other stone and metal features collected over decades by the son, CDR William Hudgins ("Billy") during decades of travel with the Navy in the Middle East, Far East, and South America, in the 1940s-1970s. One feature in particular is the Samurai Warrior seven feet tall cast in bronze. There are also Greek and Roman statues, fountains from southern Spain, and large U. S. Navy ship anchors (sort of anachronistic for a botanical gardens!). The museum houses a fantastic collection of Native American arrowheads (over 50,000 points) collected in the southeastern U.S, including thousand from Virginia and North Carolina, going back in time to 9500 B.C. The museum also tells some of the story of Chase City's history and its local company grown national, Estes Trucking.



Kerr Dam from the Roanoke River

The TATC Cabin Needs a Few More Friends

By Bob Adkisson

March 1st, 2022, the beginning of the club's fiscal year-- the cabin got off to a pretty normal start. It was rented out 7 nights in March and then, in April, it was rented 19 nights.

April is always one of the favorite months to rent the cabin, and this year 7 different people, or groups, spent time there. Usually this favorite time of the year trend continues on into the mild month of May, and then on into June. But not this year.

In the first half of May we had 2 lightly attended, weekend work trips to the cabin (for a total of 5 nights, with a total of 7 people), and then BOOM! That was it for the rest of May and all of June-- **no one rented the cabin for the next 40 nights.** This may have been the longest ever dry spell.

July started off with a 3 night rental, soon followed by another mini-work trip (3 people, and Bridgett the dog, cutting weeds along the half mile access road out to the Blue Ridge Parkway). This was followed immediately by a 2 night rental on the 10th & 11th of July-- not a bad start for the month: 9 nights of usage in the first 11 nights of July.

But then, again-- complete silence, no one asking to reserve the cabin for the next 8 weeks, all the way into the month of Sept.

I was bothered and concerned enough that I sent out a group email to all the people that rented the cabin the previous year (plus I reached out to about a half dozen other members), telling them of the cabin renter drought we were experiencing, and asking that they check their calendars and maybe sign up for some time in the mountains.

Within two days of my plea, 2 people did email me back and reserved some time—a couple of nights at the end of July and a couple the first part of Sept. (Aug. Though is still totally wide open/available).

I am still waiting, hoping to hear from others.

But it is obvious that the TATC Putman Cabin is in need of at least a half dozen new, good friends, people that will discover it and love it and return again and again to enjoy it. **Cabin 'regulars'**, club members that rent it 2, maybe 3 times a year-- or more!

Here is the breakdown of the numbers from the last fiscal year (March 1st, 2021 to Feb. 28, 2022): Out of a club with about 450 members, only 23 different people rented the cabin in this 12 month period. Two of those people rented the cabin 5 times that year; one person used it 4 times; four people used it 3 times; three people rented it 2 times; and 13 people rented it just one time. This includes the 3 work trips, hosted by either Greg Hodges or myself (and no one pays any rental money on these trips). Altogether, the cabin was occupied 144 nights this fiscal year, and earned \$1816 in rental money. Of course, the rental money is not profit for the club-- it goes to pay off the hefty annual insurance bill, and the taxes, and for a few cabin supply items. The cabin usually breaks even.

But maybe not this year, unless things improve.

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Of the 23 different club members that rented the cabin-- some of them did host a few other club members, or non-club friends and family, so actually more people did spend time there and experienced what the cabin has to offer.

It is a clear fact that the Covid situation has both challenged and effected the club, making it harder to get together as a group, harder to recruit new members and keep older ones. Some of the cabin 'regulars' from the last few years have had to cut back on their visits because of health or age concerns, and some have retired and instead gone on long cross-country trips, leaving them with less time to enjoy the cabin.

So, it is obvious-- we need those half dozen plus new members to find the club, to discover the Trail Club cabin, and to begin enjoying all that it has to offer in the way of peace and solitude, adventure and challenge, fun and contentment.

Of course, some of our long-time club members, ones who for whatever reason just don't go up and stay at the cabin, **ever**, could suddenly decide to give it a try, and find they like it; they could discover that being a member of the club doesn't have to mean only going on work trips, or local day trips. They could rent the Putman cabin and stay for a week in the woods, take it easy every, or go on multiple hikes and adventures in the surrounding National Forest and various parks and scenic places. There are places galore within a half hours drive of the cabin, and the cabin is a secure, beautiful, simple haven to come home to, a wonderful work of art in the middle of the forest, ringed by wild mountains.

Think about renting the cabin and enjoying as much time as you can there.



Outreach Update

By John Barnes

As it turns out, serving as Outreach Chair for TATC has been a lot of fun. Talking with potential members about the cool stuff we do and the interesting places we go has been a lot of fun. So far, we've done outreach at Great Outdoor Provision Company, REI, Norfolk Bike Expo, First Landing State Park (twice with a fall event coming up). A big thank you to all the members that have joined in the fun and come out to support the club and encourage potential members. We also have a great opportunity on the peninsula at the Newport News Fall Festival October 1 and 2. With the large turn out expected, we're planning a cross cut saw demo and a "scaled model AT hike" in addition to our usual display table. We'll need lots of help for this one so be on the lookout for the signup forms. And don't worry, we'll leave plenty of time to get to the Celebration event Sunday evening, October 2 at the Harbor Club in Norfolk.

I'm also in the process of pulling together a small work group to look for opportunities to improve on our outreach materials and methods. As good as our existing materials are, it's important that we continue to improve, seek out new opportunities, and adapt with the times. Our 50th Anniversary is an excellent time to focus on telling our story in an even more compelling and persuasive way. The recent explosion of planned weekend activities also provides great opportunities to promote club activities. Let me know if you're interested, and in especially if you have talents in this area.

Link to Presentation on Leading Local TATC Activities

Leading Local TATC Activities (tidewateratc.com)

The majority of this presentation was taken from the authoritative guide developed by Bill Rogers and available on our web site <https://tidewateratc.com/Activity-Leadership-Guide>

Damascus Trail Center to Open on August 27

JULY 27, 2022

DAMASCUS, Va. (July 27, 2022) – The Appalachian Trail Conservancy (ATC) and the Town of Damascus are excited to announce that the Damascus Trail Center will officially open to the public on Saturday, August 27 at 10 a.m.

A collaboration between the Town of Damascus and the ATC, the Damascus Trail Center will further embrace and enhance southwest Virginia's growing status as a hub for outdoor recreation.

The Damascus Trail Center will open to the public on August 27, providing visitors with information on area attractions, backcountry skills and trail conservation.

In addition to providing information to help visitors experience the great outdoors in the area, the Trail Center will feature high-quality exhibits and programming that highlight the surrounding landscape and inspire visitors to protect nearby outdoor spaces. It will also serve as a center for environmental conservation and Trail stewardship throughout the region, providing a location for volunteers and outdoor enthusiasts to take part in workshops and trail maintenance training.

"Damascus has always been an iconic part of the Appalachian Trail experience, so it's hard to imagine a more appropriate place for the new Trail Center to call home," said Sandra Marra, President and CEO of the ATC. "We are excited to work with the Town to ensure the Damascus Trail Center provides opportunities for hikers, bikers, and adventurers of all ages and experience levels to better enjoy and care for our irreplaceable great outdoors."

Located in the middle of downtown, the Trail Center is ideally positioned to greet visitors of three of the area's most renowned National Trails: the Appalachian National Scenic Trail (A.T.), the Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail and the Virginia Creeper National Recreation Trail. The 2,194.3-mile A.T. is situated just feet away from the entrance to the Trail Center as it travels through downtown.

"We are super excited about the grand opening of the Damascus Trail Center next month," said Damascus Mayor Katie Lamb. "In a perfect location for hikers, bikers and visitors, the Center brings a beautiful, aesthetically pleasing addition to our town. We are looking forward to continuing to collaborate with the Appalachian Trail Conservancy and the fine folks who represent them."

Multiple events throughout the weekend will help mark the occasion:

- Friday, August 26 at 6 p.m. – Run Damascus Fun Run 5K
- Friday, August 26 at 7 p.m. – Beaverdam Friday Jams featuring Beth Snapp Band
- Saturday, August 27, 9 a.m. to noon – Farmers Market
- Saturday, August 27, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. – Damascus Trail Center Activities including partner expo, nature walks and gear giveaways from Allyn "Fix it Man" Morton

Starting Saturday, the Trail Center will be open Thursday-Monday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information about the Damascus Trail Center, visit appalachiantrail.org/dtc.

October 2022 WSI Regional Crosscut Saw Training at Sugar Grove VA

We want to make sure that TATC, PATC, and CMC know about training opportunity week of 10/17/2022 at the Mount Rogers NRA Volunteer Trail Camp (Konnarock) in Sugar Grove, VA. We need a good crop of A/B sawyers for C sawyer recertification. This is a regional opportunity for your clubs to certify new A & B crosscut sawyers. This is likely the last opportunity to recert sawyers whose extensions expire at the end of 2022. There were several existing sawyers who could not attend recert trainings that were scheduled for specific clubs. And at least one of the sawyers that we recertified this spring is interested in standing for their C. The first step for them is to apply.

Please get the word out and encourage those interested to apply on the WSI website:

[About - Wilderness Skills Institute](#). The October course information and application link is on the main site.

[About - Wilderness Skills Institute](#)

2022 The 12th annual Wilderness Skills Institute! The Wilderness Skills Institute is a training partnership between the Appalachian Trail Conservancy, the United States Forest Service and Southern Appalachian Wilderness Stewards. Started in 2011, the Institute features two weeks of training hosted each year in the spring at the Cradle of Forestry facility outside of Brevard, North Carolina on ...

wildernessskillsinstitute.org

Paul Dickens

Paul S Dickens (he/him)

Board Member and Treasurer of Southern Appalachian Wilderness Stewards

C-Sawyer, USFS Traditional Tool Trainer (have saws, will travel)

paul Dickens@wildernessstewards.org

828-279-4304

SAWS is committed to help build a more equitable, inclusive outdoors. Learn more [here](#).



The 50th Anniversary – It's Time to Celebrate!!!



It seems like the Appalachian Trail has always been there. But the AT began as a vision and became the trail it is through the efforts of many. And the trail is open and accessible today because of the dedicated and consistent caring attention of clubs like TATC. It is amazing for our club to be located so far from our section of the trail and yet to be able to staff effective maintenance trips needed to make sure everyone from hardy thru hikers to first time day hikers find the trail open and accessible, well-marked, and safe. This work is also critical to minimizing the impact of the trail on both flora and fauna, which also benefits from the extra effort required for wilderness area maintenance.

Our club routinely has 75 to 80 volunteers drive across the state, sleep in the woods (apparently not everyone likes doing this as much as we do), hike miles with primitive hand tools and perform maintenance work all day for hikers that we will likely never meet and that likely won't even be aware of our efforts. Doing this once is pretty amazing. Doing it several times a year even more amazing, and doing it consistently for 50 years is unbelievable.

Clearly, we are a club of "doers" and the satisfaction of a job well done is all the acknowledgement and appreciation required. But 50 years is a long time and even "doers" need to step back once in a while and take in the impact and value of our collective efforts.

And that opportunity is October 2, 2022 at TATC's 50th Anniversary Celebration at the Harbor Club in Norfolk. TATC's accomplishments required lots and lots of people all working together just as TATC's celebration warrants lots and lots of people coming together to celebrate the accomplishments, appreciate our collective contributions, and set the course for the next 50 years of "getting stuff done."

Tickets are limited, so get yours now, and join us at TATC's 50th Anniversary Celebration!

[Click Here to Register](https://tidewateratc.com/event-4855585)

Or type in this link: <https://tidewateratc.com/event-4855585>

TATC 50th Anniversary T-Shirts

Pre-order your 50th Anniversary T-shirts!

To celebrate TATC's 50 years of Getting Stuff Done, a commemorative T-shirt is in the works. Available in a variety of styles and sizes, you can reserve yours now by letting us know your size and style preference. Check out the new Catalog feature on the TATC website to place your order. Or contact Michelle Cobb at mcobbTATC@gmail.com with questions about sizing, fabric options, and pre-orders.

These shirts will not be ordered in bulk, so the only way to get them is by pre-order.

You can pick up your shirt at the September 13th Membership meeting, Fall maintenance, and possibly other TATC in-person events by special arrangement with the T-shirt guru (Michelle). Payment will be due when you pick it up; we currently do not accept payment through the Online Catalog.

Short sleeve shirts are \$15, and long sleeve Performance Dry Fit shirts are \$18.

The deadline for pre-orders is Monday, August 15. Don't miss out!

Go to www.tidewateratc.com/Catalog



Tye River Ridgerunner Reports

Extract from Week 15:

Low visitor numbers this past week. I assume a mix of the heat and storms we have been having. Greatly enjoyed going to the womxn's workday on Sinking Creek Mountain on Sunday!

My plan for my final 1.5 weeks is to work my way through the section from south to north. I plan to skip the section from John's Hollow to Punchbowl shelter since I was there last week. I especially hope to check in on the section from Reservoir Rd to the Priest.

Things I will follow up on:

- Hazard tree at Cornelius Creek Shelter
- Hazard trees at Marble Springs Campsite
- Tree down on Overstreet Creek Rd

Take care,
Katie

Archive of Tye River Ridgerunner Reports:

Please find links below to the set of 'Tye River Ridgerunner Reports' for Weeks 1 to 15 , from Katie Steele our Tye River Ridgerunner on the Appalachian Trail. Reports are listed in reverse order, with the most recent ones for weeks #15 at the top of the list.

[Week 15](#)

[Week 14](#)

[Week 13](#)

[Week 12](#)

[Week 11](#)

[Week 10](#)

[Week 9](#)

[Week 8](#)

[Week 7](#)

[Week 6](#)

[Week 5](#)

[Week 4](#)

[Week 3](#)

[Week 2](#)

[Week 1](#)



Thank you for my t-shirt!!!

Last Chance for Donations for TATC's 50th Anniversary

Greetings from the Tidewater Appalachian Trail Club (TATC) which will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary in 2022. Members and friends can help us celebrate this event by submitting a donation to sponsor this celebration.

Donations will be used for:

- o 50th Anniversary Celebration Event
- o 50th Anniversary Celebration Project
- o 50th Anniversary History Book

You can donate by going to our website at <https://tidewateratc.com/Donations/> and selecting to donate to the 50th Anniversary fund, or you can also mail a check for donations to the following address, payable to 'TATC', with a notation that you are donating to the 50th Anniversary:

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

You can also make a donation in memory of someone, if you identify this selection in the comments field online or write it on your check.

The names of anyone that donate by September 1st to our 50th Anniversary will be listed as sponsors in both the 50th Anniversary event program and the 50th Anniversary history book. Only donor names will be listed in these publications, not the donation amounts. If you submitted an online donation; you will receive an online and email confirmation of your payment.

The Tidewater Appalachian Trail Club (TATC) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, all-volunteer organization
Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Donate to TATC's 50th

<https://tidewateratc.com/Donations/>

5 Days and 4 Nights in Paradise

By John Barnes

Not to be confused with luxury, False Cape State Park is one of the most beautiful, remote, and primitive state parks in Virginia, and it's located right here in Virginia Beach. I've wanted to camp here for some time now. A recent Tuesday Group bike trip, led by Bruce Julian (resident expert on False Cape), provided a good reminder of what a unique place this is. And a planned maintenance day, also run by Bruce, provided a great opportunity to both camp and help out with some needed maintenance chores.

Access to False Cape is very limited. This is not car camping. Overnight parking is permitted at Little Island Park in Sandbridge and the choice is to walk, bike or paddle to False Cape. Boating is also an option if you happen to own one, but I do not. I chose to bike, but also bring along some essential toys, a surf board and paddle board.

The plan was good but the execution fell a little short. I biked in on a rainy Tuesday afternoon and at around mile 7 of the 8-mile journey to my selected camp site the chain came off my bike. I walked the bike and boards the rest of the way to my site. Turns out the bike had a crank bearing issue and would not be the source of transportation I had planned on. The tow behind board cart was also a bit taxed by the journey and wasn't as well suited for the SUP as it was the surf board. As with any good camping trip, the rest of the time was spent enjoying myself and figuring out how to improvise.

False Cape Ocean Side campsites are the most remote and don't have potable water but are worth the journey. There was one other camper the first night, Keith. He began his journey on Cedar Island in NC and had biked north on Highway 12 and was almost to his Little Island destination. He also told me he's been section hiking the AT is very close to completing the entire trail.

Campers have a choice of setting up at their campsite or pitching a tent on the beach. I did both with a tent on the beach and a hammock at the camp site. Camping on the beach has been a "dream" of mine for a while. High tide came within about 10' of my tent the first night. The wind was pretty brisk and not so relaxing, so I wound up spending most of the night in the hammock. Ultimately for me, I found to beach to have too much wind and wave energy for a good restful sleep and preferred the campsite where I still had the sound of the ocean but much calmer.

Wednesday was maintenance day and as promised Bruce picked me up at the site for a day of maintenance. The brush that grows into the access road needs to be periodically trimmed back so that passengers on the open-air bus don't get wacked while in transit. Bruce is a workhorse and did the lion's share of the work, but I was happy to be able to remove the trimmings and use my silky saw to take care of the larger branches. I did enough work to warrant an afternoon nap in the hammock. When I woke up, Keith was gone and I had the entire camp area to myself. I like people, but I also cherish some quality solo time, and this is about as good as it gets.

(Continued on Page 17 ...)

Thursday was touring day beginning with a walk down the beach to Corova, NC. Along the way I came across rangers inspecting and protecting a turtle nesting site. The turtle tracks to and from the dune line were still visible in the sand. Continuing the journey, a thunderstorm came through so I took shelter under an unoccupied house. Don't tell anyone, but I also "borrowed" some electricity to charge my phone. Touring the southern trails of False Cape was very rewarding. After a nap in the hammock, I had great surf session. Not great surfing, but a great time in the water. Waves were good with clean conditions and very comfortable water temperature. Water temp dropped around 10-15 degrees the next day.

More campers arrived Thursday. While initially disappoint at having to "share" the camp area, I found them to be very pleasant and hardy adventurers.

Friday was HOT with temperatures reaching 95 degrees. While not the weather I'd pick, it is the weather I got, so I adjusted my activities accordingly. Time in the shade, reading instead of hiking, time in the water and so on.

On Saturday I hiked out the 8 miles, pushing the bike loaded with all my gear. The rangers would have carted me out if I'd asked, but I told them "I got myself into this mess, I'll get myself out." With an early start, I had pleasant temperatures, a low tide and the opportunity to watch the sunrise. What a great way to end my stay.

Bug spray was an essential, and I certainly got a few bites, but it wasn't a deal breaker. Time didn't mean much other than the position of the sun, amount of shade, and the high and low tide cycle. The turtle nest was super cool to see, unfortunately there were also two dead turtles on the beach. There were a ton of birds singing including Carolina Wren, Red-winged Blackbird, Chuck-will's-widow, Pine Warbler, Tufted Titmouse, Brow-headed Nuthatch, and more (ID thanks to Merlin the phone app). I saw a Bald Eagle on a pole not 50' away, but he flew off before I could get a picture. Osprey was numerous. The only snake I saw was a small Copperhead. There was also a long set of tracks from a wolf or coyote on the beach, apparently looking for breakfast.

I'll definitely do the trip again with either less gear or better equipment, or both. I also have room for improvement on meal planning which will also help with time in the mountains. If you haven't been to False Cape, or haven't been in a while, it is definitely worth the time and effort.



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(Continued on next page ...)

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- Historian-guided Tour of Virginia Beach

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Topics Include:

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- **Evacuation & Care-giving** for Hours to Days before hospital arrival

Forest Service News Release

Saint Mary's River Trail will be intermittently closed in August and September during trail improvement projects

Natural Bridge, VA, July 28, 2022—The USDA Forest Service, in partnership with Southern Appalachian Wilderness Stewards (SAWS), will be working to stabilize and restore sections of the Saint Mary's River trail (Forest Trail #500) in Saint Mary's Wilderness in Augusta County. The 1.3-mile trail section from the trailhead at the parking lot to the intersection with the Saint Mary's Gorge trail Forest Trail #500B) will be intermittently closed for public and worker safety during the trail work in August and September.

The tentative dates of closure are:

August 3-4

August 8-12

August 24-31

September 7-14

September 21-28



Visitors may still access fishing opportunities at the Saint Mary's River trailhead up to the point of trail work, less than one-half mile from the parking lot. Visitors to Saint Mary's Wilderness will be able to access the area from Mine Bank Creek trailhead on the Blue Ridge Parkway, Cellar Mountain trailhead on the Coal Road (Forest Service Road #42), and from Bald Mountain Road (Jeep Trail – Forest Service Road #162). Visitors can continue to access Saint Mary's Falls via the Mine Bank Creek trail, a 9-mile round-trip hike. Visitors should be prepared for a more strenuous hike when following this route.

Trail work will focus on repairing damage caused by remnant hurricane storms. Trail repair work will include moving large rocks by cable hoist to stabilize undermined trail sections to protect against future highwater events. Project work is expected to continue into calendar year 2023 and additional closure dates may be announced.

"I appreciate everyone's patience during these temporary closures as we work to address much needed repairs in this special place," said District Ranger Lauren Stull. "We are fortunate to be able to work with our partner, SAWS, to improve visitor experiences on the trail and protect the trail along the St. Mary's River."

For more information on these closures please contact the Glenwood-Pedlar Ranger District at (540) 291-2188.

For more information about the George Washington and Jefferson National Forests, visit our website www.fs.usda.gov/gwj and follow us on Twitter: twitter.com/GWJNF and Facebook: www.facebook.com/GWJNF

Public Affairs Officer: Gwen Mason

(540) 676-7045

gwendolyn.mason@usda.gov

www.fs.usda.gov/gwj

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.

Paddle/Swim FLSP 64thSt TBA-Vic & Margaret

When: Tuesday, August 2, 2022 8:45am – 2:45pm

Where: 64th Street, 64th St, Virginia Beach, VA, USA ([map](#))

Description: Meet at the Narrows, 64th St, park at the beach access at 8:45. Let's enjoy a relaxing day at the beach enjoying the water. This is a free paddle, available routes Broad Bay or Linkhorn Bay right from the beach. For those who plan to paddle we ask that have a least one partner. Bring kayaks, SUP, paddles, PFD, floats, beach chairs, umbrellas, sunscreen, water, snacks and lunch. There is a restroom available.

Click on this link to signup: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1-EpgonBITRr1j6KV5L0RVHBbQPnty7mGW0mBQEHlem8/edit?usp=sharing>

[FpgonBITRr1j6KV5L0RVHBbQPnty7mGW0mBQEHlem8/edit?usp=sharing](#)

More information on the TATC Tuesday group can be found at - [TATC Tuesday Group \(google.com\)](#)

TATC Board Meeting

When: Wednesday, August 3, 2022, 7:00pm-9:00pm

Where: Via Zoom

Contact: Lee Lohman president@tidewateratc.com

Description: TATC Board Meeting. Guests are always welcome! This meeting will be held remotely using the Zoom App. Please contact Lee if you are not currently on the Board, but wish to attend this online Board Meeting remotely.

US National Parks - Free Entrance Day

When: Thursday, Aug 4, 2022. All day

Description: US National Parks - Free Entrance Day

August 4: Anniversary of the [Great American Outdoors Act](#)

[Free Entrance Days in the National Parks \(U.S. National Park Service\) \(nps.gov\)](#)

Newport News History Hike

When: Saturday, August 6, 2022 9:00am – 1:00pm

Where: Newport News Park, 13560 Jefferson Ave, Newport News, VA 23603, USA ([map](#))

Description: Join Jim Newman for a History Hike around and through some of the best-preserved Civil War earthworks in the country. This mobile history lesson involves a four mile walk and deals with the severe political division of our county leading to the war and specifically the Union failed Peninsula Campaign of 1862. Class size limited to 15. Enroll soon!

Meet at NN Park's Discovery Center off Constitutional Way at 9:00 AM. Look for a white Honda Ridgeline with displayed American flag.

Contact: Email Jim Newman at jimnewman55@gmail.com (or call 757 814-1467 and leave a

(Continued on next page ...)

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.

First Landing State Park Maintenance

When: Saturday, August 6, 2022, 9:00am - 12:00pm (approximately)

Where: First Landing State Park (map)

Description: First Landing State Park Maintenance. Meet at the Picnic Area, Conservation Court, Virginia Beach, VA 23451. Work to be done: We will perform trail maintenance on the Live Oak and Cypress Swamp Trails. Bring: Water, work gloves, loppers, hedge trimmer, trash bag.

Contact: Margaret Pisone at vabchvic@hotmail.com to sign up. The limit is six people, so sign up early!

TATC General Membership Meeting

When: Wednesday, August 10, 2022 7:00pm – 9:00pm

Where: The meeting location has been moved to the Episcopal Church of the Advent.

Here is the map link: [https://www.google.com/maps/place/9629+Norfolk+Ave,+Norfolk,+VA+23503/@36.9495041,-76.2499649,17z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m5!3m4!](https://www.google.com/maps/place/9629+Norfolk+Ave,+Norfolk,+VA+23503/@36.9495041,-76.2499649,17z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m5!3m4!1s0x89ba90ed2bb6c48f:0x50634ecf5bf8023c!8m2!3d36.9495041!4d-76.2477762?hl=en&authuser=4)

[1s0x89ba90ed2bb6c48f:0x50634ecf5bf8023c!8m2!3d36.9495041!4d-76.2477762?hl=en&authuser=4](https://www.google.com/maps/place/9629+Norfolk+Ave,+Norfolk,+VA+23503/@36.9495041,-76.2499649,17z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m5!3m4!1s0x89ba90ed2bb6c48f:0x50634ecf5bf8023c!8m2!3d36.9495041!4d-76.2477762?hl=en&authuser=4)

Please use on-street parking Episcopal Church of the Advent Map:

Description: TATC General Membership.

Program: Presentation on Scottish Highlands Rail and Hike and the Cotswold Trail in England by Cecil and Sharon Salyer and a short presentation on Banff in Alberta, Canada

Contact: Lee Lohman at president@tidewateratc.com for more details.

Canoe/Kayak Powhatan Creek

When: Saturday, August 13, 2022 9:00am - 2:00pm (?)

Where: Powhatan Creek out to the tip of Jamestown Island (map)

Distance/Difficulty: 6-mile paddle moderate

Description: This will be a fun paddle on Powhatan Creek out to the tip of Jamestown Island and back. Fun, scenic and lots of history. It is flat water suitable for kayak or canoe. Even at low tide the channel is navigable. There is a moderate current as the tide comes in and goes out but should be no problem for us.

- We will put in at the Powhatan Creek Park and Blue Way canoe/kayak launch on route 31 operated by James City County (this is the road to the James town ferry). If coming from Tidewater take Exit 242 onto 199 towards Jamestown. Take a left onto 31 (follow the signs for the ferry). Once you past James River Pie Co. on the left look for the entrance to the park on the right.
- There is no cost for putting in or parking. I will be there with my yellow kayak and charcoal gray Ford F150 truck.

(Continued)

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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.

- You must have a kayak or canoe as there is no rentals.
- You must be able to swim and wear a PFD the entire time we are on the water.
- This is weather dependent, so if high winds or thunderstorms are predicted check with Mark Wenger and he will make the final call at 7:00AM that morning.
- Dress for being on the water, remember sunscreen, water and maybe some snacks. Bug spray might be a good idea just in case.
- When we finish, we will head to Billsburg Brewery which we passed while kayaking and celebrate the day.
- To sign up (or if you have any questions) call, text or email Mark Wenger at swf11951@gmail.com / 757-645-6700.

Urban Bike Ride - S&S

When: Tuesday, August 16, 2022, Meet at 8:30 AM

Where: Lafayette Park, 3500 Granby St, Norfolk, VA 23504, USA ([map](#))

Description: Meet at 9:15 am; depart at 9:30. Rendezvous at Lafayette Park in Norfolk (near the Zoo on Granby Street). Park entrance is off of Granby St. at 38th – there's a traffic light here - turn on La-Valette, opposite 38th Street, go about 200 yards and turn right into the park entrance. For the breakfast crowd, meet at 8:30 at the MacDonald's on Granby, about ¼ mile north of LaValette. Before leaving Lafayette Park, we can use the public bathroom there or at the nearby McDonalds on Granby. Other bathroom stops at Nauticus and/or at Waterside.

Ride Description: We'll first twirl through the historic Riverside neighborhood and experience the urban landscape of several other older Norfolk neighborhoods, and then on to the Waterside District via the Elizabeth River Trail from West Ghent. We will cycle the bike lane over the Berkley Bridge, checking out another neighborhood. We'll jump on the ferry (with bikes) to Portsmouth and have lunch at The Legend Brewing Depot near the Portsmouth Ferry. Afterwards, we'll hop the ferry and return to Waterside for ice cream. From there we'll head back via the Hague footbridge and sashay around Ghent on our way back to our cars at Lafayette Park. Brief stops could include the large koi pond and Asian gardens at the Pagoda and an unusual War Memorial near the Half Moone Cruise terminal. This route is mostly on low traffic streets, but there are a few places where we'll be on streets with moderate traffic. We'll need to stay together (safety in numbers) on the more trafficky streets, many of which now have designated bike lanes. This route is about 18-20 miles.

Bring sunscreen, bike locks, helmet, water, and snacks. The ferry costs \$1 each way (exact change) for seniors (over 65); \$2 (exact change) each way for the younger crowd. And, of course, bring money for lunch and ice cream. No firearms please. CLICK ON THE LINK TO SIGN UP: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1IrFC6hp-8l2k5BNl2swBhPSCdkdKlhh5sSgXLxMi9Jo/edit?usp=sharing>
More information on the TATC Tuesday group can be found at - [TATC Tuesday Group \(google.com\)](#)

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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.

Fort Monroe Walk/Hike - Hampton VA (rescheduled)

When: Saturday, August 20, 2022 9:00am – 1:00pm

Where: Patch Road & Pullman Road, Patch Rd & Pullman Rd, Hampton, VA 23651, USA (map)

Location: We'll meet in the parking lot Northeast of Oozlefinch Brewing (near Patch and Pullman roads) at 9 am, with a planned start at 9:15.

Description: This was originally scheduled for July 30th, but has now been moved to August! This will be an approximately 4 mile mostly flat walk through the fort and then along the bulkhead from the Chamberlin up to the Paradise Beach Club and then back to our starting point. We'll be making brief stops at many of the historical locations that are part of the Fort Monroe tour as well as a planned stop about 1/3 of the way along our walk at Firehouse Coffee for caffeine/soda/ice cream, etc. for those that might want a refreshment. The weather in late July can get very hot, so dress accordingly and consider sunscreen. This is a family and dog friendly event.

Please email Andy Grayson at hikemaster@tidewateratc.com if you are planning to attend.

For those that are interested, we can check out the offerings at Oozlefinch (and associated food trucks, currently Flame and Pie & Nosh are scheduled to be there) after the walk. Seating at Oozlefinch is limited, you may want to bring a folding/soccer chair.

TATC Pub Night (aka Happy Hiker Hour) – Tradition Brewing

When: Tuesday, August 23, 2022 7:00pm – 8:30pm

Where: Tradition Brewing Company, 700 Thimble Shoals Blvd, Newport News, VA 23606, USA (map)

Website: <https://traditionbrewing.com/>

Description: TATC Pub Night (aka Happy Hiker Hour) – Tradition Brewing

Join TATC Members on Tuesday, August 23rd at 7:00 pm; TATC will hold a pub night get-together at the Tradition Brewing. No sign-up is necessary; just show up. A Food Truck should be available.

Parking is plentiful.

POC - Andy Grayson - hikemaster@tidewateratc.com

Lopperfest 2022 Part 3: August 27th

When: Friday – Sunday, August 26 – 28, 2022

Location: Camping out August 26-28, 2022, in the Sherando Lake Recreation Area

Description: Cut back encroaching plant growth from trails using swing blades, loppers and shears.

Free Park entrance; Free camping. Friday & Sunday are travel days. Ten to twelve people needed.

Contacts:

Brittany Collins - TATC Trail Supervisor - trailsupervisor@tidewateratc.com

John Sima - TATC Asst Trail Supervisor - assistantts@tidewateratc.com

(Continued on next page ...)

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.

TATC Board Meeting

When: Wednesday, September 7, 2022, 7:00pm-9:00pm

Where: Via Zoom

Contact: Lee Lohman president@tidewateratc.com

Description: TATC Board Meeting. Guests are always welcome! This meeting will be held remotely using the Zoom App. Please contact Lee if you are not currently on the Board, but wish to attend this online Board Meeting remotely.

First Landing State Park Maintenance

When: Friday, September 9, 2022 9:00am – 12:00pm

Where: First Landing State Park, Meet at the Picnic Area, Conservation Court, Virginia Beach, VA 23451

Description: We will perform trail maintenance on the Live Oak and Cypress Swamp Trails. Bring: Water, work gloves, loppers, hedge trimmer, and trash bag'

Contact: Kaci Midgett at kacithemidge@gmail.com to sign up. The limit is six people, so sign up early!

Lafayette River Paddle S & S

When: Tuesday, September 13, 2022 9:00 – 10:00am

Location: Haven Creek Boat Ramp, 4001 Llewellyn Ave, Norfolk, VA 23504, USA

Description: Launching and Lunching on the Lafayette River in Norfolk. Meet: 9:00 for sign up; launch (not lunch) @ 9:30 from the Haven Creek Boat Launch at the corner of Llewellyn and Delaware (a few blocks south of the south end of the Granby Street Bridge) in Norfolk in the Riverview neighborhood. We'll use the floating dock or the ramp to launch our canoes and kayaks, and head for the Lafayette River where we'll explore various tributaries. Expect 3-5 miles.

Lunch: Mi Hogar on Granby Street, near the boat launch. Ice cream after at McDonalds in Riverview (right near the launch and lunch) or the Cold Stone Creamery on 21st Street (about a 1-mile drive from the launch and lunch).

Bring your boat, paddles, PFDs, water, snacks, sunscreen, insect repellent and \$\$ for lunch (launching is free).

Breakfast option: 8:30 at McDonald's, 4125 Granby St, Norfolk 23504

To sign up please click on this link: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1zalYa7VYmHIHxXaEVtUN1LP3igfquAAxa2S5Yl6kLGs/edit?usp=sharing> More information on the TATC Tuesday group can be found at - [TATC Tuesday Group \(google.com\)](#)

(Continued on next page ...)

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.

TATC General Membership Meeting

When: Wednesday, September 14, 2022 7:00pm – 9:00pm

Where: The meeting location has been moved to the Episcopal Church of the Advent.

Here is the map link: [https://www.google.com/maps/place/9629+Norfolk+Ave,+Norfolk,+VA+23503/@36.9495041,-76.2499649,17z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m5!3m4!](https://www.google.com/maps/place/9629+Norfolk+Ave,+Norfolk,+VA+23503/@36.9495041,-76.2499649,17z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m5!3m4!1s0x89ba90ed2bb6c48f:0x50634ecf5bf8023c!8m2!3d36.9495041!4d-76.2477762?hl=en&authuser=4)

[1s0x89ba90ed2bb6c48f:0x50634ecf5bf8023c!8m2!3d36.9495041!4d-76.2477762?hl=en&authuser=4](https://www.google.com/maps/place/9629+Norfolk+Ave,+Norfolk,+VA+23503/@36.9495041,-76.2499649,17z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m5!3m4!1s0x89ba90ed2bb6c48f:0x50634ecf5bf8023c!8m2!3d36.9495041!4d-76.2477762?hl=en&authuser=4)

Please use on-street parking Episcopal Church of the Advent Map:

Description: TATC General Membership.

Program: Presentation on Tour du Mont Blanc Alpine Trail Adventure – Kevin Du Bois

Contact Lee Lohman at president@tidewateratc.com for more details.

Fall Walk Thru

When: Friday-Saturday, September 16 – 18, 2022

Location: Camping out at the CCC Kitchen area in the Sherando Lake Recreation Area

Description: Fall Walk Thru. Approximately 12 people needed to walk our section of A.T. & Mau-Har Trail to document maintenance needs.

Contacts:

Brittany Collins - TATC Trail Supervisor - trailsupervisor@tidewateratc.com

John Sima - TATC Asst Trail Supervisor - assistantts@tidewateratc.com

Fall Cabin Maintenance & Orientation Trip

When: Friday – Sunday, September 16, 2022, 4:00pm – September 18, 2022, 12:00pm

Location: White Rock Falls Trailhead, Blue Ridge Pkwy

Description: Fall Cabin Maintenance & Orientation Trip. The TATC has a stone cabin that comfortably accommodates twelve people inside and has tent sites for others. The requirements to rent the cabin are: 1. Have attended a maintenance and orientation trip, and 2. Be a current club member. Join Gregory Hodges to do some maintenance and get qualified to rent the cabin.

Maintenance activities include: replacing screens in windows, cleaning chimney, inventorying non-perishable food cupboard, organizing dishes and silverware, season cast iron pans, wash windows, weed whack with a sling blade, and small maintenance items. Please bring safety glasses and work gloves or use the ones provided at the cabin.

Maintenance activities are usually complete in time to leave an opportunity to do a local hike, cook a few meals, and to rest & relax. Greg may head to the cabin on Thursday and participants are welcome to join.

Contact Gregory Hodges at cabin@tidewateratc.com or call/text at (757) 439-1552. Greg can provide more specific directions for getting to the cabin for those that have not been there before.

(Continued on next page ...)

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.

Fall Maintenance Weekend & Family Campout

When: Friday-Saturday, September 23 – 25, 2022

Location: Sherando Lake Recreation Area, 96 Sherando Lake Road, Lyndhurst, VA 22952

Description: This is a weekend for us to do what the club was set up to do! We'll maintain our assigned section of the Appalachian Trail, the Mau-Har Trail, the White Rocks Trails, plus more! Come out to our base camp at Sherando Lake Recreation Area on Friday as early as noon; set up your tent at the Williams Branch Picnic Area, keeping in mind that the gate is usually locked at 10PM and opens on Saturday morning at 6AM. Crew signup sheets will be available Friday; Saturday organizational meeting at 7:45AM. Optional hikes offered on Sunday. To sign up or for more information,

Contact:

Brittany Collins - TATC Trail Supervisor - trailsupervisor@tidewateratc.com

John Sima - TATC Asst Trail Supervisor - assistantts@tidewateratc.com

US National Parks - Free Entrance Day

When: Saturday, September 24, 2022 – All Day

Where: All US National Parks

Description: September 24: National Public Lands Day

Free Entrance Days in the National Parks (U.S. National Park Service) ([nps.gov](https://www.nps.gov))

Noland Trail Hike

When: Saturday, October 1, 2022 9:00am – 12:00pm

Where: Mariner's Museum, Newport News, Va. - Noland Trail Head Parking, 83-99 Museum Dr, Newport News, VA 23601, USA

Distance/Difficulty: 5 miles mostly flat.

Description: Plan to meet at the Mariner's Museum ([marinersmuseum.org](https://www.marinersmuseum.org)) at 9 p.m. for a hike on the Noland Trail. We'll park in the newer parking lot across the road from the trail head. This is a well maintained and enjoyable scenic hike. 5 miles around the lake with nice views and most of it is tree covered. Bring water and snacks.

To sign up (or if you have any questions) contact Terry Manns at FaithfulServant1990@outlook.com

(Continued on next page ...)

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.



TATC 50th Anniversary Celebration Event - October 2, 2022

When: Sunday, October 2, 2022 5:00 – 8:00pm

Location: The Harbor Club, 333 Waterside Dr, Norfolk, VA - 2nd Fl., Waterside District, overlooking Elizabeth River Harbor

Tidewater Appalachian Trail Club members and guests are cordially invited to attend this very special anniversary at a spectacular venue overlooking Norfolk's captivating Elizabeth River harbor.

Join us at Waterside's 2nd floor Harbor Club, 333 Waterside Dr., Norfolk, VA, Suite 200, on October 2, 2022, from 5pm to 8 pm, for an entertaining evening of good food, music, and celebration of TATC's 50 years of "Getting Stuff Done."

[Click Here to Register](https://tidewateratc.com/event-4855585)

Or type in this link: <https://tidewateratc.com/event-4855585>

TATC Board Meeting

When: Wednesday, October 5, 2022, 7:00pm-9:00pm

Where: Via Zoom

Contact: Lee Lohman president@tidewateratc.com

Description: TATC Board Meeting. Guests are always welcome! This meeting will be held remotely using the Zoom App. Please contact Lee if you are not currently on the Board, but wish to attend this online Board Meeting remotely.

First Landing State Park Maintenance

When: Friday, October 7, 2022 9:00am – 12:00pm

Location: First Landing State Park

Description: Location: Meet at the Picnic Area, Conservation Court, Virginia Beach, VA 23451

Work to be done: We will perform trail maintenance on the Live Oak and Cypress Swamp Trails

Bring: Water, work gloves, loppers, hedge trimmer, and trash bag

Contact: Paul Heymann at yopch56@gmail.com to sign up. The limit is six people, so sign up early!

(Continued on next page ...)

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.

TATC General Membership Meeting

When: Wednesday, October 12, 2022 7:00pm – 9:00pm

Where: The meeting location has been moved to the Episcopal Church of the Advent.

Here is the map link: [https://www.google.com/maps/place/9629+Norfolk+Ave,+Norfolk,+VA+23503/@36.9495041,-76.2499649,17z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m5!3m4!](https://www.google.com/maps/place/9629+Norfolk+Ave,+Norfolk,+VA+23503/@36.9495041,-76.2499649,17z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m5!3m4!1s0x89ba90ed2bb6c48f:0x50634ecf5bf8023c!8m2!3d36.9495041!4d-76.2477762?hl=en&authuser=4)

[1s0x89ba90ed2bb6c48f:0x50634ecf5bf8023c!8m2!3d36.9495041!4d-76.2477762?hl=en&authuser=4](https://www.google.com/maps/place/9629+Norfolk+Ave,+Norfolk,+VA+23503/@36.9495041,-76.2499649,17z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m5!3m4!1s0x89ba90ed2bb6c48f:0x50634ecf5bf8023c!8m2!3d36.9495041!4d-76.2477762?hl=en&authuser=4)

Please use on-street parking Episcopal Church of the Advent Map:

Description: TATC General Membership. Program: TBD

Contact Lee Lohman at president@tidewateratc.com for more details.

TATC Pub Night (aka Happy Hiker Hour) – The Garage Brewery

When: Tuesday, October 18, 2022 7:00 – 8:30pm

Where: The Garage Brewery, 1011 Eden Way N Suite M, Chesapeake, VA, 23320

Website: <https://www.garage-brewery.com/>

Description: Join TATC Members on Tuesday, October 18th at 7:00 pm; TATC will hold a pub night get-together at the 'The Garage Brewery' located at 1011 Eden Way N Suite M, Chesapeake, VA, 23320. No sign-up is necessary; just show up. A Food Truck should be available. Parking is plentiful in and around the shopping mall area.

Contact: Jim Sexton – webmaster@tidewateratc.com

Crosscut A/B & C Sawyer Course

When - Crosscut C & Evaluator–October 17-22, 2022, Crosscut A/B–October 19-21, 2022

Location: 655 Flat Ridge Rd, Sugar Grove, VA 24375

Description: Crosscut A/B Sawyer Course. The U.S. Forest Service, the Appalachian Trail Conservancy (ATC), and the Southern Appalachian Wilderness Stewards (SAWS) is hosting a weekday crosscut A/B and a Crosscut C certification course October 17-21, 2022.

Where - Mount Rogers NRA Volunteer Trail Camp (Konnarock) in Sugar Grove, Virginia. The address for the Work Center is 655 Flat Ridge Rd, Sugar Grove, VA 24375, the entrance to the volunteer camp is west of the address.

Website: <https://wildernessskillsinstitute.org/crosscut2022/>

How to attend - Students for both courses may apply by filling out the form via the link below. Crosscut C sawyer applicants must apply and provide a letter of recommendation from their supervisor, local land management office decision maker, or club official or ATC representative. In addition to completing the linked form, please also send an email to Britt and John at the emails below letting them know you are planning to attend.

(Continued)

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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.

(Continued from previous page)

Brittany Collins - TATC Trail Supervisor - trailsupervisor@tidewateratc.com

John Sima - TATC Asst Trail Supervisor - assistantts@tidewateratc.com

Crosscut A/B course: Students are expected to attend classroom and field portions of the A/B course starting at 8 am on Wednesday, October 19th. All participants must be able to provide proof of current First Aid and CPR certifications. Please register below.

Expect courses to begin at 8 am and end by 5 pm daily.

Lake Maury Natural Area - The Bamboo Hike

Date: Saturday, November 5, 2022

Time: Meet at 9:15am; the hike begins at 9:30am and ends between 12:00 and 1:00 pm.

Location: Mariners Museum - 100 Museum Dr, Newport News, VA 23606

Description: Please join Stephanie Stringer and Steve Clayton for one of our favorite area hikes at the Mariners Lake Natural Area in Newport News. We'll start the hike on the Noland Trail, departing from the Museum parking lot. After about a half mile on the Noland Trail, we'll cross Warwick Boulevard at a crosswalk and continue our hike on the Natural Area Trail. This 5-6-mile hike is partly lakeside. It is a beautiful, winding, heavily wooded trail with rolling hills and plenty of roots, so please consider hiking poles. Deep in the interior of this hike is an amazing surprise – a large grove of giant bamboo!!

Quite unusual and its origins are a mystery. A delightful surprise, even when you are expecting it.

Bathroom at start of hike: Porta potties in the Parking Lot.

Lunch is optional back at the Mariners Museum café, near where we parked. People can order lunch at the counter and eat either inside or on the outside patio. Bathrooms will be available inside the Museum without paying a fee.

Suggestions: Wear comfortable footwear and clothing appropriate for the weather conditions. Bring water, sunscreen, snacks and money for lunch if you need.

For questions and/or to register, contact Steve Clayton at waldo1089@gmail.com

Information for Hike & Activities Schedule, TATC website schedule listings and Meetup postings are collected & edited by the Hikemaster. Contact Andy Grayson at hikemaster@tidewateratc.com for publication.

TATC Officers & Board

Position	Name	Email Address
President	Lee Lohman	president@tidewateratc.com
Vice President	Andy Grayson	vicepres@tidewateratc.com
Treasurer	Cecil Salyer	treasurer@tidewateratc.com
Secretary	Steve Clayton	secretary@tidewateratc.com
Trail Supervisor	Brittany Collins	trailsupervisor@tidewateratc.com
Assistant Trail Supervisor	John Sima	assistantts@tidewateratc.com
Counselor	Bruce Davidson	counselor@tidewateratc.com
Counselor	Bill Bunch	counselor@tidewateratc.com
Counselor	Kari Pincus	counselor@tidewateratc.com
ATC RPC Representative	Ned Kuhns	rpcrep@tidewateratc.com
Alt ATC RPC Representative	Jim Sexton	rpcrep@tidewateratc.com
Cabin Committee	Bob Adkisson	cabin@tidewateratc.com or 627-5514
Cabin Committee	Gregory Hodges	cabin@tidewateratc.com
Calendar	Tony Phelps	calendar@tidewateratc.com
Education	Vacant - TBA	education@tidewateratc.com
Hikemaster	Andy Grayson	hikemaster@tidewateratc.com
Historical	Jim Sexton	historical@tidewateratc.com
Land Management	Nalin Ratnayake	landmgt@tidewateratc.com
Local Trails	Dave Plum	localtrails@tidewateratc.com
Membership	Kama Mitchell	membership@tidewateratc.com
Membership	Sharon Salyer	membership@tidewateratc.com
Merchandise	Vacant - TBA	merchandise@tidewateratc.com
Newsletter	Jim Sexton	newsletter@tidewateratc.com
Outreach	John Barnes	outreach@tidewateratc.com
Past President	Rosanne Cary	pastprez@tidewateratc.com
Programs	Vacant - TBA	programs@tidewateratc.com
Timekeeper	Bill Lynn	timekeeper@tidewateratc.com
Tool Boss	Vacant - TBA	toolboss@tidewateratc.com
Webmaster	Jim Sexton	webmaster@tidewateratc.com



KERR LAKE PADDLE NORTH BEND PARK

Evelyn & Bob Adkisson Kerr Lake

By Mal Higgins



KERR LAKE PADDLE NORTH BEND PARK

Svetlana and Evelyn - Kerr Lake

By Mal Higgins



KERR LAKE PADDLE NORTH BEND PARK

Nasty Dock on Allens Creek; Richard Tarr and Svetlana Kononov

By Mal Higgins



KERR LAKE PADDLE NORTH BEND PARK

Richard Tarr on Dock

By Mal Higgins



KERR LAKE PADDLE NORTH BEND PARK

Mal Higgins in Kayak

By Mal Higgins



KERR LAKE PADDLE NORTH BEND PARK

Gathering for a Communal Meal

By Mal Higgins



KERR LAKE PADDLE NORTH BEND PARK

Sunset over Kerr Lake

By Mal Higgins



5 Days and 4 Nights in Paradise

By John Barnes



5 Days and 4 Nights in Paradise

By John Barnes



5 Days and 4 Nights in Paradise

By John Barnes



5 Days and 4 Nights in Paradise

By John Barnes



Damascus Trail Center
209 West Laurel Ave.
Damascus, VA 24236



Photos of 40th Anniversary of the Cabin Dedication

Attendees at the Cabin 40th Anniversary - Judy Welp, Melody Persinger & Keith Yeargin, Bruce & Margaret Julian (back row), Vic Pisone, Lelia Vann & Greg Reck, Margaret Pisone

Photo by Mal Higgins



Photos of 40th Anniversary of the Cabin Dedication

Bob Adkisson tells the History of the Cabin Construction

Photo by Mal Higgins



Photos of 40th Anniversary of the Cabin Dedication

Mal Higgins

Photo by Evelyn Adkisson



Photos of 40th Anniversary of the Cabin Dedication

Hikers to the Cabin on the White Rock Gap Trail from Sherando

Photo by Mal Higgins



Photos of 40th Anniversary of the Cabin Dedication

Attendees chowing down on Sub Sandwiches at Cabin 40th Anniversary

Photo by Mal Higgins



Photos of 40th Anniversary of the Cabin Dedication

Folks in Attendance at 40th Anniversary of Cabin Dedication

Photo by Mal Higgins



Photos of 40th Anniversary of the Cabin Dedication

Sandra Canepa, Jim Newman, and Steve Clayton (on the right)

Photo by Mal Higgins



Photos of 40th Anniversary of the Cabin Dedication

Ann Crate and Linda Crate

Photo by Mal Higgins



Photos of 40th Anniversary of the Cabin Dedication

John Barnes, Steve Crate, and Jeff Crate

Photo by Mal Higgins



Photos of 40th Anniversary of the Cabin Dedication

Robert, Ed Welp, Katie Steele, Judy Welp, Melody Persinger, Bruce Julian, and Keith Yeargin

Photo by Mal Higgins



Photos of 40th Anniversary of the Cabin Dedication

Melody Persinger & Keith Yeargin, Tom Miano, Lelia, Bridgette (service dog) & Greg Reck

Photo by Mal Higgins



Photos of 40th Anniversary of the Cabin Dedication

Jeff & Ann Crate; Linda & Steve Crate

Photo by Mal Higgins



Link to even more photos from the 40th Anniversary of the Cabin Dedication

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/RDG32jAWxsjaR5F88>

July 13th General Membership Meeting

Photo by Jim Sexton

