

Tidewater Appalachian Trail Club

Appalachian Hiker

www.tidewateratc.com

Banner Photo by Mark Ferguson

December 2020 - January 2021
47th Edition, 6th Issue

PREZ SEZ

Dear Friends and Members,

As we celebrate Thanksgiving and enter into the December holiday season, I can look back and reflect on so many things to be grateful for:

Having a strong and steady membership that continues to support our club

A board of directors that continues to do the work needed to keep our club going

Long-time and new members who have stepped into leadership roles to lend new energy and new ideas to our organization

Supportive agency partners that continue to find new ways to assist and encourage our efforts

Attendance at the monthly meetings and Education sessions - it's so GOOD to see and talk to our fellow members and friends!

While I will miss seeing everyone in December since there is no membership meeting, I wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season and look forward to reconnecting in 2021.

Please be sure to tune in via Zoom on January 13 for the membership meeting, at which we will elect the officers for the coming fiscal year.

Happy Holidays and New Year!

Rosanne Cary
President - Tidewater Appalachian Trail Club
president@tidewateratc.com

Please, please, go to our Website at www.tidewateratc.com and renew your Membership if it is due! And if you do not want to renew online then click [here](#) for a hardcopy membership form which you can then mail to the address provided.

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Visit our website at www.tidewateratc.com

Minute For Maintenance

Lots of to-do indeed, and a wee-bit of personal risk here; however, 36 TATC members rallied through it all and gave a boisterous “BRING IT ON” as they courageously signed on to trail work that allowed TATC to complete two of the five scheduled work trips this year. Here is a summary:

Solo efforts: Pete Burch made numerous trips to check & maintain the fire road and his AT trail section. Paul Dickens, Randy Smith and son Evan swing bladed 1.5 miles of chest-high growth on southside Three Ridges. Jim Sexton made two solo trips to his section, one in July to swing blade his section & again in August to clear 3 downed trees by himself. During Swing Blade Festival #3, twelve members finished swing blade work, mainly at Reids Gap where head-high weed stalks were found. This group included Jim Baum, Milton Beale, Bruce Davidson, Brittany Gonzales. Andy Grayson, Patrick Hayes, Bill Murat, Jim Newman, Jim Sexton, John Sima, & Mark Wenger. Fall Maintenance happened as scheduled with a reduced force of 18. Mal Higgins provides names and details in a near-by article.

So what goes next year? COVID-19 protocols will surely remain, likely to Fall Maintenance time and maybe beyond. By then we will need to add to the list above: “Got your vaccine?” Why not get ahead of the game before it lengthens? The next page of this newsletter contains all the information you need to become a qualified TATC maintainer in the COVID-19 era! We will need you. Step up!

If you’re interested in completing the ‘Requirements for Returning to Work on the A.T. as a Member of TATC’ Then read the required documentation and certify compliance as identified:

“Read the Job Hazard Analysis (JHA) Documents and the A.T. Adaptive Recovery Guidance”

“Read the Volunteer Protocols during Covid-19”

“View the Video”

“Read the optional reading material as desired”

“Certify Compliance”

2021 TATC Trail Maintenance Schedule:

May 14-16	Trail Walk-thru
May 21-23	Spring Maintenance / Swing Blade Festival #1
July 9-11	Swing Blade Festival #2
Aug 13-15	Swing Blade Festival #3
Oct 8-10	Trail Walk-thru if needed
Oct 22-24	Fall Maintenance

Best to everyone during this holiday time! Take care and remain safe.

Jim Newman

Trail Supervisor

trailsupervisor@tidewateratc.com

Requirements for Returning to Work on the A.T. as a member of TATC:

I have read the Job Hazard Analysis (JHA) Documents and the A.T. Adaptive Recovery Guidance for Volunteers and Staff/SOP, which can be found at:

https://tidewateratc.com/resources/Maintenance/AT_Trail_Maintenance_Requirements.pdf

and which includes:

Blue Ridge Parkway (BRP) – Job Hazard Analysis - Pages 1 - 3

U.S. Forest Service (USFS), GW & Jefferson National Forest – Job Hazard Analysis - Pages 4 – 9

Appalachian National Scenic Trail – Job Hazard Analysis – Pages 10 – 15

A.T. Adaptive Recovery Guidance for Volunteers and Staff/SOP - Pages 16 – 25

I have viewed the 16-minute ATC Video – ‘Volunteers Engaging with the Appalachian Trail during COVID-19’ and I have submitted the ‘Engagement Acknowledgement’ to ATC as included at the bottom of the following page:

<https://appalachiantrail.org/get-involved/volunteer/safety/covid-19/>

I understand that a ‘Trail Maintenance and Construction Task Hazards Safety Talk’ needs to be completed for each work trip and that the following form needs to be completed and provided to the TATC Trail Supervisor:

https://tatc.wildapricot.org/resources/Education/trail_hazards_and_maintenance.pdf

Additional Reading (optional):

APPA/ATC/TATC Sponsored Group Volunteer Agreement:

https://tidewateratc.com/resources/Maintenance/APPA_ATC_TATC_Sponsored_Group_Volunteer_Agreement.pdf

One-Page Reference: Guidelines for A.T. Volunteers (picture):

<https://appalachiantrail.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Volunteer-Re-Engagement-RecommendationsV4.pdf>

Resource for self-screening for symptoms of COVID-19

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>

Virginia Regional Partnership Committee – Volunteer of the Year for 2020

Each year, the Virginia Regional Partnership Committee (RPC) recognizes one Volunteer of the Year and one Agency Partner of the Year, for outstanding contributions to A.T. Stewardship. This year, our very own Jim Newman was presented with the Volunteer of the Year Award for 2020 at the Fall Virginia Regional Partnership Committee (RPC) Meeting, held on October 24th, 2020. Attached below is a copy of the award nomination that TATC submitted for Jim:

Virginia Regional Partnership Committee – 2020 Volunteer of the Year Nomination

James Newman – Tidewater AT Club

Submitted by: Rosanne Cary, TATC President



James Newman has been a member of the Tidewater Appalachian Trail Club (TATC) since 1984. Following his retirement as a high school principal, he has brought an consistent enthusiastic interest in and dedication to the Appalachian Trail, the TATC, and the Appalachian Trail Conservancy while winning the support of club members who elected him to leadership positions of vice president and hike master (2009 - 2011), followed by president (2012 - 2014). When no one else would volunteer to take on the challenging position of trails supervisor, Jim stepped forward and is currently serving in that key position (2015 - Present). A leader and active participant in every endeavor in which he pursues, Jim has accumulated many hours of volunteer service, particularly in maintenance on the AT. A qualified cross-cut sawyer, he also has actively participated on Konnarock work crews and with the Southern Appalachian Wilderness Stewards (SAWS) team. This past year, Jim has achieved a long list of accomplishments, a summary of which include:

- Organized, managed and supervised the maintenance of TATC's section of the AT from Reid's Gap to Route 56 at the Tye River Bridge. This includes "walk-thrus" to scope out the specific maintenance work to be done during the two major club work weekends held at Sherando Lake Recreational Area. During these major club weekends, he developed innovative safety briefings which have resulted in zero accidents. Recognizing the need for additional work in hard to reach trail areas during the summer growing season, he organized and led "Lopper & Swing Blade Festivals" that attracted new maintainers to begin work on the AT while maintaining our section of the Trail in tip-top condition.
- Faced with a continued shortage of volunteers, Jim actively pursued Outreach initiatives to attract more youth and members to TATC for involvement with and maintenance of the AT by conducting Trail related presentations and presenting displays at local parks and in the local community at other outdoor "open-house" events to promote the club and the AT. His efforts have been a major Outreach success.
- He has personally coordinated with U.S. Navy commands to attract local Navy personnel to work on the AT. Through his efforts, TATC was recently recognized on ATC's "The Register" for the large increase in maintainers for the Trail. He attracted Midshipmen from the U.S. Naval Academy to work with SAWS crews on our major AT projects.
- Jim initiated an effort to organize a crew to remove hazard trees from the Maupin Field area of TATC's section of the trail. This effort resulted in a multi-organizational crew removing 105 hazard trees in one day.
- Jim has been TATC's representative assisting the Appalachian Trail Park Office (APPA) and ATC on their Wayfinding project. He initially participated in the contractor's site visits and then reviewed and contributed to the site assessment dealing with TATC's section of VARO's pilot sites. He continues to be TATC's primary point-of-contact for this important project.

Jim Newman truly represents the essence of leadership in volunteerism and TATC wholeheartedly nominates him as the 2019 Volunteer of the Year from the seven clubs of ATC's Central and Southwest Virginia Region. He has done "everything" in support of the AT, TATC and ATC. No one is more deserving of the award this year.

TATC Elections January 2021

The slate of TATC officers for fiscal year 2021-2022 will be elected at the January membership meeting. Please tune in via Zoom and vote in your next board on January 13, 2021.

The Nominating Committee, chaired by Rosanne Cary and assisted by committee members Sharon Reid, Phyllis Neumann, Ned Kuhns, Ellis Malabad and Nalin Ratnayake are pleased to present the slate of candidates. They are:

President - Lee Lohman
Vice President - David Altman
Treasurer - Cecil Salyer
Secretary - Steve Clayton
Trail Supervisor - Brittany Gonzales
Assistant Trail Supervisor - John Sima
Counselor - Bruce Davidson

Our sincere thanks go out to each candidate for stepping forward to take on a leadership role in our club.

Renew Your TATC Membership

Please, please, go to our Website at www.tidewateratc.com and renew your Membership if it is due! And if you do not want to renew online then click [here](#) for a hardcopy membership form which you can then mail to the address provided.

Now, more than ever, we need your support; since most in-person meetings and events have been cancelled, and it will probably be some time before we're back to somewhat normal operations.

If you would like to subscribe to our blast email listing for future emails, then click on the following link: <http://tidewateratc.us6.list-manage.com/subscribe/post?u=55b4b56215f58352eca502f98&id=0eb6788ff3>



As we prepare for another century of Appalachian Trail conservation, we are truly thankful for all of the supporters and volunteers who have given so much to help us protect, manage, and advocate for this irreplaceable national treasure.

Happy Trails,

The Appalachian Trail Conservancy Team

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The Original 50 Miler, Circa 1974 to 2020

John Barnes

The last week in October 2020 I redid the 50 mile hike I took with my Dad and some boy scouts when I was a kid. I'd taken a few weekend backpack trips with buddies over the past few years, but this was my first week-long solo trip. I got a lift from the guys at the "Stanimals" hostel in Waynesboro to my starting point near Buena Vista where the AT crosses Route 60. It was pretty intimidating riding for an hour on I-81 looking at the range I'd be hiking. I was definitely having second thoughts, but it was too late at that point. Once on the trail the enormity of the task, and frankly the outside world, fades away pretty quickly. Life on the trail is hard but simple. It's one foot in front of the other, one hill, one valley, the next water spot, do miles, get to the next camp site, repeat. Uphill was grueling, and I was super slow. I guess I'm not a kid anymore.

The first couple of nights there were around 10 or so other campers at the site. It was nice to share stories. It was even nicer getting into the week when the "crowd" thinned out. Temperatures were very moderate, and there were some nice sunny days, but also quite a bit of hiking in fog/clouds. Spy Rock was completely clouded in. I've climbed it a ton of times and this is the first time I've been there and didn't climb it, but for good reason.

The third night I had the Priest shelter to myself with one couple in a tent nearby. This is a really special place since I've been back numerous times over the years. I'm pretty sure this was the original cabin I stayed in as a kid. And, it was like having a studio apartment all to myself. Hammock on one side and a yoga area on the other. Rained like heck that night but stopped in time for a beautiful sunrise over the mountain, while still in the hammock.

The view from the Priest outcrop was really good the next morning. The fog was low in the valley so it looked cool and still had great visibility. I'd originally planned to stay at the Harpers Creek Shelter and hike Three Ridges the following day, but I need to make some adjustments as my original plan had a long day that I realized was not practical for me. As it turns out, young legs devour miles. Older legs savor the miles, and I was definitely on a savoring pace. Besides, I'd backpacked Three Ridges a few years ago and I thought it was going to kill me then. So I added the Mau-Har trail and pushed on to Maupin Field Shelter instead. That was the first time I'd hiked the Mau-Har trail, aside from a little maintenance work. It is not an easy hike, but what a beautiful trail, especially the section by the creek. Met some nice people staying at the Maupin site, and they were very complimentary of the maintenance work done by TATC.

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The fifth night I had the rock outcrop on Humpback Mountain that overlooks Wintergreen mountain to myself. The AT was on Wintergreen Mountain when I originally hiked it, but it has since been rerouted. Parts of the original trail are still accessible from Wintergreen. This camp site did not have a water source or shelter, but was a super cool place to camp. Fog was heavy in the valley in the afternoon, but great visibility in the morning. The last night I had Paul C. Wolfe Shelter to myself as well. This is probably the nicest shelter I've seen. Oversized with a covered picnic bench and built in bunks to increase capacity. Serious creek flowing strong just 150' away. This was like having a house to myself. Part of the reason I had this shelter to myself is because the remnants of Hurricane Zeta were baring down and all the thru hikers were either long gone or hunkered down in Waynesboro. But I wasn't going to cut my trip short, and I knew that was it for me, so I hiked out the last 5 miles in the rain. As hiking in the rain goes, it was very comfortable and made for a memorable last day.

Being immersed in nature is a very spiritual experience for me, and the mountains are one of the best places for that to happen. Hiking solo was also very therapeutic. The "white space" provided ample opportunity for memories that are crowded out by the noise of normal life. It's a great way to reset one's internal compass. It also forces you to be self reliant, or improvise, or both. I started the trip not knowing if I'd do another. I ended the trip with my next trip already in mind. Completing the AT is not necessarily a goal, but I now have a better understanding of the allure.



John Barnes with the canvas external frame backpack and canteen used on the original 50 miler, circa 1974.

The Bartram Trail

A Nice Walk in the Woods

It's a wonderful day for hiking on the AT. The sun is shining, the birds chirping and no rain in sight. There is nothing I'd rather be doing than hiking but today is Sunday and ahead lies Monday and work. I never seem to have enough time for the things I enjoy.

If this sounds familiar to you, the good news is that you don't have to wait until retirement to enjoy more hiking. There is a trail that combines the challenge of the AT with more solitude yet is only 110 miles long, doable in 7-8 days of hiking. The Bartram Trail, named for the 18th century American naturalist William Bartram, is a National Recreation Trail which runs from northeastern Georgia into eastern North Carolina. The Bartram Trail is maintained by the North Carolina Bartram Trail Association, which is in the process of merging with the Georgia trail association.

Georgia: The 36 miles in Georgia starts at Russell Bridge near the Chattooga River (of Burt Reynolds and Deliverance fame) and climbs west to north, crossing the border with North Carolina south of Highlands. Some of the highlights of this section include Dick Creek Falls which cascade into the Chattooga, Martin Creek Falls just north of Warwoman Dell and Rabun Bald, the second-tallest peak in Georgia.

North Carolina: The 78 miles of the trail continues from just south of Highlands to the northern terminus atop Cheoah Bald. Highlights include: A scramble up the rocky side of Scaly Mountain, the high point of the BT (Wayah Bald 5385'), a walk around the Nantahala Lake and River, and panoramic views from Cheoah Bald.

My hiking partner, SkyWatcher and I hiked this trail October 13-20, 2020. Having met on the AT in 2013, we have been hiking together ever since, most recently on a thru-hike of the Benton MacKaye Trail. Hiking the Bartram Trail was the perfect escape from our Covid19 isolation. It offered some challenging hiking, waterfalls, views and all in a limited amount of time.

Although I had heard of the Bartram Trail, my interest in this hike was greatly increased after viewing the You-Tube video series by Chica and Sunset. This husband/wife hiking team completed the AT in 2017 and added the Colorado Trail this September. After escaping from the business world, they have settled in Franklin, NC, where they operate a new four-bed hostel and shuttle service. <https://chicaandsunsets.com/>.

The BT is generally well-marked with yellow rectangles and shares a few miles of trail with the AT over Wayah Bald and Cheoah Bald. Much less traveled than the AT, the foot bed is usually soft with fewer roots, rocks or ruts. We purchased trail guides for both the Georgia and North Carolina sections which kept us on trail, and identified water sources. Maintenance of the trail was good considering the restraints imposed by COVID19. There are no shelters on the trail. Campsites are available with water nearby.

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Logistics: There isn't any public transportation to the trail. SkyWatcher drove down from Cincinnati, I from Hampton. We dropped off one car at The Hike Inn (near Fontana Dam(828) 479-3677), then drove together to Franklin, NC where we stayed at Chica and Sunset's Hostel (reservations required/ \$45 each which includes local shuttles, laundry and breakfast). The southern trailhead at Russell Bridge is over an hour away (shuttle cost \$75) so we left the next morning. On the fourth day, we were picked up by Sunset (free shuttle) for another night's stay. On the fifth day we started back on the trail (free shuttle). There is a 10 mile road walk through the outskirts of Franklin which we elected to not do. After finishing on top of Cheoah Bald on our seventh day of hiking, we walked down the AT to Stecoah Gap where Nancy from Hike Inn picked us up (shuttle \$20). We spent our last night at Hike Inn (\$65 for drive-in hikers, \$5 laundry). The next morning, we retrieved the car at Chica's and headed home.

A wonderful hike! No rain with cool nights and no bugs! With the exception of a very crowded Saturday when we crossed Wayah Bald, we encountered few hikers. Two hikers we did meet near Nantahala Lake, told us about the Highline Trail in northern Utah. In fact, they had made a movie of their hike <https://highlinefilm.com/>. I haven't viewed it yet but I know that we will be hiking this trail soon. I found out later that these hikers were affiliated with Zpack, a renowned maker of lightweight gear.

Get out and hike!

Carl Morrison

Cardinal



View from Wayah Bald

Earl Shaffer's Original Music and Video Presentations Now Available on New Website

On November 8, 2020, the Earl Shaffer Foundation launched a new website showcasing the legacy of the first thru-hiker of the Appalachian Trail volunteer, poet, writer, Native American advocate, and photographer of the Appalachian Trail.

The new website includes virtual exhibits, Earl's music, and a free video of the original slideshow presentation that Earl presented and narrated about his 1948 first-ever thru-hike. During his lifetime, Earl gave this presentation to thousands of hikers, school children, and community members to raise awareness of the Appalachian Trail. The hour-long presentation is now free for everyone to enjoy online, along with videos about Earl, poetry, photographs taken on his 1948 hike, and articles about Earl's legacy on and off the Appalachian Trail.

Finally, the Earl Shaffer Foundation is offering both annual and lifetime memberships, which include access to special materials, discounts on Earl's work and ESF merchandise, and eligibility to participate in future poetry contests and Foundation publications.

We would like to invite everyone interested in hiking, the Appalachian Trail, and the history of long-distance walks, to explore our new website at www.earlshaffer.org

The Earl Shaffer Foundation is dedicated to preserving and sharing Earl Shaffer's legacy and advocacy for the Appalachian Trail, wilderness preservation, outdoor recreation and environmental conservation. More information can be found at <http://www.earlshaffer.org>

Press Contact:

Kimberly Shaffer, Communications Secretary and grand-niece of Earl Shaffer



Cabin Maintenance for Those Who Like to Cut Firewood – November 2020

By Mal Higgins

Seven TATC folks gathered November 13-15, 2020, for a quarterly maintenance trip led by Bob Adkisson. The participants were Bob, Luis Seuc, Tom Meree, Tom Miano, Lee Lohman, John Sima and me. Everyone but John hiked in late Friday afternoon; John did the hard thing of leaving Tidewater Saturday morning at 0'Dark Thirty and getting to the cabin around 8:30 or so Saturday morning. In the interest of minimizing the potential for COVID spread, about half camped out both nights near the cabin or by the spring, and half stayed inside the cabin. The spring was running well, following a lot of rain earlier in the week.

Friday night had a pretty red sunset. All the leaves were off the trees, so the view was especially good. After some conversation and socializing in the cabin, we all turned in early. Saturday was a full day of chain sawing wood at various locations around the cabin and stacking it in stockpiles for future retrieval by cabin renters. Lee, Tom Meree, and Bob manned the chain saws, and the rest of us did the stacking and assistant jobs. Tom Miano split some already cut logs. Bob particularly likes black locust for fire wood, and had already spotted some downed trees, and during the day several dead standing black locusts were felled. It was sunny and cool all day and work progressed nicely.

About 3:30 we knocked off. We group hiked up behind the cabin to inspect the new USFS boundary markers positioned by a USFS survey team that was in the area for the USFS about a year ago. Our uphill boundary does not extend all the way to the top cliffs on Entry Mountain, as we once thought. We walked down to the Coffey family cemetery. While there we spotted a hunter (his orange cap was highly visible) sitting on a boulder below the cemetery. We chatted amiably with _____ Marshall, who I would guess was in his late 20s or early 30s and was from Stuart's Draft. He said his family owned 14 acres down the draw below us. He was deer hunting, and said he had two siblings somewhere spread out below him. In a serious manner he asked if we were going to walk down the hill below him; we declined!

Next day dawned foggy, and we packed out of the cabin. Some drove home. But Bob, John and I drove over to Afton Depot to park and hiked in to visit the Crozet Blue Ridge Tunnel from its east portal. A one way trip from the east portal parking lot, through the tunnel, and then out the west portal to Route 250 is about 2.5 miles. The tunnel itself is 0.9 miles and straight as an arrow, passing under I-64 and Route 250 and emerging near the Colony Inn on Route 250 heading into Waynesboro.

It was designed by Claudius Crozet, a brilliant civil engineer, and built in the 1850s by slaves and immigrant Irish for rail traffic to bring products back and forth across the Blue Ridge Mountains. In modern times a coalition of folks and the Commonwealth of Virginia have converted this treasure into a rails to trails path. You can read more here. <http://coolesthikeinvirginia.com/> We had prepositioned John's car at the take out point, getting permission to park his car at the Colony Inn, because the official parking lot was not open, so he headed home when we got there. Bob and I walked back through the tunnel to our cars at the east end. We tried something fun and did not use our flashlights walking back, staying focused on the pinprick of light that one can see at the far end ("the light at the end of the tunnel"). We managed to stay in the middle the whole way. The tread path is highly compacted gravel. Some water always flows west to east in tiny ditches on either side of the path.

This Crozet Blue Ridge Tunnel is well known to a number of TATCers thanks to Bob leading us there over many years to the west portal near Waynesboro. But it has only been since 2019 that two giant concrete "plugs" from wall to wall that plugged a significant interior stretch at either end have been removed so that one can hike or bike through the entire tunnel. The plugs were part of a scheme of the Dixie Gas Company to store propane inside the tunnel, a plan that never materialized. The plugs were blasted out as part of the rails to trails rehabilitation. A number of very informative historical signs are found at the east portal approach.

This is going to be one of the very cool things to do for a day hike in the future after a weekend at Sherando or the cabin.

(See pictures from this trip in the Photolog portion of this Newsletter)

Woods Hole Hostel Weekend Retreat

October 1-4, 2020

Suzanne Luna (AKA Scribe)



Woods Hole Hostel, Pearisburg, Virginia, was a much needed respite from the “new normal” experienced by many since the lock-downs spread across the country due to COVID 19. But here, each morning, small groups of seasoned hikers and wanna-be backpackers formed on the east-facing porch of the main house where the coffee pot, fresh cream, and rocking chairs were appropriately spaced apart. From the front porch, the sunrise over the valley was awe-inspiring although most of the property is oriented toward that spectacular view. Even my home for the two nights -- a Safari tent -- had a majestic view from its wooden platform supplied with chairs to enjoy it. Neville, the owner, fed us all weekend from her amble garden; fenced beyond the garden were goats and a pig who was somewhat of an escape artist, having to be ushered back to her home several times by a good-natured caregiver. A couple of friendly canines politely begged to lick the plates after each delicious, vegetarian meal. Since all meals were outdoors around the fire pit, attendees, never breaking their conversations, placed their plates on the ground for a “pre-wash” to the delight of the small, furry pack.

The Woods Hole weekend’s focus was all-things Appalachian Trail thru-hiking and/or section hiking. When my husband saw the announcement emailed from TATC, we immediately realized that it was my next section hike in Virginia, Bland to Pearisburg, having already completed Damascus to Bland in previous years. With his encouragement, I emailed my application to Bruce Matson (Trail name: “RTK” - Returning to Katahdin) a 2018 thru-hiker, the organizer of the event. Together with Steve Adams (Mighty Blue), Clay Bonnyman Evans (Pony), Tina Tempest (Chunky), and section-hiker Julie Gayheart (Jester), the weekend offered hiking basics as well as advanced long-distance topics, including resupply mechanics, mental aspects of long distance hiking, and stories of the camaraderie of the trail community. There were about a dozen attendees with various experience levels -- some new to hiking and others seasoned backpackers. The attendees were offered a pack shake-down, and a couple of attendees took advantage of the presenters’ expertise while everyone benefited from the reviewed contents of their backpacks.

Although Woods Hole hosted the event, Weary Feet Farm and Hostel, Bland, Virginia, was where it all began. Owned by Julie and Robert, this circa 1909 farmhouse turned hostel, was base camp for an optional, short overnight hike to Dismal Falls, less than 2 miles from Weary Feet. Several of the attendees, along with BTK and Pony, decided to stay Wednesday evening and enjoy Julie’s delicious spaghetti dinner. After a congenial evening of trail-talk with some other hikers staying at the hostel, and a comfortable night’s sleep, we headed into the woods on Thursday mid-afternoon after everyone had arrived, including Mighty Blue and Jester. The dry, mid 60-degree temperatures cooperated with our plans, and once we set up camp near the falls, an ATC Outreach Coordinator, Kathryn Herndon-Powell, gave an excellent leave-no-trace presentation. We collected water, set up tents or hammocks, and cooked dinner, skills that were new to some of the attendees, so supervision was readily available.

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The fire ring was put to good use that evening -- attended by Pony and Mighty Blue.

Friday morning after breakfast and a lollygag at the falls, soaking up some negative ions, we headed back to Weary Feet Hostel to wait for the remaining guests who chose not to hike. Julie is a quiet, but accommodating, host and a terrific cook, and Robert, her joyful partner, shuttles hikers when called upon. I would have loved to linger at Weary Feet, but after lunch, we all drove to Woods Hole Hostel where Neville, the owner, met us with her warm smile and open arms, figuratively speaking because no one got that close. Throughout the weekend, COVID-19 was on everyone's mind; so indoors, masks were donned, and outdoors, everyone observed social distancing.* Both nights, the mountain temperatures at Woods Hole dipped into the upper 30s, but everyone was mostly prepared, knowing that we would be spending most of our time out of doors. Moreover, shortly after we arrived on Friday, Neville informed me that a new electric blanket had just arrived in time for my two night's stay in the Safari tent, which also provided a small heater to take the chill off. In addition, between the bath house and the main house, an inviting fire pit continuously warmed the group as did the conversation with folks attending from Florida, Illinois, Colorado, and many parts of Virginia. Later, I learned that both hostels are featured in RTK's book, Platinum-Blazing, which highlights all the best, in his and co-author Michael "Sharkbait" Neiman's opinion, Appalachian Trail hiking resources -- restaurants, hostels, favorite trail towns -- and more. Generously, all the thru-hiker authors provided copies of their books to the attendees upon departure Sunday afternoon. In addition, Steve Adams (Mighty Blue) has a popular hiking podcast, and everyone that weekend was interviewed for his channel. I highly recommend his podcast of the event, which is linked below, as well as the flyer from the event:

Hiking Radio Network Episode #240 for the interviews from the weekend:

<https://www.hikingradionetwork.com/show/mighty-blue-on-the-appalachian-trail-the-ultimate-mid-life-c/episode-240-woods-hole-hostel-retreat/>

Woods Hole Hostel Weekend Flyer:

<http://woodsholehostel.com/woods-hole-weekend/>

*To date, all the COVID measures were successful since there have been no reported illnesses.

Here are a couple of pictures from Weary Feet:



Clean Deeds Done Dirt Cheap Sherando Weekend October 16-18, 2020

By Mal Higgins

This Sherando Fall Maintenance weekend was unlike our traditional years. COVID dominated the planning. Our superlative Trail Supervisor, Jim Newman, had put a great deal of thought and effort into coordinating with our friend, Kelly Sims, ranger at Sherando Lake Recreation Area. As a result, 17 TATC members went to Sherando (some arriving on Thursday) and we camped at the community campground up the hill from the Upper Lake Friday and Saturday nights. A very nice heated and new bathrooms provided hot water and even showers. Those attending included Pete Burch, Madelyn Camlet, Michael Camlet, Rosanne Cary, Michelle Cobb, Tim Hall, Lisa Hall, Patrick Hayes, Mal Higgins, Ned Kuhns, Lee Lohman, Jim Newman, David Plum, Rosemary Plum, Jim Sexton, John Sima, and Duncan Fairlie.

Our group was well briefed by Jim Saturday morning on all the usual hazards of tools, critters, and this time an extensive briefing on how to work with COVID here and there and everywhere. [pro-tip: do not spit on anyone, do not share a tool, do not get within 6 feet of anyone, wear gloves, use plenty of sanitizer and wipes, and whatever you do, do not run over someone's foot with a wheel barrow]. Rosanne provided a goody bag to each of us that included her hand made TATC masks. Jim provided his own goody bags with snacks of all kinds to each of us.

The group of 17 became three work crews, and here is a summary of their activities.

1. Saw crew using cow pasture route to Three Ridges summit, clearing one 14-inch tree blocking AT near Flat Rock Overlook and four high step-overs along the way to the summit. Fun part was pole vaulting a heavy 8-foot log off the trail and down the mountain. Jim Newman, Lisa Hall, Tim Hall, John Sima & Tom Meree

2. Chain saw crew gave White Rock Falls Trail some infrequent attention by eliminating 4-5 troublesome step-overs. After an early finish, the crew joined the Maupin project. This crew was Dave & Rosemary Plum, and Duncan Fairlie joined by Plinio Beres and Megan Martin of the USFS.

3. The Maupin Field rehabilitation crew. We drove up the fire road one by one, not sharing cars. Our tasks for the day were to rehabilitate campsites, install new fire rings, and clean the privy and declare it open for business. Once there, we split into groups; throughout the day we shifted around doing different jobs.

One group laid out 8 foot and 11 foot logs into rectangular tent pads, first digging shallow ditches to roll the logs into. They pegged these boundary logs into the ground with wooden stops. These logs were from dead trees downed in an earlier trip at the start of 2020. Peter Burch had hauled a huge dump truck of #9 pea gravel purchased by TATC up the fireroad and prepositioned it not too far from the kiosk on the fireroad. Another group trucked wheelbarrow after wheelbarrow of gravel to a total of five or so rehabilitated tent pads all day. Some folks raked it smooth as the gravel was dumped in. Mid-day, Peter went back to Sherando and hauled another load of the #9 back to Maupin.

Mike's daughter, Maddy, was an enthusiastic and hard worker at age 16—very nice that Mike could bring her.

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I joined Lee Lohman in unscrewing something like 20 or 30 long screws holding in the plexiglass on the map/information kiosk, and replacing the outdated PATC Map 12 with the latest 2015 version. Lee knew his way around a power impact drill to deal with the screws. Lee did 99% of the work and even cleaned the plexiglass with Windex. My job was to staple the map in and do maybe five screws.

Jim Sexton oversaw yet another crew that installed a number of brand new fire rings in spots not too close to the tent pads. The fire rings were purchased by TATC, partly using a grant TATC received from the Appalachian Trail Conservancy. Pat Hayes was the quickcrete hauler in his truck. The installation included digging holes, pouring in quickcrete, adding stream water to mix, and then setting the long prongs of the fire rings into the quickcrete to harden. The new fire rings seem to be significantly taller than older ones.

A pet project of mine, for which advance approval had been obtained from our USFS rangers in the Glenwood Pedlar District, was to sanitize the privy. It was supposedly “closed” by the ATC and had a sign stating it was closed due to COVID. In fact the door had never been barred and it was in use since the pandemic began. TATC leadership deemed it important that it be operative to avoid campers creating poorly prepared catholes in the Maupin Field area, which early reports indicated were becoming a problem. The privy was hosed down with a power disinfectant spray, swept out, and we reposted COVID precautionary signs on the door to use at your own risk. This just seemed to me like common sense.

At days end, we reassembled back at the community campground at Sherando. Pat Hayes provided a huge box of Cheetos, Fritos, Doritos, potato chips etc. which together with a few beverages formed the basis for a socially distanced gathering around another Mother of All Fires. Again, Peter came to the rescue, driving a front end loader full of firewood up to the community campground. That fire was hot and bright and the conversation was lively. Duncan Fairlie, our scientist in residence, pointed out some night sky objects, including Mars and Saturn. It was a satisfying and rewarding end, and the only thing we all missed was our usual community shared potluck that in past years Michelle has so capably organized. Let’s hope we can get back to that in 2021.

Mining Gold from the Cold: Brilliant Suggestions to Stay Warm While Camping in the Cold

On October 27th, TATC held an educational symposium on how to stay warm while camping in the winter. It started with two videos on cold weather camping, but participants spend the bulk of the time (more than 60 minutes) exchanging ideas and experiences about camping in the cold. If you would like to listen to the entire session, the link is: https://zoom.us/rec/share/uoVWd4RXdBelp3q4qKXse37TT2e_pLWRdZ3_fhX2nLoICzMkbGu8ljLtF6jbewu7.VAgu0eQIY9mmtLAI

So many bright and original recommendations came out of the session that we thought we would summarize them in the TATC Newsletter for those members who couldn't participate.

A special shoutout to Mal Higgins, Bruce Davidson, Ned Kuhns, Tim and Lisa Hall, Jim Newman, Tom Miano, Pete Burch, Ed Martin, and especially our guest speaker Plinio Beres, a Forest Service Ranger, who kicked off the session by recounting their experiences and making the suggestions for those who were thinking of camping in the cold for the first time.

The comments and suggestions are presented in their order in the Zoom video so if one of them is of interest, you can find it in the Zoom video.

American Couple (The Outdoor Gear Review)

Expect to carry a larger pack to accommodate bulky winter gear.

Use a sleeping bag rated 10 degrees lower than the low temperature you expect to encounter.

Consider a sleeping bag liner if your sleeping bag is older with less loft.

Consider bringing two pads for under your sleeping bag.

Bring the pad with the highest R-value you can find--and carry.

Four season tents are not needed unless you are headed into snow or wind or exceptionally cold conditions i.e. well below freezing.

Condensation inside a tent causes frost on the tent, can lower the temperature inside the tent, and can wet your sleeping bag reducing its thermal value.

Bring tent stakes and cord to secure your tent as winter winds can be strong.

Daylight ends early in the winter. Set up your tent early so you are not trying to do it in the dark when the temperature drops.

Cold will reduce battery life. This affects headlamps, flashlights, and your phone.

Sweating is a major threat. It can reduce your temperature leading to hypothermia.

Body temperature can be regulated by wearing clothing layers--base (next to the skin, an insulating layer, and an outer layer to protect your body from wind and rain/snow.

Wear wool or synthetics which absorb and shed body moisture. Cotton absorbs and retains moisture. Cotton kills.

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Take a pair of light gloves that are flexible and will permit you to cut wood, set up a tent, etc. Carry a waterproof, well insulated pair of gloves or mittens for times when you are not active.

Footwear depends on conditions. If you expect snow or heavy rain, you should consider waterproof footwear. However, there is a downside. Body moisture will be trapped inside the boot wetting your socks and chilling you. If you wear waterproof boots, bring extra socks. Consider trail shoes or boots that are breathable. However, you will need heavy socks to stay warm if you wear breathable shoes/boots.

Consider gators if you will be moving through heavy snow.

You should bring food that is rich in carbohydrates and fat to help your body deal with the cold.

Keeping your water from freezing may be a challenge. If you expect it to freeze, turn it upside down so it freezes at the bottom not at the opening.

Collect any garbage or trash you generate. Animals are still about.

Tempting though it may be, do not bring alcohol. It inhibits your body's ability to stay warm—even though it doesn't seem so initially.

Bring something to sit on around camp so your clothes will not get wet and so that you won't get cold.

Bring extra fuel. It will take more fuel to heat water in the cold.

Thoroughly check your gear before leaving for a trip. Set up the tent. Check zippers. Check cooking stoves. A gear failure on a summer campout might be simply annoying. In winter, it could be life threatening.

Always develop a plan based on expected conditions.

Be realistic about what you can accomplish in cold weather. Everything will take longer, and you will go slower.

Swedish couple (Fällräven)

You are the heater for your tent, your sleeping bag, and your clothing. You must stay insulated from the cold.

Venting the tent is key to managing the moisture. Open tent vents to permit moisture to escape.

Recommend a foam mat underneath the inflatable mat under the sleeping bag.

Consider using a sleeping bag line. It will keep the warm air next to your body and extend the life of your sleeping bag.

Wear socks, your base layer, and a beanie (knit cap) when you go to bed.

If you get cold in your sleeping bag, put your insulated jacket on top.

Consider putting your rain/snow shell jacket over end of your sleeping bag to further protect your feet.

A watertight bottle containing warm water will keep your feet warm almost all night. [Lee's note: tried this recently with a Nalgene bottle. Works very well and lead to a comfy night. The boiling water distorted the bottle, but did not leak.]

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Overheating is a possibility. If you begin to sweat, open zippers, take off clothing, etc. to keep yourself from sweating which will leave you with a wet sleeping bag and base layer.

In the morning, shake out your sleeping bag and open it up to dry.

Mal Higgins

The videos were right. You must vent your tent, or the inside will be covered in frost.

Try to take of bathroom functions before settling down for the night especially if you have several people in the tent with you.

When going down a steep, snow or ice covered slope, you might consider glacading. This is a fancy term for sliding down a hill on your bottom.

Jim Newman

Don't overspend on equipment. Jim said he spent nearly twice as much for equipment and clothing as he later learned was necessary.

Jim bought a top of the line Hilleberg cold weather tent for \$600. With experience, he found that his three season tent would have been satisfactory.

Buy snowshoes that you are maneuver and walk in safely. Some are just too large. You can trip over your own feet.

Jim bought and used a Wisperlite stove with white gas bottles. He's now apprehensive about carrying gasoline in his pack. He's is trying to find a way to use standard propane bottles.

Jim noted that the wind pants he bought (Arc'teryx) were expensive (\$200) and proved to be unnecessary for the trips he made.

Jim had a 20 degree bag. He didn't buy a more expensive minus 10 degree bag. Instead, he took a second sleeping bag along and stuffed one inside the other. Worked just fine.

Jim is ambivalent about using a sled to transport gear. He said he had trouble getting it around trees and other obstructions on several occasions.

Ned Kuhns

Ned prefers cooking stoves powered by white gasoline for winter camping.

Don't underestimate fuel requirements in the winter. You will go through fuel quickly especially if you are trying to heat snow for water.

Even at Sherando, you may find that the power from your batteries degrades in cold weather. Bring extra batteries and keep them in the bag with you.

Ned shared a technique learned from a Navy Seal on keeping food from freezing. Put it in a plastic bag and hang it around your neck. Otherwise, you may be biting into a frozen cookie,

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Tim and Lisa Hall

Lisa noted that couples can zip sleeping bags together for added warmth.

Tim suggested practicing the zipper connection at home. Don't do it the first time when it's cold.

Tim stressed that it is particularly important in cold weather to plan your hike/camping and to let people know your itinerary. He recommended Hiking Upward (<https://www.hikingupward.com/>) as a good source of information for Virginia hikes.

Lisa mentioned that you shouldn't leave home without knowing the weather forecast for the areas you will be in.

Tim reiterated the need to dress in layers of synthetic or wool clothes.

Lisa mentioned that they wear orange during hunting season.

Tim seconded that recommendation noting that one year they came across a group of bear hunters while they were dressed in black raingear.

Lisa strongly recommended multiple hand and foot warmers for multiple locations on the body.

Tim noted that a sleeping bag liner will keep you much warmer and will keep your sleeping bag cleaner as well.

Tim urged people to have a reliable method to start a fire such as cotton balls daubed with petroleum jelly. He noted that scraping the bark off of kindling helps it to start better.

Lisa mentioned that they have hung their rain fly on the outside of a shelter to stop the wind.

Tim noted that they keep their water filter next to their bodies to keep it from freezing and becoming useless.

They said they make a special effort to stay hydrated noting that it does seem important in the winter, but it is. They recommended bring electrolytes along.

Lisa noted that they carry extra fuel even though they don't hike in severe cold weather.

Tim noted that in his military days they stressed COLD. C=keep gear clean especially the sleeping bag. O=overheating which will lead to sweating and moisture in clothing or sleeping bags. L=layers using them to regulate body temperature. D=dry meaning make sure you have dry clothing to change into if you get wet.

Tom Miano

Just get out there and do it. If you are in the Shenandoah, you won't freeze if you have a descent sleeping bag and some peanut butter.

If car camping, remember you can always go back to the car if you forgot something.

Camping in high heat and in the cold are similar in one way. You need to be prepared.

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Bruce Davidson

Don't trust local weather reports when you are going to hike/camp on the A.T. The predicted low temperature can be as much as 20 degrees lower than forecast.

Bruce said he encounter temperatures in the Shenandoah of 20 below zero.

Bruce suggests shopping military surplus stores for wool clothing.

Microspikes are very handy in the winter as they are easy to strap onto your foot and reduce the risk of slipping if it is icy.

Bruce recommends visiting the White Grass (<https://whitegrass.com/>) website if you want to winter hike/camp in West Virginia.

Plinio Beres (U.S. Forest Ranger)

The Forest Service advocates preparing/planning. Know what you are getting into.

Over prepare and if you can bear the weight carry more than you think you will need.

Make sure people know where you are going and when you will return.

Cell phones work in more places than you think, but you may consider buying a satellite communications device if you are going into remote areas. They are pricey, but several people might consider a joint purchase and share the device.

You don't have to be fashionable. Buy what will keep you warm at a reasonable cost.

Shop where you are going to camp. Thrift stores often carry gear donated by hikers who have left the area.

Consider buying winter gear, second hand, in the spring.

Tyvek is a great wind and water barrier while weighing very little. It is also useful in the summer to separate you from the ticks. You can wrap yourself in it like a human burrito to keep warm.

If you get wet in cold weather, just change into dry clothing as soon as possible--regardless of the outside temperature.

Ed Martin

Recommends a wool knit cap for sleeping at night. Ed notes that a substantial amount of body heat is lost through your head.

When buying or renting snowshoes, get the type with automatic bindings. They make it much easier to get back into your snowshoes if you fall.

Remember that you may have to use the privy, if there is one, at night and potentially in the snow. Have a plan.

Consider bringing a 50 foot extension cord to provide heat to you tent--if you have access to power.

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Pete Burch

If you intend to sleep in a vehicle, remember that condensation is a problem there, too.

East Coast winter hiking/camping is much different from other areas where you know to expect cold weather. On the East Coast, a 45 degree day can quickly devolve to a 20 degree temperature night with sideways snow or rain. If you get caught outdoors without the necessary gear, you can quickly die.

Staying dry is absolutely paramount in the winter.

Pete strongly recommends a hoodie (yes, he knows it is cotton) to provide the maximum insulation for your head and neck especially when in your sleeping bag.

Open Q and A:

Ned: What foods do cold weather campers like?

Mal: Avoid instant oatmeal. He like to take a bread product like bagels.Dabn:

Dan: Anyone have experience with Meals-Ready-to-Eat

Lee: Meal, ready to eat, are not as bad as you might image, even cold, and they are nutritious.

Bruce: Check foods you are considering by putting them in the freezer beforehand, If it freezes, Bruce doesn't take them along unless they are be put in a jacket while hiking. Water bottle will freeze. Cheese, generally, will not freeze. Peanut butter is worthless unless you put it on a sandwich and then the bread is terrible. Freeze dried food works in cold weather and is nourishing.

Nalin Ratnayake: What is the easiest thing to forget? What is the thing you always bring but never needed?

Mal: You better bring toilet paper!

Bruce: Bring IMODIUM. Diarrhea is horrible in the cold.

Steve Fesko (TSAR): Tidewater Search and Rescue doesn't normally camp out but may have to stay in the woods overnight to find a lost person. This session has been very helpful.

Ned: Balaclavas work very well especially in your bag at night. Felt shoe inserts will lessen the shock of cold shoes in the morning.

Ned: What do people do about making a fire?

Bruce/Mal: We don't do fires anymore.

Agnes Evans: I like Jello right out of the package into hot water as a cold weather drink. The gelatin has protein in it.

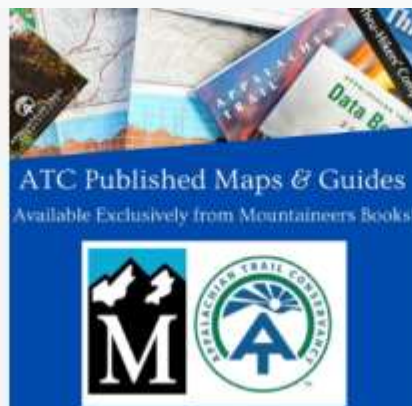
Lee: Try a summer sausage (Landjaeger, Genoa sausage, etc.) as they don't need to be refrigerated and contain lots of fat and protein. Supplement with M&Ms if you need sugar. Makes a great lunch or a part of diner.

Bruce: I had a SPOT satellite phone, but now use an Inreach from Garmin. I can text from anywhere even if there is no phone reception. The yearly subscription is \$10. Especially valuable if hiking with anyone likely to become ill suddenly.

Ned: I tried to use the SPOT device in Scotland and couldn't get it to work. Make sure you thoroughly understand how to operate your emergency communication equipment before you go.



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Park Review
Breaks Interstate Park
Breaks, Virginia

Breaks Interstate Park, located partly in southeastern Kentucky and mostly in southwestern Virginia, in the Jefferson National Forest, has the distinction of being an “interstate” park since it is managed by the two states, and Daniel Boone is credited with discovering the Breaks in 1767.

We visited the park as part of a road trip in September of this year, camping in the park, hiking the trails there and visiting the surrounding area. There is a lodge, restaurant, cabins, cottages and campground. The park usually offers access to horseback riding, boat rentals and a zipline as well as hiking and fishing, but many of these activities were not available at this time.

Being seven and a half hours’ drive from Tidewater, we first made a stop at Claytor Lake State Park for the night and enjoyed a swim at the beach and dinner by the campfire. Getting to Breaks will take you down some pleasant winding mountain roads, making this park a bit out of the way but a nice surprise to get to.

There is a small store on the way in to the campground with a small selection of necessary supplies, and the person working the store was very friendly and helpful. We had booked a campsite online, site unseen, and we were thankful that the staff was so nice because the site we chose was one of the smallest, road-hugging sites we had ever seen. We got moved to a more spacious site and settled in for a few days.

There are lots of trails running through the park, mostly narrow and with lots of elevation change. We chose some that meandered through some spectacular rock formations and visited some view points with spectacular vistas. (See photos in this newsletter). The most spectacular and iconic view is at the overlook of the Breaks Canyon known as “The Grand Canyon of the South” which is five miles long and ranges from 830 to 1,600 feet deep.

We don’t know many people who have heard of Breaks; we had just heard of it a few years ago and put it on our “see someday” list. It’s worth a visit!

Rosanne Cary



TATC Local Trails Maintenance Awards

January 2018 – December 2019

By Dave Plum

Work Locations

- First Landing State Park – Ellis Malabad, Margaret Pisone
- False Cape State Park – Bruce Julian, Diana Ramsey
- New Quarter Park – Phyllis Neumann
- Chippokes Plantation State Park – Bruce Julian
- West Neck Creek – John Oakes, John Murray

Award Levels

- 12 Hours – “Local Trails” Rocker Bar
- 30 Hours - Certificate
- 75 Hours – Local Trails Hat
- 100 Hours – Certificate
- 200, 300,400 + - Certificate

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TATC Local Trails Maintenance Awards January 2018 – December 2019

Summary of Activities

2018
17 work trips
6 locations
60 participants
1,305 hours
2019
18 work trips
7 locations
72 participants
1,894 hours

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Awards

12 Hours

Max Allen
Jody Cooper
Jamie McNabb
Jim McNabb
Dave Plum
Ed Welp
Mary Rozier



30 Hours

Allen Cruze
Ken Holmes
Bill Billings
Mary Rozier
Steve Rosenthal
JP Richard



75 Hours

Allen Cruze

100 Hours

Bill Leber
Sandy Canepa

200 Hours

Frank Morgan
Christine Morgan
Victor Pisone

300 Hours

Christine Morgan
Nancy Pruden



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Awards

400 Hours

Nancy Pruden

Frank Morgan

900 Hours

Dottie Abbott

1000 Hours

Milton Beale

Jane Oakes

1300 Hours

Sandy Baylor

1400 Hours

Margaret Julian

2500 Hours

Bruce Julian



Membership Committee

December 2020 Newsletter Article

The summer of 2020 has had its challenges for our Club membership. However, in spite of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have maintained a membership of over 300 people! But, without our general meetings at the Pretlow Library and our fun group activities, some of us are just plain lonely! In particular, the lack of face to face interconnectedness prevents the warm handshakes and hugs we're accustomed to when meeting our friends. For new members, this can be especially difficult as they often remain in the shadows. This needn't be the case though, and thanks to our friendly members, Zoom meetings, and educational offerings we have been successful at capturing the attention of several new folks.

As you may know, the membership committee sends out welcome packets to new members the first of each month. Now, in addition, we are sending an email asking them to submit short introductions for publication in the newsletter so we can get to know them better. Several have already responded. I will let some of them introduce themselves now.

Nalin Ratnayake has been a member since July 9, 2020.

I am an aerospace engineer who enjoys running, writing, cooking, reading, Dungeons and Dragons, amateur photography, and home winemaking! I grew up in Idaho and spent most of my life in the mountain west and southwest with a strong love for the outdoors. I've been car camping and tent-trailer camping since I was a little kid thanks to adventurous parents, and have recently gotten into backpacking. I moved to Virginia about three years ago, and joined TATC this June after being referred to it by a friend. So far have been very pleased with how welcoming and educational the club has been. I'm looking forward to getting more engaged with the club in the role of the newly-appointed chair of the Land Management Committee, and hope to meet new friends among all of you.

John Delano has been a member since August 14, 2020.

John W. Delano, Ph.D. retired in late 2016 as professor in Dept. of Atmospheric and Environmental Sciences, State University of New York, Albany, NY. His NASA-funded research yielded 70 professional articles. He is currently a volunteer docent at Colonial Williamsburg and a volunteer for trail maintenance at Waller Mill Park in Williamsburg. Other post-retirement activities include bicycling, amateur astronomy, and colonial archaeology.

Gwen Sturdy has been a member since September 13, 2020.

Hello, I live in Williamsburg. I homeschooled my own four children, and now I am a private tutor, working with high school math students. I have always hiked and walked. My favorite place on earth is Acadia National Park, which I have visited almost every year for decades. A few years ago I walked the Borders Abbeys Way in Scotland, and that hooked me on long distance walking. I then hiked the West Highland Way, which I also thoroughly enjoyed. After that I started wondering how I could do a long-distance walk in the States. Well, as you all know, long-distance walks in the U.S. typically involve a backpack, so I started backpacking. I am currently planning on thru-hiking the AT next year, starting on April 6. I do want to get involved with trail maintenance. I am looking forward to meeting you all!

Joey Debarberie has been a member since October 5, 2020

Hi Team! My name is Joey DeBarberie. I'm originally from Philly, and have been transplanted here after 20+ years in the Navy. I don't have very much recreational camping and hiking experience, but what I've learned of both through professional means has taught me to live with a very minimalist mentality. I had expressed my desires to eventually hike the AT with Amanda Hartwig, and she told me about this group. I'm looking forward to meeting and working with all of you!

Zand Bakhtiari has been a member since October 30, 2020

I am a Tidewater native and avid hiker/backpacker. I prefer loops over in-out hikes, I choose trail runners over hiking boots, and I like eating my trail food out of freezer bags. Whether it's the Great Dismal Swamp, the AT, or one of our larger national Parks, I love it all. I particularly love doing these things with my Fiancé, Jean. Our first backpacking trip together was the Three Ridges\ Mau-Har loop. Other hobbies include; running, climbing\bouldering, gardening, baking, fermentation\pickling, and wood work. When I am not on the trail I work for the City of Virginia Beach as a GIS Analyst. Basically, I work on anything and everything related to maps. By joining this group I hope to find the opportunity to give back to the Trail community. I am not afraid of hard work and will help in any way I can. Opportunities that are of particular interest to me: Construction\Maintenance of shelters, privies, the foot bridge & the cabin, General Trail Maintenance, and Mapping.

Thank you, Zand Bakhtiari

Welcome new TATC members!

Pleasure House Point Natural Area

Category: Hiking, Blue Ways

Description: Located just west of the Lesner Bridge and south of the Chesapeake Bay, Pleasure House Point Natural Area is 118 acres of water, tidal marsh, sandy shores and maritime forest. The tidal wetlands of the property provide habitat for the iconic Chesapeake Bay blue crab, diamond back terrapin, and the Lynnhaven oyster. It also acts as nurseries for mollusks, crabs, and fish. The area provides food and habitat to many bird, reptile and amphibian species. Please respect the wildlife during your visit; take care not to disturb nests or eggs and do not approach or feed the wildlife. This high-profile property was once being considered for a large waterfront development, but with the help of The Trust for Public Land, the Chesapeake Bay Foundation and the surrounding community, the City has preserved one of the largest undeveloped parcels of land on the Lynnhaven River for generations to come. Enjoy the designated trails, but please do not walk through maritime forest or beach grasses. Dogs are welcome, but must remain on a leash. Bikes are not permitted.

Website: <https://www.vbgov.com/government/departments/parks-recreation/parks-trails/city-parks/Pages/pleasure-house-point.aspx>

Trail Map: <https://www.vbgov.com/government/departments/parks-recreation/parks-trails/Documents/php-map.pdf>

Winter Operating Hours:

November 1 - November 30 - 7:30 am - 5:30 pm

December 1 - December 31 - 7:30 am - 5:00 pm

January 1 - February 5 - 7:30 am - 5:30 pm

February 6 - March 7 - 7:30 am - 6:00 pm

March 8 - April 5 - 7:30 am - 7:30 pm

Parking: parallel parking is available on Marlin Bay Drive. You can enter the natural area from several soft trail access points.

Google Map Location: <https://www.google.com/maps?q=3957+Marlin+Bay+Drive,+Virginia+Beach,+Virginia,+23455&z=13>

Address: 3957 Marlin Bay Dr, Virginia Beach, VA

Phone: (757) 385-0400

Email: fun@VBgov.com



The Blue Ridge Tunnel Trail

By Jim Sexton

The Crozet Blue Ridge Tunnel Trail opened for walking and bicycling on November 21, 2020. The tunnel was built from 1849 to 1858 for trains to pass through Afton Mountain. The tunnel was the westernmost and longest of four tunnels engineered by Claudius Crozet to cross the Blue Ridge Mountains at Rockfish Gap in central Virginia. At 4,237 feet (1,291 m) in length, the tunnel was the longest tunnel in the United States at the time of its completion in 1858. The tunnel was used by the railroad from its opening until it was abandoned and replaced by a new tunnel in 1944.

The Blue Ridge Tunnel Trail is open from sunrise to sunset daily. Currently, the western trail and parking lot will be closed for surface treatment during the first week of December, 2020. Check at the Nelson County website listed below for future closings. When we were there, there was a porta-potty at the eastern entrance to the trail, however, it was over-full and unusable due to the high usage; so, don't count on it being available for use.

Helpful Websites:

Website: Nelson County – Blue Ridge Tunnel:

<https://www.nelsoncounty.com/blue-ridge-tunnel/>

Blue Ridge Tunnel Foundation:

<http://blueridgetunnel.org/>

Coollest Hike in Virginia

<http://coolesthikeinvirginia.com/>

Map for East Trailhead:

<https://www.nelsoncounty.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Tunnel-Map-East-Trailhead.pdf>

Map for West Trailhead:

<https://www.nelsoncounty.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Tunnel-Map-West-Trailhead.pdf>

Visit Nelson County Virginia – Crozet Blue Ridge Tunnel:

<https://www.nelsoncounty.com/wanderlove/crozet-tunnel-greenway/>

When Chris and I were there just after the tunnel opened, there was a pretty good-sized waterfall running down the rocks outside the eastern entrance to the tunnel, with some water dripping down from the ceiling inside the tunnel, and even a small waterfall coming off one of the side walls inside the tunnel.

We walked on the trail from east to west, from the eastern trailhead to the other side of the tunnel and then back again for a total of 3 miles. It is 50 degrees inside the tunnel year-round. The tunnel is also quite damp and a good breeze was blowing from the uphill west side of the tunnel to the downhill east side. The trail from the eastern trailhead to the tunnel is in excellent shape. The trail inside the tunnel is mostly flat, with just a few rough spots where the water drips down just a bit faster. A bright flashlight is required for navigating your way through the tunnel. You will actually have to walk 3,346 ft. from the eastern trailhead before you enter the tunnel, and then you will walk 4,360-feet through the tunnel to the other side. We didn't walk all the way to the western trailhead on the other side of the tunnel, but stopped short at the 1.5-mile marker just outside the western entrance to the tunnel. We then turned around and returned to the east side and the parking lot. You can bike on the trail and through the tunnel, but you must use a headlight on your bike or wear a headlamp. Dogs are allowed on the trail, but only on a leash.

A Few Words of Warning:

On the eastern side, there is a 12-spot parking lot at 215 Afton Depot Lane, while the western trailhead is near 483 Three Notched Mountain Highway, where there are 25 parking spaces and two oversized areas for small buses. Presently, too many people are trying to visit the tunnel on the same day, since it just recently opened, this is resulting in traffic jams and safety issues. Try to wait for a while before you visit this trail and then try to visit it in off-hours towards the middle of the week.

(Continued on next page ...)

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Be careful not to walk too far to the left or the right of the trail inside the tunnel, there are drainage ditches on both sides. The drainage ditches are not too deep, being only a foot or so in depth, but you can certainly turn your ankle or worst if you step into one of them in the dark. The drainage ditches help to keep the trail in the tunnel dry, but there is always at least a couple of inches of water running down the tunnel ditches from the west entrance towards the east entrance.

The inside of the tunnel is not lighted. You will need to bring a high-powered flashlight (or two) with you. We used small flashlights when we walked inside the tunnel, but the dark tunnel just seemed to soak up the light, especially towards the middle of the tunnel. While we could see our feet, we actually had to point the flashlight at anything else in order to see the walls or ceiling. Choose to take a flashlight which provides at least 1000-2000 lumens. Headlights are handy, but probably not sufficient on their own. You can walk in the dark towards the other tunnel entrance, but beware of walking into the ditches. The floor of the tunnel is somewhat rough in a few places, especially where water has been falling faster from the ceiling.

I was wearing a fleece for the tunnel and was underdressed. The tunnel, especially towards the middle, is cold and damp, with a good wind blowing in your face as you walk uphill towards the west. Bring a waterproof jacket to wear with your fleece. I also wore a ball cap and Chris wore a wide brim hat. You will need to wear a cap or hat since the water drips down off the roof of the tunnel.

You will need to wear a face mask and maintain social distancing on the trail, especially in the tunnel, since you will be passing dozens and dozens of people along the way. The trail inside of the tunnel is only ten feet wide, with ditches on either side.

Some Facts:

Direction to the East Trailhead = 215 Afton Depot Lane, Afton VA 22920

From I-64: Take Afton Exit 99. Take a right onto 250 East. After 1.5 miles, take a sharp right onto VA-6 East. Go .5 mile and turn right onto Afton Depot Lane.

Limited parking on the east side (12 parking spaces). No bus parking. Trail fully ADA accessible.

Direction to the West Trailhead - 483 Three Notched Mountain Hwy, Waynesboro VA 22980

From I-64: Take Afton Exit 99. Take a left onto 250 West towards Waynesboro. The trail entrance will be on your left. 25 parking spaces available and buses may park here. Trail is NOT ADA accessible.

*Significant elevation change, max grade 19%. The steep grade of the western trailhead may limit access to people with limited mobility.

Distance from East Trailhead to East Tunnel Portal (entrance): 3,346 ft. (0.63 miles) net change in elevation +37 feet, max. grade 5.3% for 150 feet, most of the rest of the trail is < 1.6%; avg. 1.5%. Length of Tunnel: 4,273 feet; change in elevation +55 feet; average grade 1.3%

Distance from West Tunnel Portal (entrance) to western trailhead: Length 4,279 feet (0.81 miles); net change in elevation +175 feet; grades range from -17% to +19% for lengths of 150+feet with grades over 5% for a majority of the trail; average grade is 6.5% max grade 19%. One section includes a concrete mat stream crossing that may have water flowing over it during or shortly after rainstorms. Trail width is 10 ft. Cross Slope 1-2% for the entire trail. Surface material: crushed stone.

Interesting Links on the Internet

Podcast: Mighty Blue on the Appalachian Trail

<https://mightyblueontheat.com/the-podcast/>

Bike Norfolk opens city's first single-track mountain bike trail

[https://www.wtkr.com/news/bike-norfolk-opens-citys-first-single-track-mountain-bike-trail?](https://www.wtkr.com/news/bike-norfolk-opens-citys-first-single-track-mountain-bike-trail?fbclid=IwARouDtpV9Fv_mCJFO4vCQzHqLSGtUVuwG34JR1wnXFHZ7aCpGiRPY-A5Kho)

[fbclid=IwARouDtpV9Fv_mCJFO4vCQzHqLSGtUVuwG34JR1wnXFHZ7aCpGiRPY-A5Kho](https://www.wtkr.com/news/bike-norfolk-opens-citys-first-single-track-mountain-bike-trail?fbclid=IwARouDtpV9Fv_mCJFO4vCQzHqLSGtUVuwG34JR1wnXFHZ7aCpGiRPY-A5Kho)

From 'Only in Your State:

Six Trails In Virginia That Will Lead You To Extraordinary Ancient Ruins

[https://www.onlyinyourstate.com/virginia/trails-lead-to-ruins-in-va/?](https://www.onlyinyourstate.com/virginia/trails-lead-to-ruins-in-va/?fbclid=IwARoipJAdkgGuJ7xi7xBbqBO12oAdlIK-9yGe2gvJ-9ErZbq-MRCyJL8Tio)

[fbclid=IwARoipJAdkgGuJ7xi7xBbqBO12oAdlIK-9yGe2gvJ-9ErZbq-MRCyJL8Tio](https://www.onlyinyourstate.com/virginia/trails-lead-to-ruins-in-va/?fbclid=IwARoipJAdkgGuJ7xi7xBbqBO12oAdlIK-9yGe2gvJ-9ErZbq-MRCyJL8Tio)

Twelve Incredible Hikes Under 5 Miles That Everyone In Virginia Should Take

[https://www.onlyinyourstate.com/virginia/hikes-under-five-miles/?](https://www.onlyinyourstate.com/virginia/hikes-under-five-miles/?fbclid=IwARoIow3s15nQzq2KOWSmhvSzbHLFB-2Ox1JUzabehzAfUjiBKrB7b8ud7FQ)

[fbclid=IwARoIow3s15nQzq2KOWSmhvSzbHLFB-2Ox1JUzabehzAfUjiBKrB7b8ud7FQ](https://www.onlyinyourstate.com/virginia/hikes-under-five-miles/?fbclid=IwARoIow3s15nQzq2KOWSmhvSzbHLFB-2Ox1JUzabehzAfUjiBKrB7b8ud7FQ)

Follow An Old Logging Railroad To A Waterfall On This Enchanting Virginia Trail

[https://www.onlyinyourstate.com/virginia/logging-railroad-hike-va/?](https://www.onlyinyourstate.com/virginia/logging-railroad-hike-va/?fbclid=IwAR3DDAUhpoEw16tj88desCt1Tu7punm7Q8I7oSdiSo4AVSvodtVDFA_H2wU)

[fbclid=IwAR3DDAUhpoEw16tj88desCt1Tu7punm7Q8I7oSdiSo4AVSvodtVDFA_H2wU](https://www.onlyinyourstate.com/virginia/logging-railroad-hike-va/?fbclid=IwAR3DDAUhpoEw16tj88desCt1Tu7punm7Q8I7oSdiSo4AVSvodtVDFA_H2wU)

From 'Backpacker Magazine':

AT 3D Map - It's Awesome!

<https://www.backpacker.com/trips/explore-the-appalachian-trail-in-3d>

Explore Coastline, Forest, and Shipwrecks in False Cape State Park, Virginia

<https://www.backpacker.com/trips/hiking-false-cape-state-park-vir>

Three Ridges Loop, Virginia

<https://www.backpacker.com/trips/three-ridges-loop>

Cross the "Virginia Triple Crown" Off Your Hiking Bucket List

<https://www.backpacker.com/trips/virginia-triple-crown>

The Best Day Hikes in America: Mt. Rogers via Massie Gap

<https://www.backpacker.com/trips/mt-rogers-via-massie-gap>

Old Rag via Berry Hollow

<https://www.backpacker.com/trips/washington-d-c-old-rag-via-berry-hollow>

Shenandoah National Park: Old Rag Mountain

<https://www.backpacker.com/trips/old-rag-mountain>

Harpers Ferry to Weverton Cliffs

<https://www.backpacker.com/trips/baltimore-md-harpers-ferry-to-weverton-cliffs>

(Copy and paste the link addresses into your browser, if they do not automatically open when you click on them)

Camping Trip or Cooking Trip?

A Review of North Bend Park Campground

by Kari Pincus

Over Halloween weekend, I went on a car camping trip to North Bend Park on Kerr Lake . Actually, it was more of a cooking trip, with some camping thrown in for good measure - see photos below. We even went swimming on Halloween - brrrr!

North Bend Park was built by the Army Corps of Engineers, and is nearly perfect in every way. It is only 2.5 hours west on Route 58 - easy drive, but "far" from home. The sites were clean and level, and most have plenty of "elbow room" between you and your neighbor. The bath house was clean and warm. We were on the water, with a little beach.

Most of the park closes Nov 1st for the winter, but a small portion stays open, with all electric sites, and even a bath house with hot water! For the winter season, you can't reserve ahead, but you can call them to check availability.

The only downside was that on the non-electric sites (which are also for campers), they do allow generators! We had 2 (count 'em 2!) neighboring campers who ran their generators for several hours, 3 times a day. Oh, well, we got over it, and still had an AMAZING trip, with tons of good food and good company.



Home sweet home for 2 days

Camping Trip or Cooking Trip?
A Review of North Bend Park Campground
by Kari Pincus



Kerr Lake, private little beach

Camping Trip or Cooking Trip?
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by Kari Pincus



**Breakfast scramble: bacon, chorizo, potatoes, onions, scallions,
red pepper, and eggs. What a way to wake up!**

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A Review of North Bend Park Campground
by Kari Pincus



Campfire cooking at its best!

Camping Trip or Cooking Trip?
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**Whole baked apples, sausage, onions and cabbage cooked in a Dutch oven
over the coals. And what a view!**

Camping Trip or Cooking Trip?
A Review of North Bend Park Campground
by Kari Pincus



Sunday breakfast in style: Toasted bagels, lox, and all the fixin's – cream cheese, hard boiled eggs, cucumber, onions, and capers.

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, December 2, 2020 7pm-9pm

Where: Online via Zoom App

Contact: Rosanne Cary president@tidewateratc.com

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

No General Membership Meeting in December

TATC Board Meeting

When: Wednesday, January 6, 2021 7pm-9pm

Where: Online via Zoom App

Contact: Rosanne Cary president@tidewateratc.com

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

TATC General Membership Meeting

When: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 7pm-9pm

Where: Online via Zoom App

Contact: Rosanne Cary president@tidewateratc.com

Program: TATC Elections

Description: TATC General Membership Meeting. Guests are always welcome! This meeting will be held remotely using the Zoom App. A blast email with a link to this Zoom Meeting will be sent out next week. If you do not currently subscribe to our blast email listing and would like to receive future blast emails, then click on the following link: <http://tidewateratc.us6.list-manage.com/subscribe/post?u=55b4b56215f58352eca502f98&id=0eb6788ff3>

2021 TATC Trail Maintenance Schedule:

May 14-16	Trail Walk-thru
May 21-23	Spring Maintenance / Swing Blade Festival #1
July 9-11	Swing Blade Festival #2
Aug 13-15	Swing Blade Festival #3
Oct 8-10	Trail Walk-thru if needed
Oct 22-24	Fall Maintenance

Information for the Hike & Activities Schedule, TATC Newsletter, Website, and Meetup event postings are collected & edited by the Hikemaster. Contact the hikemaster@tidewateratc.com to add your event(s) to the TATC Schedule.

**Check our Facebook Site, our Club's Website,
and our periodic Blast Emails for Updated Club News.**

[TATC Facebook Site](#)

[TATC Website](#)

[TATC MeetUp Site](#)

TATC Officers & Board

Positions	Names	E-Mails or Phone #'s
President	Rosanne Cary	president@tidewateratc.com
Vice President	Phyllis Neumann	vicepres@tidewateratc.com
Treasurer	Douglas Cary	treasurer@tidewateratc.com
Secretary	Steve Clayton	secretary@tidewateratc.com
Trail Supervisor	Jim Newman	trailsupervisor@tidewateratc.com
Assistant Trail Supervisor	Patrick Hayes	assistantts@tidewateratc.com
Counselor	Kari Pincus	counselor@tidewateratc.com
Counselor	Mark Ferguson	counselor@tidewateratc.com
Counselor	Ellis Malabad	counselor@tidewateratc.com
ATC RPC Representative	Ned Kuhns	rpcprep@tidewateratc.com
ATC RPC Representative	Jim Sexton	rpcprep@tidewateratc.com
Cabin Committee	Greg Hodges	cabin@tidewateratc.com
Cabin Committee	Bob Adkisson	cabin@tidewateratc.com or 627-5514
Calendar Committee	Tony Phelps	calendar@tidewateratc.com
Education Committee	Lee Lohman	education@tidewateratc.com
Hikemaster	Phyllis Neumann	hikemaster@tidewateratc.com
Historical Committee	Jim Sexton	historical@tidewateratc.com
Land Management Committee	Nalin Ratnayake	landmgt@tidewateratc.com
Local Trails	Dave Plum	localtrails@tidewateratc.com
Membership	Sharon Salyer	membership@tidewateratc.com
Merchandise	Mark Van Zandt	merchandise@tidewateratc.com
Newsletter	Jim Sexton	newsletter@tidewateratc.com
Outreach	Rosemary Plum	outreach@tidewateratc.com
Past President	Juliet Stephenson	pastprez@tidewateratc.com
Programs	<i>vacant - TBA</i>	programs@tidewateratc.com
Timekeeper	Bill Lynn	timekeeper@tidewateratc.com
Tool Boss	<i>vacant - TBA</i>	toolboss@tidewateratc.com
Webmaster	Jim Sexton	webmaster@tidewateratc.com



Breaks Interstate Park

By Rosanne Cary



Douglas Cary on Geologic Trail Breaks Interstate Park

Breaks Interstate Park

By Rosanne Cary



Canyon at Breaks Interstate Park

Bartram Trail

By Carl Morrison



Bartram Trail Marker

Bartram Trail

By Carl Morrison



Bartram Falls

Bartram Trail

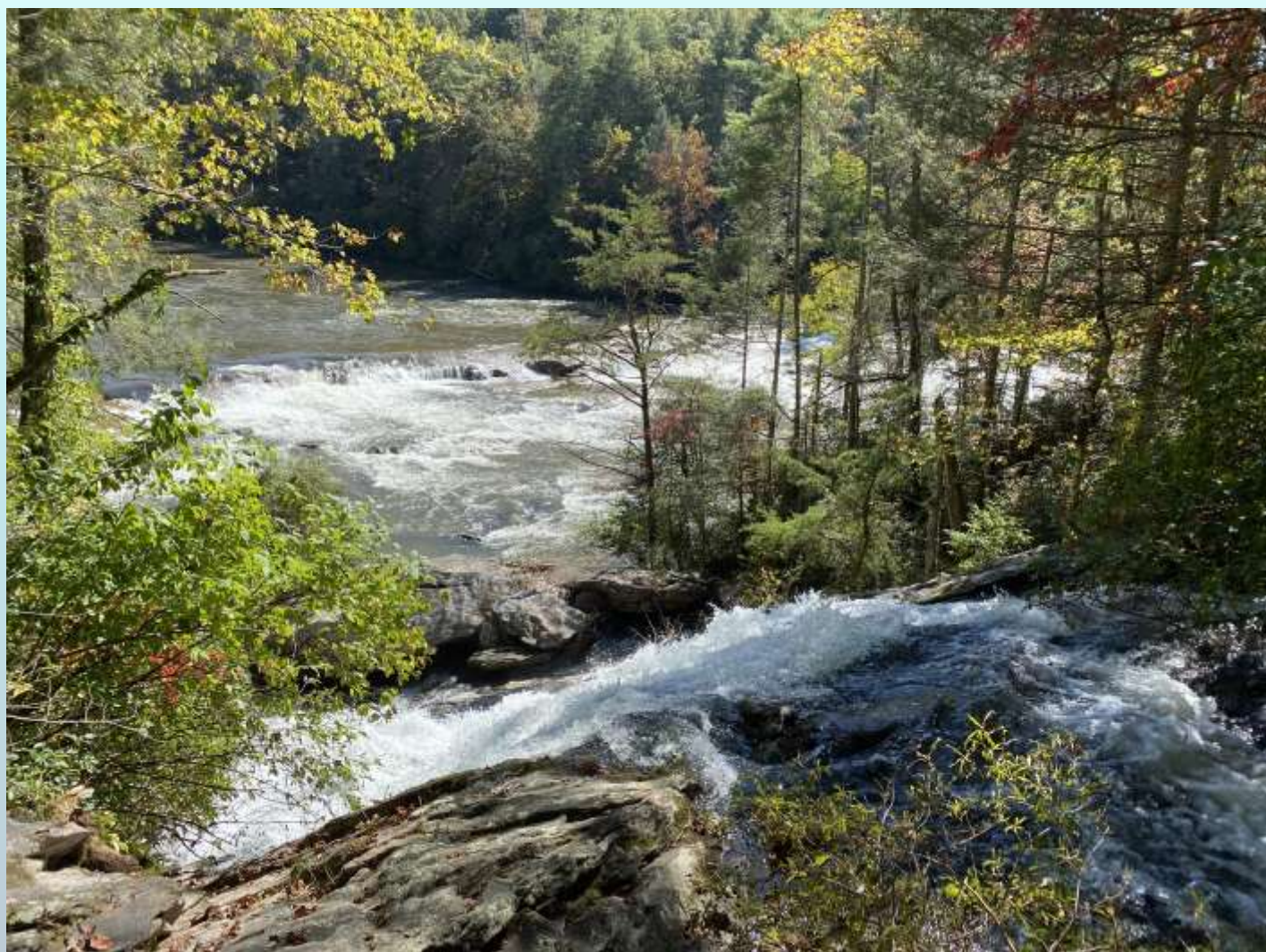
By Carl Morrison



Cheoah Bald

Bartram Trail

By Carl Morrison



Dicks Creek Falls

Bartram Trail

By Carl Morrison



Fall Colors

Cabin Trip

By Kevin Du Bois



Descriptions of Trips are available on Kevin's Blog at www.ofthewoods61.blogspot.com

Cabin Trip

By Kevin Du Bois



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Cabin Trip

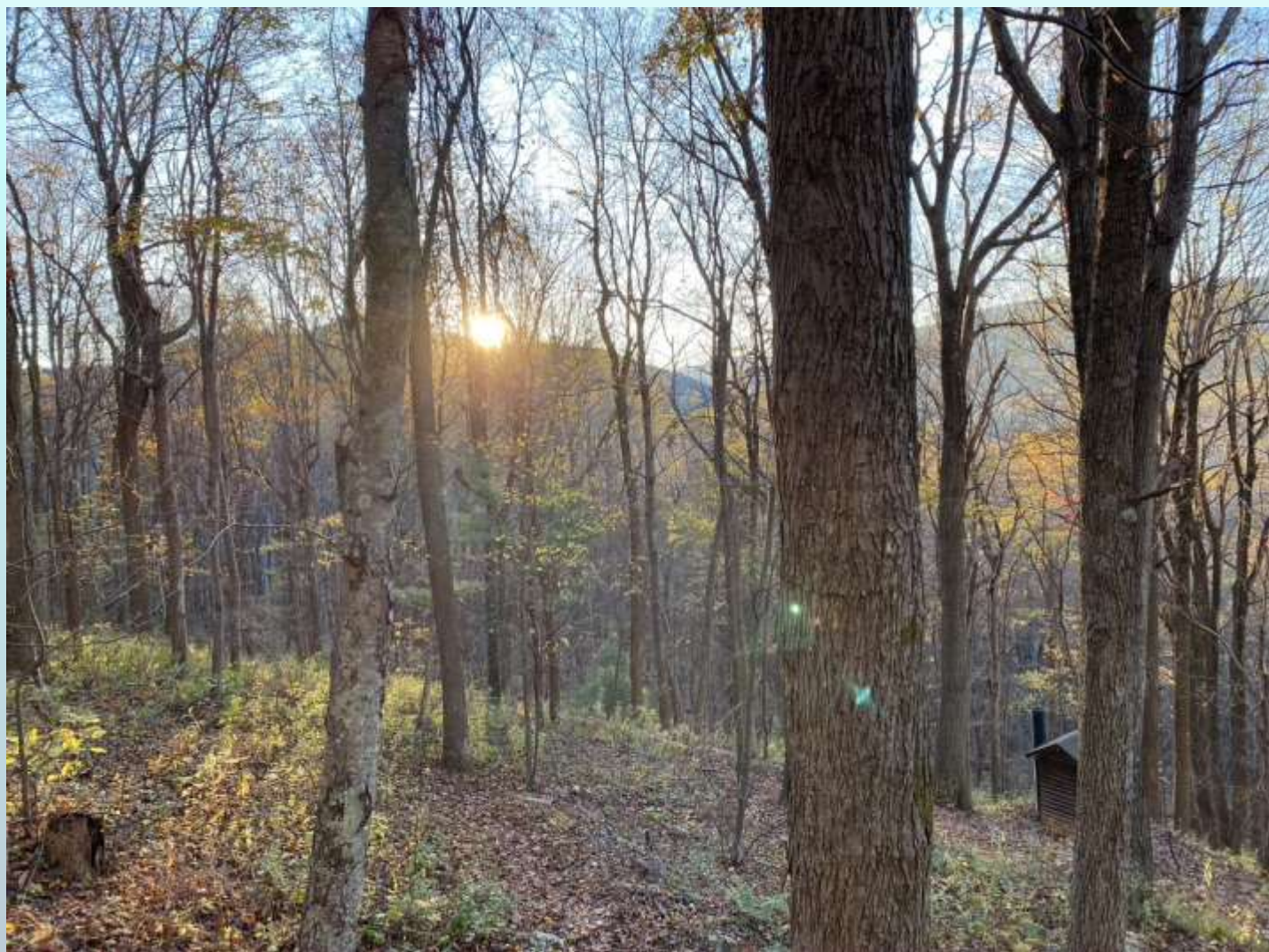
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Cabin Trip

By Kevin Du Bois



Descriptions of Trips are available on Kevin's Blog at www.ofthewoods61.blogspot.com

Hike from Rockfish Gap to Little Calf Man on the AT

By Kevin Du Bois



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Cabin Maintenance Trip - November 13 - 15, 2020

By Mal Higgins



Cabin Maintenance Trip - November 13 - 15, 2020

By Mal Higgins



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By Mal Higgins



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By Mal Higgins



Cabin Maintenance Trip - November 13 - 15, 2020

By Mal Higgins



Blue Ridge Tunnel

Cabin Maintenance Trip - November 13 - 15, 2020

By Mal Higgins



Blue Ridge Tunnel

Cabin Maintenance Trip - November 13 - 15, 2020

By Mal Higgins



Blue Ridge Tunnel

Blue Ridge Tunnel Trail

By Chris Sexton



East Trailhead

Blue Ridge Tunnel Trail

By Chris Sexton



National Historic Marker

Blue Ridge Tunnel Trail

By Chris Sexton



East Tunnel Entrance

Blue Ridge Tunnel Trail

By Chris Sexton



West Tunnel Entrance

Blue Ridge Tunnel Trail

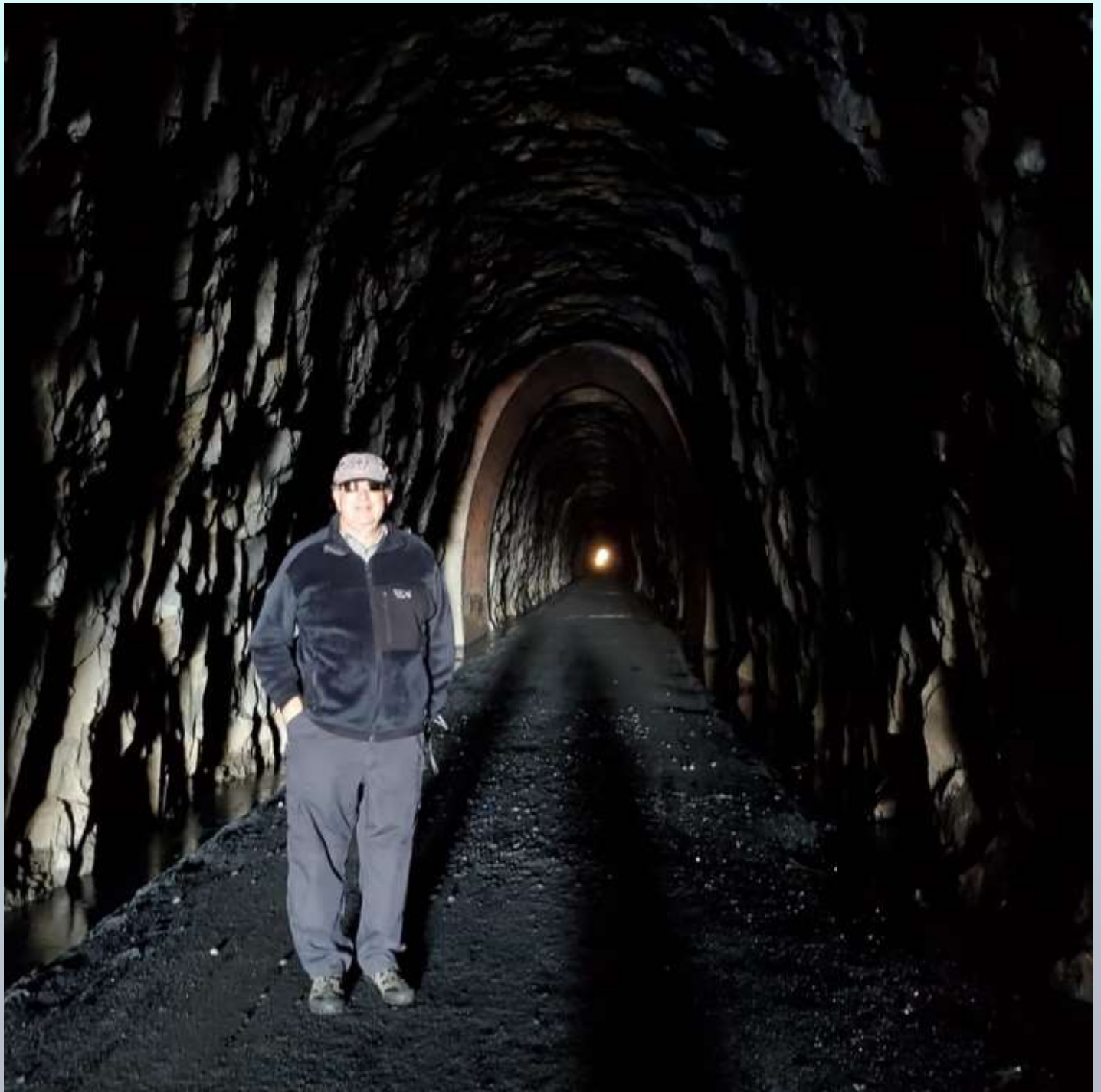
By Chris Sexton



Brick on walls of the West Side of Tunnel

Blue Ridge Tunnel Trail

By Chris Sexton



Jim Inside East Entrance

Grand Canyon - Rim2Rim

By Karl Allen



Day 1

Grand Canyon - Rim2Rim

By Karl Allen



Day 1

Grand Canyon - Rim2Rim

By Karl Allen



Day 1

Grand Canyon - Rim2Rim

By Karl Allen



Day 1

Grand Canyon - Rim2Rim

By Karl Allen



Day 2

Grand Canyon - Rim2Rim

By Karl Allen



Day 2

Grand Canyon - Rim2Rim

By Karl Allen



Day 2

Grand Canyon - Rim2Rim

By Karl Allen



Day 2

Grand Canyon - Rim2Rim

By Karl Allen



Day 3

Grand Canyon - Rim2Rim

By Karl Allen



Day 3

Grand Canyon - Rim2Rim

By Karl Allen



Day 3

Grand Canyon - Rim2Rim

By Karl Allen



Day 3

Grand Canyon - Rim2Rim

By Karl Allen



Day 4

Grand Canyon - Rim2Rim

By Karl Allen



Day 4

Grand Canyon - Rim2Rim

By Karl Allen



Day 4

Grand Canyon - Rim2Rim

By Karl Allen



Day 4

Grand Canyon - Rim2Rim

By Bill Billings



Day 1

Grand Canyon - Rim2Rim

By Bill Billings



Day 1

Grand Canyon - Rim2Rim

By Bill Billings



Day 1

Grand Canyon - Rim2Rim

By Bill Billings



Day 1

Grand Canyon - Rim2Rim

By Bill Billings



Day 2

Grand Canyon - Rim2Rim

By Bill Billings



Day 2

Grand Canyon - Rim2Rim

By Bill Billings



Day 2

Grand Canyon - Rim2Rim

By Bill Billings



Day 2

Grand Canyon - Rim2Rim

By Bill Billings



Day 3

Grand Canyon - Rim2Rim

By Bill Billings



Day 3

Grand Canyon - Rim2Rim

By Bill Billings



Day 3

Grand Canyon - Rim2Rim

By Bill Billings



Day 3

Camping and Hiking at Newport News Park

By Zand Bakhtiari



Camping and Hiking at Newport News Park

By Zand Bakhtiari



Camping and Hiking at Newport News Park

By Zand Bakhtiari



Camping and Hiking at Newport News Park

By Zand Bakhtiari



TATC Fall Maintenance

By Rosanne Cary



TATC Fall Maintenance

By Rosanne Cary



TATC Fall Maintenance

By Rosanne Cary



TATC Fall Maintenance

By Rosanne Cary



TATC Fall Maintenance

By Mal Higgins



TATC Fall Maintenance

By Mal Higgins



TATC Fall Maintenance

By Mal Higgins



TATC Fall Maintenance

By Mal Higgins



TATC Fall Maintenance

By Mal Higgins



TATC Fall Maintenance

By Mal Higgins



TATC Fall Maintenance

By Mal Higgins



TATC Fall Maintenance

By Mal Higgins



TATC Fall Maintenance

By John Sima



John using Large Silky Saw

TATC Fall Maintenance

By John Sima



Blowdown #1 Before



Blowdown #1 After

TATC Fall Maintenance

By John Sima



Blowdown #2 1st cut already completed



Blowdown #2 After

White Rock falls Trail Clearing

By Dave Plum



White Rock falls Trail Clearing

By Dave Plum



White Rock falls Trail Clearing

By Dave Plum



White Rock falls Trail Clearing

By Dave Plum



McAfee Knob Hike

By Joey DeBarberie



Pleasure House Point Natural Area

By Jim Sexton



Pleasure House Point Natural Area

By Jim Sexton



Pleasure House Point Natural Area

By Chris Sexton



Pleasure House Point Natural Area

By Chris Sexton



Pleasure House Point Natural Area

By Jim Sexton

