



Appalachian Hiker

Banner Photo by Mark Ferguson

PREZ SEZ

Our first two Swingblade and Lopperfest weekends were a tremendous success, with more than 20 volunteers participating in each event! Be sure to read John Sima's article in this newsletter for highlights and photos. I'd also like to recognize a few individuals whose quiet, behind-the-scenes efforts make these weekends possible:

- John Reed, our new Tool Boss, for keeping our tools sharpened, oiled, organized, and operating like new.
- Peter Burch, for preparing our base camp at the CCC Kitchen before each event by cleaning the privy, cutting firewood when needed, mowing and trimming, and clearing access routes to various sections of the AT.
- Lee Lohman, our Base Camp Coordinator, who keeps everything running smoothly by ensuring all required paperwork is completed, making sure trail crews depart with everything they need—including first aid kits—assigning and testing Garmin devices, and confirming that everyone returns safely at the end of the day.

Thank you, John, Peter, and Lee, for everything you do. Your dedication often goes unnoticed, but it is deeply appreciated.

And our big fall finale maintenance event is our Fall Maintenance and Family Campout Weekend to be held on October 16-18. Please mark your calendar now. We will have tasks available for all levels.

We also have two Cabin Maintenance/Orientation Weekends remaining this year:

- September 25-27
- November 6-8

If you've ever been interested in renting our rustic cabin in the wilderness, contact Greg Hodges (cabin@tidewateratc.com) for more information.

Our Local Trail Maintenance program continues to thrive thanks to the leadership of Paul Heyman, our Local Trail Lead, and the many volunteers who generously give their time to maintain our local trails. Thank you all for your continued commitment.

Our Tuesday Group continues its impressive tradition of hosting an outing every Tuesday morning. If your schedule allows, check out

August-September 2026

53rd Edition, 4th Issue

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the club calendar and join us for a hike, bike ride, or kayak trip. A special thank-you goes out to each of our trip leaders for making these weekly adventures possible.

Our Education Chair, Don Williams, is nearing completion of his Appalachian Trail journey, finishing the final section from Kinsman Notch, New Hampshire, to Katahdin, Maine—approximately 390 miles. Many consider this the most challenging stretch of the AT, but also one of the most spectacular and rewarding. Best wishes, Don, as you complete this incredible accomplishment!

Finally, I'd like to recognize Jim Sexton, our Vice President and Hike Master, for the outstanding job he continues to do filling our club calendar with a wide variety of activities, including Happy Hiker Hours, hikes, bike rides, amphibious trail crews, backpacking trips, and much more. His dedication ensures there is truly something for everyone. If you have an idea for a future club event, please reach out to Jim at hikemaster@tidewateratc.com.

As always, stay safe, have fun, and enjoy your time on the trails and in the woods.

Lelia Vann, TATC President

Minute for Maintenance



Lopperfest 1 & 2 events were a great success. Over 20 people showed up for each event which is a fantastic turnout! Lopperfest 1 we concentrated on maintaining the AT. Lopperfest 2 the real hero's showed up. With triple threat of Canadian wildfire smog, rain, & high temps, our volunteers got it done! Barret Stanton (SAWS) & I went up the south side of Three Ridges to evaluate some problem areas for possible future work.

Megan Martin our USFS Trail Specialist was planning on attending our Lopperfest 2 event but she got called away. She was part of the fire crew fighting the 108 acre fire in Taylor Hollow, in Rockbridge county. Well done Megan! You're our hero! I'll let you slide for missing our event. Lol. We were probably seeing some of the smog during Lopperfest 2. That fire was a few miles West of Montebello.

Upcoming Events

October 2nd-4th Fall Backpacking Walkthru

16th-18th Fall Maintenance

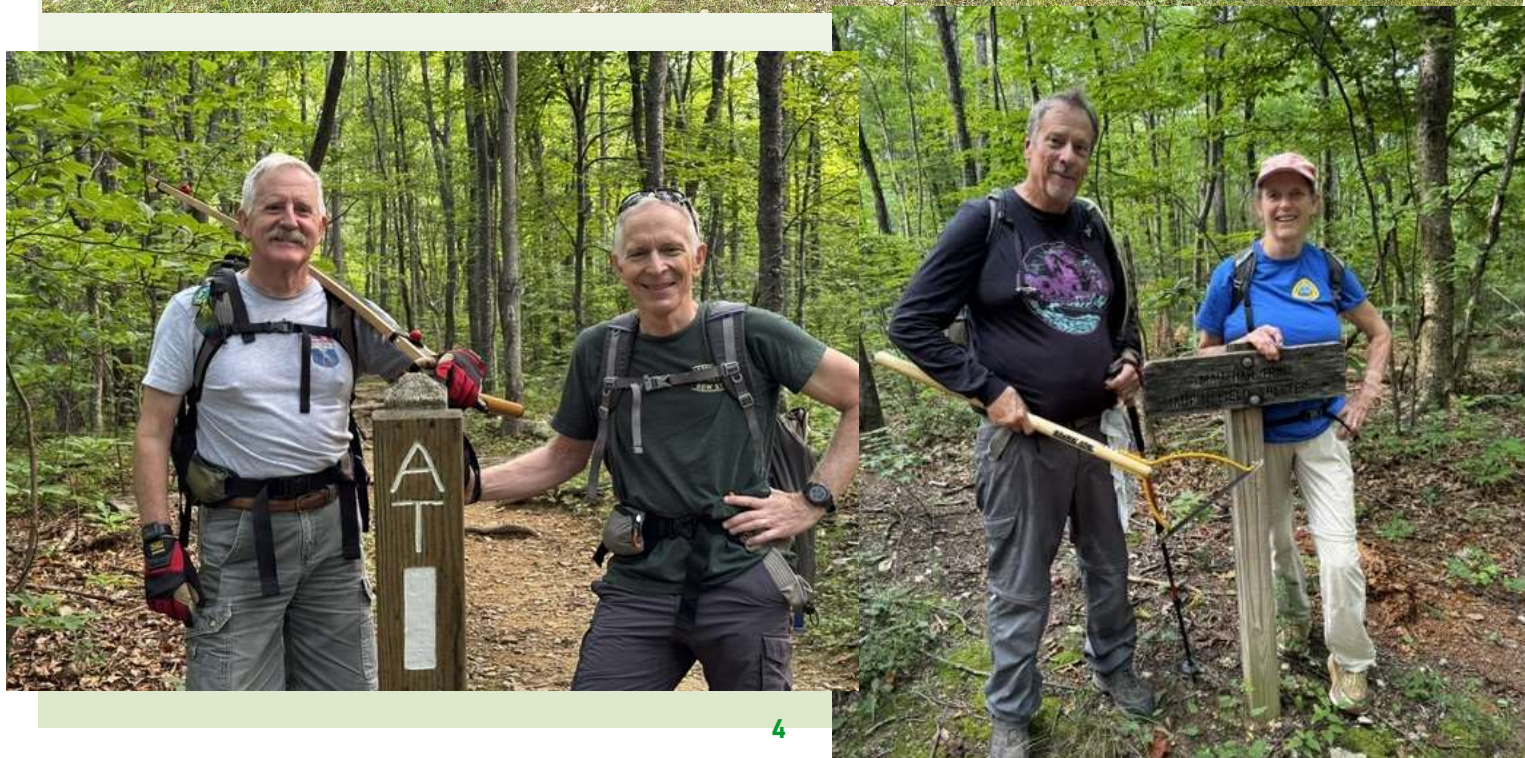
Happy Trails, John & Kaci

Lopperfest 1 Reid's Gap to Meadow Mountain Crew Milton Beale and Patrick Hayes



Lopperfest #2 Group Photo - July 18 workday. Another hot but productive event with no injuries!!! Thanks again to Jonathan and Brain for accommodating us at Sherando as our base camp.

Lelia





Some pictures from the weekend of June 6-7 working the SAWS and USFS reps in St. Mary's Mine Bank trail.

Michael Wilson



Lee Lohman, Dave Plum, Rosemary Plum and Lon Carpenter at First Landing State Park work clearing growth from sides of paved trail on June 11th

Lon Carpenter



Mary “Janie” Blassingham



Mary “Janie” Blassingham, a long-time TATC Life Member, died Wednesday, June 24, 2026. Janie was a very active member of TATC from 1989 to 2006, and she, along with several other TATC members, continued to be active in outdoor activities while living at Westminster-Canterbury.

Janie served as TATC’s Treasurer, 1994-1995, and again 2000-2001. She served on the TATC Nominating Committee from 1996 to 1999. Janie was the winner of 1995 TATC Photo Contest. She was a chief contributor to the TATC newsletter, writing dozens of articles. For years, she was an active hiker, backpacking and hiking the AT and other trails. However, she along with several other club members were best known for their Mount Katahdin trip in August 1997. Mal Higgins provides a brief description of this trip below.

Janie and Pat Strong and Pat’s sister, and a couple of ladies from Georgia were part of the infamous ‘Katahdin summit or bust’ crowd on August 7, 1998. Bob Adkisson and I helped ‘guide’ Janie and the others off the mountain after the slowest TATC group finally arrived at the summit around 3:00pm.

Reese, Otey, Reese’s granddaughter, my daughter Abigail, and others had arrived earlier and were waiting for us. Now, they descended at normal speed. Bob and I stuck with the ladies. No one had any water left by the time we were halfway down; only Bob and I had flashlights as darkness fell.

We inched our way down the trail, pausing often to allow the exhausted ladies to rest. Sometime around 11:00pm, Reese and I think Otey were coming up the trail (wish I could remember the name of the trail) blowing a whistle to let us know they were looking for us. We reunited and made it to the cars around midnight. Then we thought the rangers had probably locked the gates. But no, they had only shut the road gates but not locked them. We made it back to Millinocket around 1:00am.

Not long after returning to Tidewater, Janie gave Bob and me (and maybe others) a paperweight I still cherish. It reads ‘Hero, Mt. Katahdin, 8-7-97’. Yes, hyperbole, but a reminder of an epic day!

I will miss Janie, even though it’s been years since we have seen each other. She was part of a cohort of really involved and fun ladies of the club.



1995 TATC Meeting: Mike Brewer, Al Bellinoff, Janie Blassingham, and Rick Hancock



Mount Katahdin 08-07-97

A Poem of this Adventure, by Janie;

Mount Katahdin 08-07-97 by Janie Blassingham with help from Joyce Kilmer

I think that I shall never see
A team as tough as the TATC

'Twas 7 a.m., when 11 brave
souls started out
There were 4 guys and 4 gals
from TATC, all ready to shout

2 gals from Georgia, and 1
Mainer, were with us
Cheerful they were, and a
definite plus

To Baxter Peak on Katahdin,
was our intent
And made it we did, 'tho our
backs were bent

The smell of balsam, as we
passed through the trees
Brought Christmas to mind,
when we fell to our knees

Told the easy way down, was
the Saddle Trail
You know how hikers love to tell
Tales

'Tis said -
the mountains in Maine, are
uphill both ways
No argument you'll get from us,
on that fateful day

There were little rocks, loose
rocks, big rocks, and boulders
The packs on our backs brought
pain to our shoulders

"Please stay on the trail", the
little signs read
'Tho on the soft dirt, we would
love to have tread

In sunny weather, we started
our climb
But along about dark, we had
run out of time

A more motley crew you
couldn't find
Emerging in the dark -
battered, bruised and most
blind

Poems are made by fools like
me
But only GOD was with the
TATC.

All who knew her will deeply miss Janie.

A memorial service for family and friends was held on August 1 in the Holy Trinity Chapel at Westminster-Canterbury on Chesapeake Bay, officiated by The Reverend Jenny Spivey. The service was recorded for those unable to attend.

Membership Matters



In order for us to get to know you better, please take a moment to write a short paragraph introducing yourself to the membership. Tell us a little about yourself and your hiking or camping experiences. You can either attach or copy and paste your introduction to this email. Your submission will be printed in an upcoming TATC newsletter.

Thanks for helping with the membership committee's effort to keep our club a warm and inviting space for all. We are happy that you are with us.

Sincerely,

Kama and Ed TATC Membership Co-chairpersons

Few pictures from my Benton Mackaye Trail thru-hike this past June - Matthew Adams



Hiking and Backpacking during Hunting Season



Before you plan a fall, winter, or spring hike or backpacking trip, you should always check hunting data in your area. Remember to check regional boundaries, as rules often vary between lands east of the Blue Ridge Mountains and those west of them. In addition, wear either an orange blaze hat or orange upper-body clothing to make yourself visible to hunters.

Key dates for hunting in Virginia are:

White-tailed Deer:

- Urban Archery: September 5 - October 2, 2026 (Select municipalities, antlerless only)
- Early Archery (Statewide): October 3 - November 13, 2026
- Youth & Apprentice Weekend: October 10 - 11, 2026
- Early Muzzleloader: October 31 - November 13, 2026
- General Firearms: Opens statewide on November 14, 2026 (Duration depends on local county)

Wild Turkey - Fall Firearms: Begins in mid-October in designated counties.

Migratory Birds & Waterfowl

- Early Canada Goose: September 1 - 25, 2026
- Mourning Dove: First segment opens September 1, 2026
- General Duck Season Splits (Statewide)
 - First Split: October 9 - October 12, 2026 (Note: Black duck is closed during this 4-day October split)
 - Second Split: November 18 - November 29, 2026
 - Third Split: December 19, 2026 - January 31, 2027

Black Bear Season Overview

- Youth & Apprentice Bear Hunting Weekend: October 10 - 11, 2026
- Archery Season (Statewide/Regional splits):
 - Most Counties & Coastal Cities (e.g. Chesapeake, Suffolk, Virginia Beach): October 3 - November 13, 2026
 - Select Mountain/Piedmont Counties (e.g. Albemarle, Nelson, Augusta, Shenandoah): October 17 - November 13, 2026
- Muzzleloader Season: November 7 - 13, 2026 (or Nov 10-13 in select counties)
- General Firearms Season:
 - Coastal/Southside Cities (Chesapeake, Suffolk, Virginia Beach): October 1, 2026 - January 2, 2027
 - Southwest Mountain Counties (Lee, Wise, Russell, Dickenson, etc.): November 23, 2026 - January 2, 2027
 - Central/Blue Ridge Counties: Split framework (typically late November days concurrent with deer season and late December through early January).

Elk Overview:

- Inside the Elk Management Zone (Buchanan, Dickenson, and Wise Counties) - 2026-2027 Managed Season Dates: October 10 - October 16, 2026
- Outside the Elk Management Zone (Rest of Virginia) - Any elk (bull, cow, or calf) may be taken on any open deer hunting day (archery, muzzleloader, or firearms season) in the county or municipality you are hunting.

Virginia Hunting and Trapping Regulations: <https://dwr.virginia.gov/hunting/regulations/>

ATC Hunting Safety Guide: This primary guide outlines how hunters and hikers safely share public lands along the trail. It breaks down:

- **Where Hunting Is Allowed vs. Prohibited:** Details that hunting is strictly prohibited in national parks along the A.T. (such as Shenandoah National Park), but permitted along roughly 1,250 miles of trail through National Forests (like the George Washington and Jefferson National Forests in Virginia) and state game lands.
- **Safety Protocols:** Guidelines for wearing blaze orange (vests, hats, and pack covers), avoiding high-risk times like dawn and dusk, and exercising caution near road crossings.
- **Etiquette & Law:** Reminders regarding hunter non-interference laws across all 14 AT states.

ATC State-by-State Hunting Seasons: Table An official downloadable reference published by the ATC summarizing fall big game, spring turkey, and small game window ranges, complete with direct contact links for state wildlife authorities (including the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources).

AT Regulations & Permit Overview: An informational article outlining land ownership rules along the corridor, highlighting local orange-clothing requirements and land management boundaries across state and federal properties.

Key Rule of Thumb from the ATC: Although hunting is prohibited on narrow National Park Service-acquired A.T. corridors, trails frequently run adjacent to open hunting grounds. Always wear blaze orange when traveling through or near National Forest lands during active fall and winter seasons.

Learn more about the deep cultural heritage of outdoor traditions in the region through PBS Appalachia's Hunting and Fishing Episode.

AT Museum Announces New Podcast



The Appalachian Trail Museum announces a new audio podcast, A.T.rail of History.

A.T.rail of History will cover all things Appalachian Trail. It will carry out the mission of the A.T. Museum, by telling the stories of the founding, construction, preservation, maintenance, protection and enjoyment of the Trail since its creation.

Follow this link to listen to the podcast: <https://www.buzzsprout.com/2627818/> It is also available on Apple, Spotify and other major podcast providers.

As America's most famous long-distance trail celebrates its first century, this is an appropriate time for the Trail's Museum to start a podcast. As is implied by the word "History" in the name, the Trail's history will be an important focus of this podcast. However, the history of the Trail will not be its sole focus. Episodes will also cover the modern Trail, how it has evolved and some of the challenges that it will face during its second century.

On the podcast we will feature original interviews and discussions about the Trail. We'll also post audio versions of some Museum events, including those at the Hall of Fame celebrations.

We hope this will be an interactive podcast. If you have ideas for topics we ought to cover or people we ought to interview, please let us know. Contact us at atmuseumpodcast@gmail.com

Good Food, Great Hike

Tired of the usual backpacking food from REI? Ready to explore more interesting on trail options, both make your own and premade? Well you're in luck. I'm offering a review of a premade store bought meal as well as a recipe for a creation to make at camp!

Review

As I set out for my thru hike of the Tahoe Rim Trail, I leave you with two more delicious meals to savor next time you're in the backcountry. Plus a bonus sweet breakfast/dessert!

When I first started backpacking about 10 years ago, I stumbled on PackIt Gourmet (<https://packitgourmet.com/texas-state-fair-chili/>). I've had many of their meals, but my favorite is the Texas State Fair Chili. While I personally have never been to the Texas state fair, I can only assume this is a good representation from the Austin based company.

It's a classic chili, with beans, meat, and a good mix of spices. Flavorful, but not overly spicy on its own, it comes with packets of Texas Pete hot sauce (although I prefer Cholula) for those of us who like to kick it up a notch. It also comes in an extra spicy option! Also included is a packet of tortilla chips and freeze dried shredded cheese for extra flavor and texture. The tortilla chips really help make the texture feel like something you'd make at home. It retails for \$14.99 and is available on PackIt Gourmet's website or Amazon. It's one of the more affordable meals out there, and at 650 calories and 41g of protein, is calorically dense enough to be a fitting end to a hard day of hiking. I usually put a touch less water in mine than the instructions call for, and make sure to stir it twice, as I like my chili on the thicker side.

Bonus:

I love french toast, and I found a way to eat it under the stars thanks to Gastro Gnome, a backpacking meal company out of Bozeman, Montana. Only available on their website, the Caramel Apple French Toast (<https://gastrognomemeals.com/products/french-toast>) is an absolutely decadent way to start or finish your day. If you're a fan of sweet breakfasts (I am not) then you'll love this meal with a cup of coffee before you pack up. I love it as dessert; a reward for a long climb or a celebration on my last day on trail. One note: make sure to stir this meal well, once before sealing up the pouch and at least twice while it rehydrates, to make sure the brioche gets to the right texture.

Recipe

The Andrew Skurka classic rice & beans

Skurka, the long distance backpacker famous for blazing the Great Western Loop, among other accomplishments, swears by this recipe. It is tried and true, and you can dress it up in a myriad of ways. If you want to make your own trail chili, you'll need:

- Equal parts by volume instant rice and dehydrated beans (NOT dried, there is a difference)
- Seasonings of choice to taste (I usually use a packet of taco seasoning plus some chipotle chili powder)
- A couple of cheddar cheese sticks (if you want)
- Fritos, or other corn chips, to your liking
- A packet of taco meat or shredded chicken (if you want)

As you can tell, this recipe is flexible and customizable. Throw all the dry ingredients in a freezer quart size bag, add equal amount of boiling hot water (you can cook in the freezer bag) and top with the cheese, meat, and fritos to your hearts content. Enjoy!

Palmer Hurst

Two New Full Time ATC Staff



I'm very excited to introduce you all to two new full-time staff members here in Virginia, Claire Krotoski- Non-native Invasive Species (NNIS) Coordinator, and Alex Dyer- Restoration Coordinator! Claire and Alex will be focusing on Helene-related work on USFS lands and bring some incredible skills and capacity to natural resource work at ATC.

Alex will be largely focused on the Mount Rogers High Country in red spruce restoration, grazing management, Visitor Use Management, and other restoration efforts as needed over the next 4.5 years.

Claire will be focused on NNIS surveys and management across the GPRD, EDRD, and MRNRA with a focus on survey work in areas of significant blowdown and Special Biological Areas as well as management of ongoing NNIS projects, Early Detection Rapid Response (EDRR) projects, and making the most out of our NNIS strike team when they are in Virginia over the next 4.5 years.

I've attached both of their bios in case you want to learn more about them. They are already hitting the ground running and please feel free to reach out to them with projects, project ideas, program needs, etc. Claire and Virginia are out today pulling and inventorying the first WLBB occurrence on the A.T. South of Shenandoah and Alex has already purchased Acoustic Recording Units for Carolina Northern Flying Squirrel monitoring in the Mount Rogers.

Now that the Science and Stewardship team in Virginia are up to four full-time employees, watch out- we are going to be dangerous!

Please give Claire and Alex a warm welcome and we are super excited to be making such a significant impact on the A.T. in Virginia! Thank you so much for your continued partnership and the amazing difference you all make for the Trail!

Conner McBane, Senior Natural Resource Manager ATC



Claire Krotoski: Non-Native Invasive Species Coordinator, Virginia Regional Office. Claire is based out of the Virginia Regional office in Roanoke, VA. While originally from California, Claire quickly fell in love with Virginia and the Appalachian Trail when attending Virginia Tech for a B.S. in Ecological Restoration. As a Non-native Invasive Species Coordinator, Claire's role involves surveying for and managing invasive species, working with partners, and helping to control invasives in the state. Claire has a lifelong passion for plants and being outside hiking, walking, camping, and identifying fun species. She has worked in various field work based roles doing wetland work, studying invasives, promoting native biodiversity, and connecting people who are passionate about the outdoors. While she is excited to work with invasives, seeing native plants, rare or not, always brings her joy. When she's not working or outside, you can find her foraging, identifying plants for fun, illustrating plants, crafting, or reading a good book.

Alex Dyer: Restoration Program Coordinator, Virginia Regional Office. Alex grew up in Missoula, MT, and moved around the U.S. for school, travel, and seasonal work with the U.S. Forest Service and the National Park Service, before settling in southwest Virginia. He thru-hiked the Appalachian Trail in 2019, the Pacific Crest Trail in 2023, and the Colorado Trail in 2024. You'll still find him backpacking during his time off! As restoration program coordinator, Alex works to target red spruce restoration sites and complete red spruce restoration within Virginia's most notable sky island - Mount Rogers and Whitetop Mountain. He completed a Bachelor of Arts degree in Geography at The Ohio State University, and a Master of Science in Geography at Virginia Tech, where his research focused on spatial prioritization of red spruce restoration in southwest Virginia.



**Appalachian Trail
Conservancy**

Emerging Leaders' Summit

October 9-11, 2026

New Jersey School of Conservation



**Appalachian Trail
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EMERGING LEADERS' SUMMIT



OCTOBER 9-11, 2026



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AGES 18-30

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Tuesday Group



On June 9th Bill Billings led the TATC Tuesday Group on a 15-mile, 7-hour paddle down the Nottoway River. The group enjoyed a catered lunch at the Bronco Club provided by the Village at Woods Edge. Before the paddle, the Village's bus driver shuttled the paddlers back from the Dockside where they had left their vehicles. During the paddle the group ran into RiverGuard Jeff Turner (Blackwater and Nottoway Rivers), who was once a speaker for the TATC. We took a photo of Jeff, and he took a photo of us, getting the TATC a mention in The Tidewater News! Photos by Bill Billings.



WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17, 2026

www.TheTidewaterNews.com

THE TIDEWATER NEWS **A5**

Muddy Nottoway waters and bright nights

Spirit of Moonpie and I spent June 3-5 and then June 8-10 on the Nottoway below Delaware. The water was quite muddy and 70 degrees, air temps ranged from 54 to 85 degrees on the first trip. On the second leg the water was getting clear and 80 degrees, air temps ranged from 55 to 90 degrees. Notice the water temps jumped 10 degrees in four days! It was very nice weather, skeeters not too bad, but the deer flies were. More trash than normal again for this part of the river on both trips.



RIVERGUARD

by Jeff Turner

On the first leg the fishing was pretty good. I caught two cats each night, nothing to write home about really. Biggest was only 4 pounds. Bream and bass fishing were great. I had five bass the first day that added up to 8 1/2 pounds, so that was not all that great, but a lot of fun. I caught several small ones the second day also. Most were caught on a Rogue jerk bait. Bream were caught on a miniature Rebel jointed minnow. On the second leg the fishing was not good at all. I was skunked both nights on catfish. Once again, the chain pickerel fishing was not good. I only caught one on the first leg. I also caught a gar, 30 inches long, but it didn't weigh much. It was good fishing the first three days, bad fishing the next... that's the way the fishes swim, hhhhaaa! So, it was very pleasant back-to-back trips. I saw lots of wildlife, and the moon was still 3/4 full on the first leg and very bright at night the second. That always makes it so nice out there on one of the two rivers we call the Nottoway and Blackwater.



This great blue heron made an appearance during RiverGuard Jeff Turner's recent patrols on the Nottoway River below Delaware.

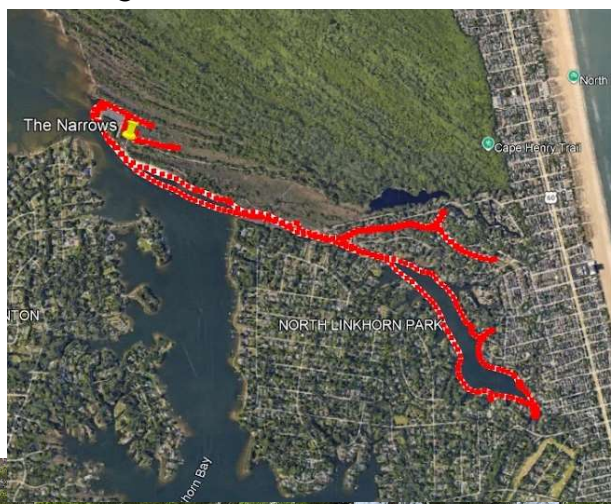


RiverGuard Jeff Turner noticed this group of kayakers from the Tidewater Appalachian Trail Club during one of his recent patrols on the Nottoway River below Delaware.

JEFF TURNER is the Blackwater Nottoway RiverGuard. To contact him about river issues, send him an email at bjknob@jeffturner.net. He can also be followed on the Blackwater Nottoway RiverGuard Facebook page. Get type in "Blackwater Nottoway RiverGuard" in the search field on Facebook.

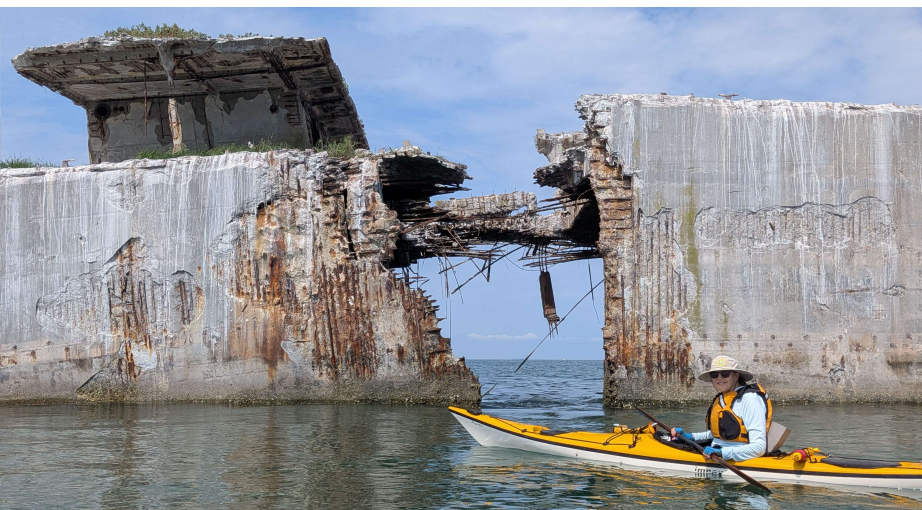


On June 16, Gayle Owens led the TATC Tuesday Group on a paddle from First Landing State Park's 64th Street boat ramp to Crystal Lake and back again. The group stopped for a photo at the Frank Lloyd Wright House and Castle House before stopped for lunch on a small beach. Photos by Bill Billings



On July 7, Phyllis Neumann and Vic Pisone led the TATC Tuesday Group on a paddle to the concrete ships of Kiptopeake State Park on the Eastern Shore. Birds were plentiful and included brown pelicans, royal terns, common terns, laughing gulls, herring gulls, rock pigeons, and double-crested cormorants. Some of the brown pelicans were sporting breeding plumage, characterized by a dark reddish-brown behind the neck.

The name Kiptopeke means “Big Water” in the Algonquian language but was also the name of the younger brother of Esmay Shichan, the Accomac chief. “The Accomac tribe occupied the southern part of the Eastern Shore in what is now Northampton County when the English arrived in 1607. The Occohannocks lived further north, in what is now Accomack (Accomac) County. The leader of the Accomacs, Esmay Shichan, appointed his brother Kiptopeke to rule as werowance over the Occohannocks,” noted Helen C. Rountree in her book, *Pocahontas's People: The Powhatan Indians of Virginia through Four Centuries*. Photos by Sharon McQueen and Richard Douglas.



TATC Tuesday Group: Dismal Swamp Canal Bike Ride 2026_0714 On July 14 Ellis Malabad led a 22-mile bike ride along the Great Dismal Swamp Canal. We stopped along side the historic Superintendent's House and enjoyed many swallowtail butterfly sightings, including the zebra and the palamedes swallowtails. Group shot by Bill Billings. All others by Sharon McQueen.



On July 21 Bruce Julian led the Tuesday Group on a Lake Cohoon paddle. Lake Cohoon & Lake Meade are Portsmouth owned Reservoirs located within the City of Suffolk. Birder and Master Naturalist Kevin McKee sighted 27 species of birds, including rare sightings of an anhinga and a pair of Mississippi kites! Group shot and map by Bill Billings. All other photos by Sharon McQueen.



On July 28th Elaine Birk led an urban bike ride from her home on the banks of Linkhorn Bay, down the boardwalk, and across the Rudy Inlet Bridge. The group returned to Elaine's for a bag lunch. Ice cream and fixings were graciously provided by Elaine. Photos by Bill Billings and Sharon McQueen.



Join an Appalachian Trail Volunteer Trail Crew



Love the outdoors and want to make a difference? Volunteer with the Appalachian Trail Conservancy's Konnarock Trail Crew.

- **Explore the Outdoors**—From late spring through summer, volunteers spend 4 to 8 days camping and working on a section of the Trail in Georgia, North Carolina, Tennessee, or Virginia.
- **Beginner-Friendly Volunteer Vacation**—Training, meals, tools, and gear provided. No experience needed.
- **Leave Your Legacy**—Help with projects from trail repair and relocations, rock work, or rebuilding bridges and shelters.
- **Hands-On Experience**—Work with professional crew leaders and gain skills in trail maintenance, leadership development, and recreation management.
- **Make Friends + Make Memories**—Work and have fun with others who want to protect nature and improve the A.T.



**Appalachian Trail
Conservancy**

Books by 50 Year TATC Volunteer and Author

The Old Appalachian Trail in Southwestern Virginia

Susan Gail Arey

Trail Mix

Susan Gail Arey

Long Trail Through Vermont

SUSAN GAIL AREY

Appalachian Trail Encore

Susan Gail Arey

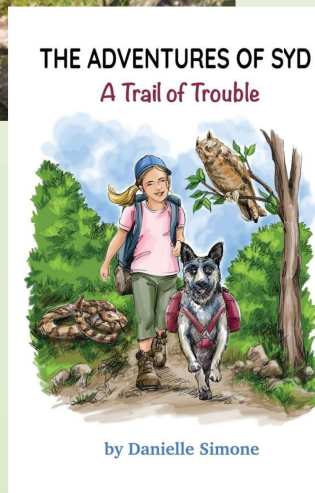
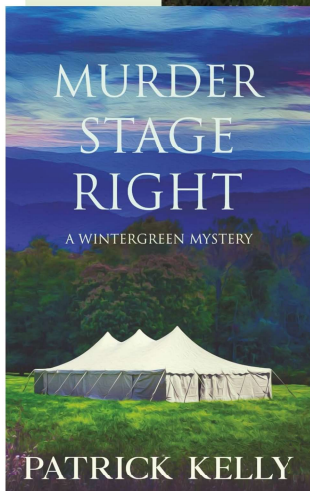
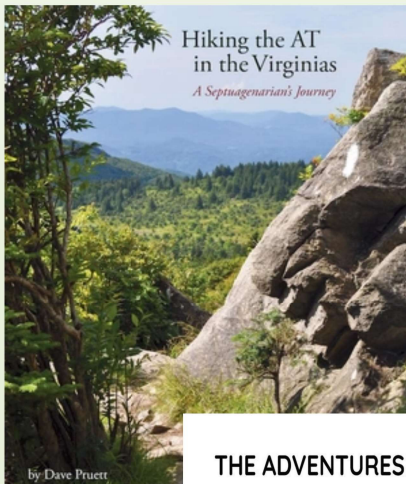
To Maine by Way of Georgia

on the Appalachian Trail

Susan Gail Arey

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Tidewater Appalachian Trail Club Officers and Board



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Vice President	Jim Sexton	vicepres@tidewateratc.com
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