

A JOURNEYS

THE MAGAZINE OF THE APPALACHIAN TRAIL CONSERVANCY

May — June 2011



ANNUAL 2,000-MILER REPORT

INSIDE: White Mountain Butterflies ■ Marion, Virginia

A JOURNEYS

THE MAGAZINE OF THE APPALACHIAN TRAIL CONSERVANCY

Volume 7, Number 3
May — June 2011

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The Appalachian Trail Conservancy's mission is to preserve and manage the Appalachian Trail — ensuring that its vast natural beauty and priceless cultural heritage can be shared and enjoyed today, tomorrow, and for centuries to come.

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On the Cover: Emotional embrace: 2,000-miler "Motorboat" and fellow hiker "Pebbles" in speechless celebration on Katahdin. By Ben Benvie

Among the 593 hikers who are celebrating a 2010 Trail completion is photographer Ben Benvie, whose uncanny ability to document the emotion and energy that infuses itself into A.T. hikers, as well as capture incomparable "Trail moments," is highlighted in both our 2,000-Miler Report (page 20) and our Photo Essay: Wanderlust (page 26).

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FROM THE EDITOR |

GREAT EXPECTATIONS AND BEST LAID PLANS. MAKING A PLAN TO LIVE in the present is an oxymoronic concept, but for all those who added: "hike the entire A.T." to their list, and then checked it off recently, I am guessing that many found they did, in fact, start with a plan that led them to living in the moment.

Photographer Ben Benvie loves to hike in beautiful places, which most recently included Haleakala National Park in Hawaii and, before that, the A.T. (page 26). "There were a lot of rumors spreading down the Trail leading up to the Smokies; many [chose] to skip them and try later, but myself and 11 others decided to give them a try," said Ben on his blog, just a few weeks into his 2010 thru-hike. "[That section of] the Trail definitely wasn't easy, but was far better than we were lead to believe. We were rained on, snowed on, sunk to our knees step after step, but in the end we made it unharmed and still managed to laugh along the way."

The Appalachian Trail is obviously not just about the completion of something grand, it's about the *creation* of something grand: new friends, new perspectives, and a feeling that there is even more good stuff out there waiting. The truth is that the A.T. transcends adventure in its offerings of natural solitude and more than 250,000 acres of surrounding protected-corridor woodland, farmland, and waterways. It is the home of rare species, like two varieties of butterflies that are known only to exist in the White Mountains (page 32). It is an open invitation for families, like the "Garrett guys," to bond and grow (page 40). And, like a living history book, it meanders by some of our country's older towns, like Marion, Virginia (page 36), rich with its own mix of deeply-rooted and modern culture

Cliché or not, a hike on the Trail, whether a long distance stretch or one peaceful segment at a time, has been known to permanently alter personal outlooks; and at the very least— at great and unanticipated moments — evoke fits of deep-bellied, teary-eyed laughter. ♡

Wendy K. Probst | *Managing Editor*

A.T. Journeys welcomes your comments, story suggestions and photographs. Queries may be submitted via e-mail to editor@appalachiantrail.org



"Rocker," "Cowboy," and "Suby," on the Trail just before the Priest shelter, Virginia. By Ben Benvie

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LETTERS

MY FAMILY HAS BENEFITED FROM "Trail magic" this year. That is, we received benefits far exceeding the sum of all our volunteer contributions to the Appalachian Trail. We have been involved in A.T. maintenance activities through the Smoky Mountains Hiking Club since the days when our son Ben was very young. Last year he had the opportunity to pursue a dream: a south-bound thru-hike of the A.T. Congratulations to "One Pace" and his pal "Guillermo" for completing their journey! To them and the many others who completed the Trail last year, we (their families and friends) owe our appreciation for the joy of sharing the journey via beautiful photographs, journals full of funny stories, care packages, and the occasional trailhead rendezvous for re-supply in town. Best of all were the celebratory hikes to the mountains at either end of the A.T.

We also are grateful to the Appalachian Trail Conservancy (ATC) for enriching that experience for all of us. Their guidebooks provided post office addresses and locations of friendly hostels; and back issues of *A.T. Journeys* were full of information on Trail towns and history. Plotting GPS locations on Google Earth with the aid of ATC's Trail centerline and shelter overlay became a daily treat. We were warmly welcomed when we visited the Harpers Ferry headquarters. The staff of ATC and the volunteer maintainers deserve our profound appreciation for all they do for the Trail and its users.

"One Pace," "Guillermo," "Churchill," "Tater Chip," "Appy & Pappy," and the rest of the A.T. Class of 2010 experienced the real Trail. Those of us who shared their progress and cheered their accomplishments took a different kind of journey, but one that was very rewarding. Trail magic, indeed.

Philip Royer
KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE

WHAT A PLEASURE TO FIND THE article about "Venado" and "Tecalote" in *A.T. Journeys* (Trail Stories, March/April 2011). After having seen them three

times on the A.T. last spring, we were very interested in learning about the rest of their hike. We first met them on Wesser Bald in North Carolina. After querying Venado [he just a child, and me in my 80s], we thought ourselves to be the youngest and oldest on the Trail. Certainly their trip was a wonderful experience for both father and son.

Norm and Kip Smith
"The Pink Panthers" ('94)
MIDDLETOWN, NEW YORK

THE STORIES OF SOUTHWEST Virginia (Catawba), especially "Growing Beyond Boundaries" and "A Hike Thru History" (*A.T. Journeys* March/April 2011) are spectacular! I love long articles about old houses and our history along the Trail.

Constance J. Vlk
LOVINGSTON, VIRGINIA


I REALLY ENJOYED THE LATEST issue, particularly the last page feature (As I See It, March/April 2011). I am going to tear out that last page and save it, because it was so well done (essay by the same guy that did the stunning cover photo). ⚡

James Close
MECHANICVILLE, NEW YORK


A.T. Journeys welcomes your comments. The editors are committed to providing balanced and objective perspectives. Not all letters received may be published. Letters may be edited for clarity and length.

Please send them to:
E-mail: editor@appalachiantrail.org

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White Rocks

The acquisition of White Rocks will protect open space and wildlife habitat, enhance the A.T. experience, and provide protection to critical groundwater recharge areas that feed residential use in the valley and the cold water fishery of the Yellow Breeches Creek. Funding for the project came partially from the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). A full feature about White Rocks and LWCF endangerment will appear in the July/August issue of *A.T. Journeys*. Photo by Linda Norman

FOR MORE THAN 30 YEARS, THE APPALACHIAN TRAIL CONSERVANCY (ATC) has worked with our federal, state, and private partners to complete the protection of the A.T. corridor and to safeguard the picturesque vistas, wildlife habitat, farmlands, and valuable historic sites that are part of the Trail experience. While this basic corridor is mostly complete, there are some critical sections that are still missing. And, although the treadway is now mostly safe, landscapes that are essential to the Trail experience are not protected by this relatively narrow corridor.

This past April, in Pennsylvania, we celebrated the completion of the White Rocks acquisition with a ribbon cutting, festivities, and Trail club-led hikes for the recently protected 840 acres of forested land on South Mountain in Cumberland County. The Cumberland Valley is being rapidly developed, and the Trail corridor is very narrow there. This land purchase will protect open space and wildlife habitat, enhance the Appalachian Trail experience, provide protection to critical groundwater recharge areas, and help sustain the cold water fishery in the area.

The Conservation Fund, which has collaborated with ATC on a number of key land-conservation projects, also recently announced the successful purchase, by the National Park Service, of a 631-acre portion of a broader conservation effort known as the Chateaugay-No Town project in Vermont, adjacent to the Killington Section of the A.T. (page 42). The acquired tract will create a protective buffer against development along a one-mile stretch of the Trail. The property features a high-value wetland complex, marked with a string of beaver ponds, that serves as a key feeding habitat for migratory birds, black bears, and moose.

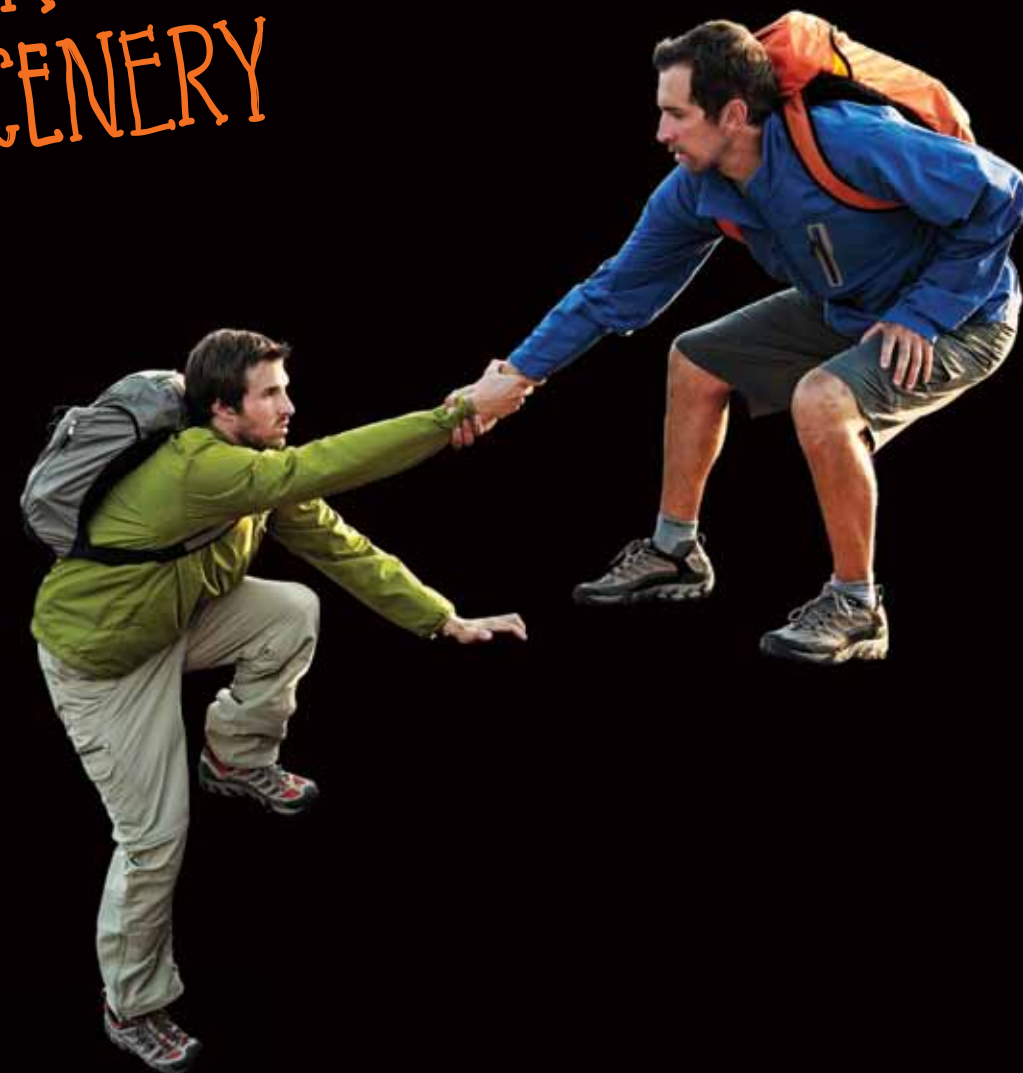
These two acquisitions were funded in part through the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), which has been the principal source of funding for federal land acquisition by the National Park Service and U.S. Forest Service for most of the nearly 200,000 acres that have been acquired along the Trail, and for many other national park, forest, and wildlife refuges throughout the U.S. Created by Congress in 1965, the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act established a fund created not from tax dollars but rather from revenues generated by off-shore oil leasing and a number of other sources. While the act authorized outlays from the fund of up to \$900 million each year, in most years actual appropriations from the fund have been far less. Now, the Congress is considering greatly reducing annual appropriations from the fund in fiscal year 2011 and possibly fiscal year 2012 as well. In contrast, President Obama in his fiscal year 2012 budget, and as an outgrowth of his America's Great Outdoors initiative, has proposed full funding of LWCF at the \$900 million level, including several projects relevant to the Trail. ATC will continue to support robust appropriations from the LWCF and we will keep you informed as developments unfold in the coming months affecting this all-important source of funding for land and water conservation in the U.S. ▲

Bob Almand | Chair

Dave Startzell | Executive Director

The Land and Water Conservation Fund Act established a fund created not from tax dollars but rather from revenues generated by off-shore oil leasing.

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DISAPPEARING giants

you can't spend much time in the Appalachian forest without becoming aware of the American chestnut. Small, shrubby sprouts appear in the Trailside understory and the spiny burs and shiny brown nuts occasionally litter the Trail. Most hikers know the lore of the American chestnut. Early farmers ran their hogs in the woods to feed on chestnuts. They gathered the nuts for their own use, collected the tannin-rich bark for tanning leather, and split the trunks for durable fence rails. The mighty giant that once made up a quarter of the forest species was laid low by an introduced disease; the chestnut blight was discovered in the early 1900s and by mid-century, most of the chestnuts were dead.

There are several other species of chestnut worldwide, in



BY MARK GATEWOOD
ILLUSTRATION BY BETTY GATEWOOD



Bygatewood

This page: Mark holds a female flower (surrounded by male, or staminate flowers); Right: Measuring a young tree; One of Betty Gatewoods' illustrations: American chestnut leaves and burr.



This page: Betty with the clipboard; Early spring chestnut leaves; Opposite page: A female flower will develop into the spiny bur surrounding the chestnuts; Mark stops to record data along the Trail.



*There is nothing else with the **SHAPE** of a chestnut leaf, nothing else with the shiny **TEXTURE**, nothing else that catches the **LIGHT** the way a chestnut leaf does.*

Europe, China, Japan, and Korea. Of these, only our American chestnut succumbs to the blight. The American Chestnut Foundation has worked for many years to cross the blight-resistant Chinese chestnut with American chestnuts, to achieve a tree with the forest tree growth form of the American, and the blight resistance of the Chinese tree. They hope someday to be able to introduce these resistant trees into the Appalachian forest.

It all makes for a very interesting story. Whole books have been written about the American chestnut, its past and its future prospects. But it also seems like a footnote on a little tree that is nothing but background in the greater Trail-side flora. We hike, we maintain a Trail section, but there's nothing we can do for the chestnut. And then we got an e-mail. Our Trail club, the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club (PATC), had another volunteer opportunity for us. The Appalachian Trail Conservancy and the American Chestnut Foundation were recruiting Appalachian Trail maintainers to take part in an A.T. MEGA-Transect project to create a census of American chestnuts along the Trail. My wife, Betty, and I signed up immediately.

We joined a group of volunteers at a training session at Shenandoah National Park head-

quarters. PATC Naturalist Bob Pickett and personnel from the American Chestnut Foundation introduced us to the count protocol and recording requirements. Then we hiked up the A.T. towards Mary's Rock to practice. Bob was very meticulous in teaching everyone to identify the American chestnut, sorting it out from the birches, the chestnut oak and other near-misses. The protocol is pretty simple: count every chestnut that is more than three-feet tall, within fifteen feet of either side of the center of the Trail; then record the results on a form. A second form is for "large trees," being anything more than 13 inches in circumference. The "large tree" form also notes the presence or absence of flowers and burs and the location of the tree. The count is organized by Trail sections. We submit our completed data sheets to the American Chestnut Foundation, along with an assessment of the density of vegetation along the Trail.

Betty and I chose to count sections in Shenandoah National Park from where the A.T. crosses Skyline Drive at Pinefield Gap to the Loft Mountain Campground amphitheater, a distance of about six miles — most of which I help to maintain, with my fellow Southern Shenandoah Valley Chapter members. The tools

are simple too: a clipboard, a count form for each section, an optimistic stack of large tree forms, and a measuring tape. Beyond that, it's a walk in the park. Betty carries the clipboard and records data, and one of us counts to the right side of the Trail, the other to the left. If we see a possible large tree, I plunge off the Trail, tape measure in hand, to get the data. Finding chestnuts is not hard. Once we get the search image, there is nothing else with the shape of a chestnut leaf, nothing else with the shiny texture, nothing else that catches the light the way a chestnut leaf does.

We did our first count in 2008, around the end of June, when any large trees in decent condition are likely to be in flower. In our six-mile section, we found 268 chestnuts, including six large trees. Without exception, our trees were growing on thin, rocky acid soil — which is pretty much where the A.T. goes. They were associated with mountain laurel, witch-hazel, and sassafras; when we saw these species, we knew to keep a sharp lookout for chestnuts. I know this is supposed to be objective and scientific, but I can't help getting attached to the big trees and I visit them whenever I'm out on other Trail business. Unfortunately, there's never a happy ending. A tree we reported in full bloom in 2008 was dead the next year. I found an up-and-coming little tree three inches in diameter with tight shiny bark and a good growth form, near the Ivy Creek Overlook. On our 2010 count, it was dead, that beautiful bark streaked with the red-tinged fissures that characterize the blight.

But they don't really die. American chestnuts maintain dormant root-collar buds, below ground level, which produce new sprouts when the growth above ground dies. Prior to the advent of the blight, this may have allowed the chestnut to wait for an opening in the forest canopy. Now, it just gives them a way to bide their time, sprouting and dying, sprouting and dying. And we will keep hiking and counting, hoping that the A.T. MEGA-Transect chestnut count will give the American Chestnut Foundation an up-to-date picture of the American chestnut in the Appalachians. Projects like this, involving partners from outside the hiking community, bring a wider relevance to the Appalachian Trail. For my part, like any good hunter-gatherer, I'm always hoping to find the "big one" that will survive and maybe provide

viable seed for use in the breeding program.

On a more personal note, my chestnut roots go deeper. In 1988, Betty and I moved to Virginia so I could work at the Frontier Culture Museum in Staunton. Part of my job in landscaping an 1850s valley farm was to locate chestnut rails for fencing, and I found them. In the mountains of western Virginia and West Virginia were miles of original chestnut split-rail fencing, abandoned and replaced by wire. I bought them by the thousands, and they are still in use on the museum grounds. They'll break if you climb on them, but they don't rot.

With my chestnut-counting credentials, I approached the American Chestnut Foundation, whose experimental farm is in southwest Virginia, and asked for one of their ¹/₁₆ American chestnut seedlings to plant in the museum landscape, so we could someday show visitors what this important tree looked like. They agreed, and on a sunny day in October, a science class from Riverheads High School, whose teacher, Jo-el Nelson, is a Trail to Every Classroom "graduate," planted our demonstration tree. Jo-el also brings her honor society students out twice a year to work with me on Trail projects. The chestnut roots spread widely. ▲

For more information visit: www.acf.org and appalachiantrail.org/megatransect



National Trails Day 2011

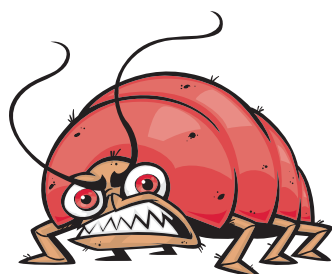
THE THEME FOR NATIONAL Trails Day 2011: “Made With All Natural Ingredients,” encourages all Americans to get outside, connect with local outdoor clubs, businesses, community groups, and parks and recreation departments as well as federal land managing agencies to experience, appreciate and celebrate the natural places where we can find a spread of scenery, a plateful of peace, and a heap of happiness and health. Save the date, Saturday, June 4, 2011 to participate in a local hike, bike, horseback ride, maintenance project, paddle trip, health fair, and more.

■ To host an event or to find out more about National Trails Day 2011 visit: www.AmericanHiking.org

BEN “ONE PACE” ROYER AT HUMP MOUNTAIN, TENNESSEE



Since 1993, the first Saturday of every June is known as National Trails Day, inspiring the public and trail enthusiasts nationwide to seek out, discover, learn about, and celebrate America’s trail system. National Trails Day is organized by the American Hiking Society, a national nonprofit trail advocacy group based in Washington, DC.



SUMMER SAFETY on the Trail

Northbound hikers are striking out for Katahdin, with summer hot on their heels, and, when it arrives, all

Appalachian Trail hikers need to be prepared for the challenges and dangers the season brings.

For important information, prevention, treatment, and tips about A.T. specific heat-related illnesses, thunderstorms, and other summer hazards, such as Lyme disease, poison ivy, and snakes visit: appalachiantrail.org/healthandsafety

2011 ATC Board Resolutions

ALL RESOLUTIONS INTENDED FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE MEMBERSHIP at its biennial meeting, including bylaws amendments, must be in writing and accompanied by the name, address, Appalachian Trail Conservancy (ATC) membership number, and, if attending the 2011 ATC Biennial Conference, the sponsor’s room number at Emory & Henry College or the vicinity. Under ATC board policy, resolutions are in order only if they “relate to matters concerning the Appalachian Trail or the Appalachian Trail Conservancy.” Resolutions can be left before noon, Saturday, July 2, in a collection box that will be at the ATC sales booth at the Biennial Conference. (Resolutions can be brought up from the floor of the business meeting only if a majority of those present vote to permit consideration.) Resolutions can also be mailed before June 24 to David N. Startzell, Executive Director, Appalachian Trail Conservancy, P.O. Box 807, Harpers Ferry, WV 25425.

A Resolutions Committee will hold an open meeting Saturday afternoon at the conference to discuss all submitted resolutions; the time and place will be posted above the collection box and at other areas during the conference. Sponsors are strongly encouraged to attend. All resolutions will be read by the committee chair during the business meeting the evening of July 3, but each must be properly moved and seconded before further discussion will proceed. ATC bylaws can be amended either by “a two-thirds vote of the members of the conservancy present at any meeting of the members when a quorum (one hundred members in good standing) is present or by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors.” If necessary, a committee will review any proposed changes on July 2, and they will be presented to the membership in a manner similar to resolutions. ⬆

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CANDIDATES

for 2011-2013 ATC Board of Directors

THE SLATE OF nominees for the next two-year term of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy (ATC) Board of Directors beginning in July 2011 includes six new board members as well as nine returning board members. All positions will be voted upon July 3 during the ATC business meeting at the Virginia Journeys 38th Biennial Conference at Emory & Henry College in Emory, Virginia.

A nominating committee, chaired by board member Jim Ditzel, is proposing the following individuals for ATC officer positions: Chair, J. Robert Almand of Suwanee, Georgia, returning in that position for a third term; Vice Chair, William L. Plouffe of Freeport, Maine, who currently serves as board secretary; Secretary, Kara Ball of Vienna, Virginia, who currently is serving as a director; and Treasurer Arthur P. Foley of Colorado Springs, Colorado, who currently chairs the audit committee and who has served the board on two occasions in the past in the position of treasurer.

Votes by members must be cast in person at the 38th Biennial Conference in Emory, Virginia.

The following have been nominated for their first terms on ATC's board: Terry L. Lierman, of Chevy Chase, Maryland, has served in various staff positions in the U.S. Congress, on and off, for more than 30 years, including key positions with the Senate Committee on Appropriations and in the House Majority Leader's office. He also has served in management positions with a number of private venture-capital and consulting firms related to health services and other industries. Michael Marziale, of Springboro, Ohio, a business strategy professional, has more than 25 years of experience specializing in business analysis, change management, and corporate acquisition with large manufacturing corporations, including senior leadership roles with major North American paper companies. He is the senior partner of a consulting firm that focuses on new ventures in process technologies, advising small companies in startup or second stage growth phases. Richard J. Daileader, of Charlotte, North Carolina, currently serves as senior vice president for business development for Wells Fargo Bank and has more than 30 years experience in various facets of the banking industry. He completed a thru-hike of the A.T. in 2009, and also serves as a volunteer with Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Charlotte and with the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. Mary L. Higley, of Naples, Florida, is a recent retiree after serving more than 25 years in various management positions with United States Gypsum Company, most recently as director of information technology strategic services and IT controller. She is hiking the A.T. in sections and has completed approximately one-quarter of the Trail, and is also a volunteer contributor to the Appalachian Long Distance Hiker's Association *A.T. Thru-Hikers' Companion*. Leonard S. Bernstein, of Asheville, North Carolina, is a chemical engineer who served in a variety of engineering and management positions for 30 years in the petroleum industry with Exxon and Mobil corporations and also operated his own climate change consulting business. He is an A.T. 2000-miler and has served as president of the Carolina Mountain Club and as a member and committee chair of the ATC Stewardship Council.

Nominated for reelection as directors are: Sandra Marra of Alexandria, Virginia, a chief operating officer for St. Coletta of Greater Washington, Inc. and A.T. section hiker; Charles Maynard, of Jonesborough, Tennessee, regional director of camp and retreat ministries for the United Methodist Church; Brian T. Fitzgerald, of South Duxbury, Vermont, a water-quality specialist with the state of Vermont; Elizabeth P. Thompson of Ridgefield, Connecticut, an A.T. section hiker, small-business owner, and political activist; Clark Wright Jr., of New Bern, North Carolina, an environmental attorney, and 2010 2,000-miler; and Marcia Fairweather, of Heathsville, Virginia, an A.T. 2000-miler and small-business owner.

Leaving the Board at the end of this term are: Kennard Honick (treasurer), of Sarasota, Florida.; Destry Jarvis (vice chair), of Hamilton, Virginia.; Clark A. Dixon (director), of Ranson, West Virginia; Jim Ditzel (director), of Freeport, Maine; G. Robert Lee (director), of Warrenton, Virginia.; and Arnold F. Wellman (director), of Arlington, Virginia. ↗

Alternate candidates for officer and director positions can be nominated through petitions signed by at least 50 ATC members and sent before June 17 to Executive Director David N. Startzell at ATC headquarters in Harpers Ferry, West Virginia.

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2011

Fingar Emily Labit | *Sissy Hankshaw*
Seavey Tekla | *Itchyfeet*
Seavey Tyrell | *Jumper!*

2010

■ Adair Andrew E. | *Squeeze Cheese*
■ Addy John C. | *Tequila John*
Adessa Jonathan | *Indy*
Agnew W. Aaron | *Gouda*
■ Agricola Mark T. | *Restless Legs*
Albertson Scott | *Iceman*
Allan Richard Freeman
| *Pascagoula Boudreau*
■ Alowitz Michael | *Shorts*
Alton Kenneth | *Karma*
Amaral Benjamin C. | *Papageorgio*
■ Amshel Bruce | *Furthur*
Anderson Justin | *Tiny Tim*
■ Ando John | *Dr. Rock*
■ Andrews Gavin | *Hook*
Angstadt Rachael | *Breeze*
■ Arter Alex J. | *Twister*
Asplund Garik L. | *Skittles*
Austin Kanako Suzuki | *Buttercup*
Austin Kevin Walker | *Red Oak*
■ Baker Bryant | *Sunrise*
Baker Jeannette | *Jaybird*
■ Baker Laura | *Lola*
Baker Thomas J. | *Radar*
Barker Daniel | *Stryder*
BaRoss Mary Ellen | *Jibitz*
Barr Peter Jonathan | *Whippersnap*
Barron John Joseph | *Master Chief*
Bartelme Carla | *Mrs. Limestone*
■ Bartelme James | *Limestone*
■ Baskerville Bill | *Brotherlode*
Baskerville Richard | *Brotherlode*
■ Basnett William C. | *"Bill" | Casper*
■ Beatty William J. | *Love-It or Leave-It*
■ Beaudet John | *Bodacious*
Beauvais Brian J. | *Twigs*
Bellis Jason | *Lucky*

Bennett Steve | *Wiggy*
Benvie Ben | *Rooster*
■ Benware John | *Gus*
■ Bernadt Kevin | *Golden Ray*
■ Bertothy Cindy | *Side Show*
■ Blackburn Bryan | *Gandalf*
Blackburn Quinn | *Boo Boo*
Blais Benjamin | *Quickstep*
■ Block Keith | *Shagman*
■ Boileau Viviane | *Pixie*
Boittin Isabelle | *Fro*
Boittin Nathalie | *Bou*
Bojanowski Julie | *Evergreen*
■ Borek Cheryl | *4:13*
■ Borek Owen | *Scooter*
Bosse Jr. Rod | *Lorod*
Botkin Colm | *Tabasco*
■ Bowden Dan | *traildoc*
■ Bowden Kathy | *trailghost*
Bowen Mason | *Lobo*
■ Bradford Thomas | *10-K*
■ Bradshaw Brent | *Red*
Bragg Jacob | *Just Jake*
■ Brame Paul | *Solo*
■ Brann Terrence W. | *Homebrew*
Brannan David | *Boomerang*
Braymer Jonathan | *Bumper*
■ Brooks Jr. Wiley C. | *Muddy*
Brown Jesse A. | *Reckless*
Brown John D. | *Saguaro*
Brown Robin | *Sideways D*
■ Bruce Ray | *Tennessee*
Bruner John Richmond | *Rico*
Buja Stephen James | *Three Bears*
Bunting Clint | *Lint*
Burgess Amanda | *Mimi*
Burgess Thomas | *Wonderland*
■ Burnette Harold E. | *Hal the Hiker*
Burns Brendan | *Landfill*
Burns Sloan | *Two Speed*
Busbee Justin | *Redman*
Byers David | *Little Foot*

The Appalachian Trail Conservancy now has more than **11,942** reports of hikes of the entire A.T. posted to its register of 2,000-milers. This includes **661** reports, which were received since last year's listing. Of those, **593** thru-hikers and section hikers completed the Trail in 2010.

Byrd James W. | *jaybird*
Byron Marjorie | *Listener*
■ Cahill Eric | *Captain Slick*
Calhoun Daniel | *Muffin Mittens*
Campbell Meredith | *Merf*
■ Canavan William | *Little Brown*
Carr Dennis | *Road Runner*
Carter Jocelyn | *Skylarke*
■ Castro Rafael | *Rafi*
Catts Michael A. | *Mike*
Chambers Collin | *Rabid*
Chilson Brian | *Smokestack*
Christopher Brian | *Spork*
Chrusciel Nicole | *Stitch*
Clark Duane B. | *Fla. Duane*
■ Clark Jonathan | *Thrasher*
Clark Juliana | *Turkey*
■ Cleaver Christy | *Bear Blaze*
Clement James W. | *Utah*
Clingan Sarah | *Snow White*
Coleman Kaye | *Klarity*
■ Collins Kelly | *Red Lobster*
Confair Adam
■ Connor Robert | *Donner*
Cook Thomas | *Squid*
Costello Kelsey | *Hot Lips*
Cotham John | *Junior*

"Rock n' Roll" and his Mom reunite on Katahdin. By Ben Benvie



■ LIFE MEMBERS ■ CURRENT MEMBERS

We would like to express our appreciation for those 2,000-milers who have chosen to support the Appalachian Trail as Appalachian Trail Conservancy members.

HIKERS WHO COMPLETED THE TRAIL IN PAIRS = 51

MARRIED COUPLES WHO HIKED TOGETHER = 24



- Dalke Brian | *Sugar Ray*
- Darcy Daniel | *Coon Cat*
- Davies Stephen | *Saint*
- Davis Duane | *Calculator*
- De Luna Hugo | *México*
- Dean Donna S. | *Stambler*
- Decker William M. | *Miles*
- Degner Matthew W. | *Flatlander*
- DeLapp Matthew | *Rocket*
- Delisle-Mitchell Donna | *Nature*
- Denton Herbert | *Herb*
- DesRosiers Wilfred | *Frenchy*
- Dexter Edwin | *Tennessee Ed*
- Dhoore Paul | *Skink*
- Di Vito Yanick | *Montreal*
- Diaz Frank A. | *Red Stick*
- Didyoung Gregory | *FREEDUMB*
- Dieckmann Carolyn | *Yahtzee*
- Distler Chris | *Tetherball*
- Dobbs William H. | *Wineard*
- Dodge James T. | *Dodger*
- Donovan Eric | *Chet*
- Dorley James | *Kimo*
- Downes Mary E. | *Tigerlily*
- Downing Peter | *Pistol*
- Doyle John | *Dethmarch*
- Duffus John | *Yogi*
- Eakes Sumner | *Easy*
- Eddy Keith | *Cloud*
- Edwards Jonathan B. | *Crawfish*
- Egger Alan | *Night Light*
- Englich Sirko | *Wolfpack*
- Ensworth Jennifer | *Thin Mint*
- Epperson Dale | *Hat Trick*
- Evans Hal | *Kite*
- Evans Wendy | *Sandpiper*
- Ewing Jeffrey D. | *King*
- Ezinga Joanna | *Seeker*
- Faith William B. | *Mage*
- Falzerano Aaron | *Low Step*
- Faraone Jon | *Moun"t"ain Monk*
- Fariss Jason
- Farrier Rodney M. | *Lucky*
- Faulkner Randy | *The Wizard*
- Faus James D. | *Uncle J-Bird*
- Fava Patrick | *Full-Pint*
- Fay Eric | *Eric the Red*
- Felando Carol | *Little Engine*
- Fields Adam | *Burl*
- Fletcher Brian | *Redbear*
- Fogg Tyler | *Samurai*
- Ford Robert H. | *Ole Yeller*
- Fournier Brandon J. | *Absent*
- Fox Alan | *Frost*
- Frankenfield Cheryl | *City Squirrel*
- Franklin Andrew | *Wolverine*
- Freeman Jennifer | *Ripple*
- Freeman Michael | *Kentucky*
- Fricke Norbert | *Eddy*
- Friedli Heather | *Crafty*
- Friedman Noel | *Uncle Noel*
- Fritchman James A. | *Power Nap*



OPPOSITE PAGE: (LEFT TO RIGHT) MATTHEW "GUILLERMO" McLAIN, BEN "ONE PACE" ROYER, AND JAN "CREAMCICLE" SCHUMACHER AT MOUNT WASHINGTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE. ABOVE: BRYANT "SUNRISE" AND LAURA "LOLA" BAKER WITH FELLOW KATAHDIN SUMMITTEERS.

- Fryska Adam | *First Man*
- Fuller Erin | *On The Loose*
- Gandt Jeffrey | *Boundless*
- Gardner Blake | *Soccrosse*
- Garrison Evan | *Mr. Fusion*
- Gearhart Dave | *Quarterpounder*
- Gee II David E. | *Enoch*
- Gehring Richard M. | *Ohibro*
- Gehrman Cameron | *Cookie Monster*
- Genova David | *Gumby*
- Gerhardt Benjamin C. | *Naviagtor*
- Gerhardt Dale C. | *Turtle*
- Gerson Xan
- Gilbert Emily | *Maple*
- Gillan Stephen | *Lastonthebus*
- Ginger Emily | *Lightning*
- Goldberg Carlos | *Galilee Man*
- Goldfus Micah | *Shank*
- Gonzales Miguel | *Tin Man*
- Goodenough Ralph | *Hobbit*
- Goolsby Bree | *Turtle*
- Gotts Alison | *Tripper*
- Gotts Digby | *Wizard from Oz*
- Graham Michael | *Sherlock*
- Graham Thomas S. | *Tom Thumb*
- Grant Jacqueline | *Snail*
- Gray Chris | *Dr. Geo*
- Greenwood Dave | *Big Sky*

- Greeves Roger | *Springkat*
- Gregor Sean | *Reststop*
- Griffith William | *Marty McFly*
- Gripleit Yvonne | *Wolfpack*
- Grip Daniel T. | *Roots Rock*
- Guerber Justin | *Stretchor*
- Guinn Faye
- Guinn Howard
- Guinta John | *Two of a Kind*
- Gutterson Russell | *Branch*
- Haffner John | *Dirt Stew*
- Hafner Martin | *Trailblazer*
- Hahn Ronald A. | *Ron*
- Hail Shelly | *Kutsa*
- Hallman Nathan | *Ice*
- Hamilton Phillip | *Tic-Tac*
- Hampton Carly | *Cubbie*
- Hanson David B. | *Prairie Dog*
- Hanthorn Micah | *Toeman*
- Hardy Wayne D. | *Scooter*
- Harper Laura M. | *Super Max*
- Harris Gregory | *Pale Blue Dot*
- Harwood Hannah | *Sugarbush*
- Haskell James T. | *Two Tents*
- Hauck Jeremy | *Ink*
- Hebert Drew | *ABEAR*
- Hedrick Roger Wayne | *Grapevine*
- Helm Carolyn | *Llano*
- Hemmerly Paula | *GramCracker*
- Herbaugh Abe | *Able*
- Herbert Gillian | *Tumbleweed*
- Herbert Skylar | *Sky Rocket*

- Herman Andrew | *Grubs*
- Hershberger Pamela | *Cookie*
- Hershberger Richard | *Tic Toc*
- Hershbine Elias J. | *Phantom*
- Hettinger Daniel | *Mr. Griswold*
- Hettinger Summer | *Mrs. Griswold*
- Heumann Mike | *Sherpa*
- Heyman Kenneth C. | *Shags*
- Hiatt Adam | *Achilles the Red*
- Higgins Maria S. | *Modiyooch*
- Hill Perry C.
- Hodges Clay | *Motorboat*
- Hodney Cody | *Coyote*
- Hoffman Jr. Jimmie H. | *Catman*
- Hoffman-Wentling Ryan | *Patch*
- Hogan Jonathan | *Hopi*
- Holderfield Katie Suzanne | *Carl*
- Holmes Mitch | *Roughin' It*
- Holser Keith | *Paul Bunyan*
- Holt Matthew Thomas | *Patch*
- Hopkins Mike | *Tail End*
- Housten Drew | *Hobbot*
- Hovey Jr. George | *Duct Tape*
- Howser Karen | *Cody*
- Hudnell Kevin | *Half-Pint*
- Hudson Alison | *Rummy*
- Hueso Miguel | *Fredo*
- Huff Jim A. | *Pappy*
- Huff Noah | *Appy*
- Hughes Douglas | *Sweeper*
- Hunkins Ian L. | *Two Rings*
- Huyseune Steven | *Indiana*

■ LIFE MEMBERS ■ CURRENT MEMBERS

Imhoff Matthew | #1 Son
 ■ Imhoff Terry | 96
 Imp Brandon | Monkey
 Imp Katherine | Ringleader
 Irvin Malone | Not Bad
 Israel Elinor
 Ivers Brian | Ten Fidy
 Jacaruso Joseph R. | EZ Hiker
 Jacaruso Martin | Trail Trash
 ■ James IV Robert | El Jefe
 Jean Nadia | Bug Bite
 ■ Jenkins Jim | Jenx
 Johnson Brad | Compassionator
 Johnson Don E. | Uncle Don
 Johnson Hayden | Heads Up!
 Johnson Nolan | Wobbler
 Johnson Walt | Robo Jesus
 ■ Kaczmarek Kevin | Tree

Kinnear Heather | Aboo
 Kinney Laura
 ■ Kirksey Bill | Halfway
 Klauk Jason | Conan
 Kleber Kristen | Backwards
 Kleber David P. | Boston Bones
 Klebes John F. | Papa Smurf
 Klein Dan | Mellow Yellow
 ■ Knight Bob | King Krawler
 ■ Knight Lonnie | Knight Crawler
 Knoll Danny | Slapshot
 ■ Koether Robb T. | Mule
 ■ Kope William G. | G.R.U.M.P.
 Kovalchik Adam | Funk
 ■ Kovalchik Michael | Spirit Walker
 ■ Kozlovska Tatyana | Dancing Wind
 ■ Kramer Andrew | Eatmore
 ■ Krol John Paul | War Cry

Lee Cindy | Bluesky
 ■ Lee III Howard E. | Stagger Lee
 Leever Michael | Fink
 Lemieux Jennifer | No Longer Chef
 Lennox Ethan | Easy Stride
 Leonard Selena | Wing It
 ■ Leone Joseph A. | Cob
 Letendre Christian | The Crusher
 Lewis Brian | Gadget
 ■ Lindler Robert C. | Hopsing
 Linton Alex | Rocksteady
 ■ Lippke Kristina | Seminole
 Littell Douglas | Wrong Way
 ■ Little Christopher | Panther
 Little Misti | Ridley
 Litton Scott Lee | Ball Hawk
 Lockwood Reed | Snack Attack
 ■ Logan Chuck | Sir Woodchuck
 Lombardi Thomas | Willard
 ■ Lowe David J. | El Flaco
 Lucas Dan | Blue Moon
 Lukof Kate | Power Pack
 ■ Lunn John P. | John of Amanda
 Lynch Paul E. | usedtocould
 Lynn Phillip L. | Mtn. Orange
 MacAskill Philip | Casper
 Malcher Olaf | Hermann
 Malloy Geoff | Spring Chicken
 ■ Malmquist Beth S.

■ Mountain Woman
 Mangum Mike | Bloodhound
 ■ Mansfield Karen | Birdy
 Marcet Nicholas | Upgrayedd
 Martens Christine | Dormouse
 Martin Jeffrey A. | Fish
 Martin Kathryn | Appleseed
 ■ Martin Leslie Anne | Mama Bear
 Martin Matthew B. | Trooper
 Martin Max | Watermelon
 ■ Martin Robert | Treadmore
 ■ Maule Robert | Babalu
 Maveus Todd | Overload
 Maxey Floyd Timothy | Flag
 Mazairz II Robert J. | Connecticut
 ■ McCarthy Craig | Babyface
 ■ McCauley Patrick | Pluto
 McClendon Spencer | Squash
 ■ McCoy Greg A. | REDNETK
 McCoy Lauren | Little Big Toe
 ■ McDaniel James D.
 | Chairman of the Board
 ■ McKay Ronald | Flexible
 ■ McKee Eddie T. | Mule
 ■ McKinney James | Handyman
 ■ McKinney Judith H. | Drover
 McLain Matthew C. | Guillermo
 McMenamin Amy | Pixie
 Mellon Jr. Arthur J. | Sweatband
 Mencil Jessica | Orbitz
 ■ Menendez Eric | G.P.S.
 ■ Mercer Jr. Paul | Garage Man
 ■ Mick Brian | Ghost Pirate
 Migliaccio Joseph | Blinky
 Milholland Russell | Apocalypse
 Miller Brian
 Miller John | Six Toes

■ Miller John D. | Gonzo
 ■ Miller Norbert G. | Doc
 Miller Ryan | Skittles, the Great
 ■ Molyneaux Asher | Venado
 Monahan Carly | Dodger
 Montchal Maria | Boss Lady
 ■ Mooney Deborah | Grace n' Glory
 ■ Mooney Patrick | Walking Man
 ■ Moore Bradford L. | Weenail
 Moran Joe | Kashmir
 ■ Morde Lisa | Zen
 Morde Matthew | Devo
 ■ Moultrie Ferrell | Daddy Long Legs
 Murphy Colin | Long Shanks
 Murphy Drew | Pre-Life Crisis
 Muzzillo Michael | G-Hippie
 ■ Myers Lisa | Two of a Kind
 ■ Nath Mark A. | A.T.O.M.
 Neblett Elizabeth | Laughing Socks
 Nelson Mark C. | 7 Dwarves
 ■ Nestander Matt | Alpine
 ■ Neumann Emily | Crash Course
 Neuse Corwin | Major Chafage
 ■ Newton A. Wayne | Fig
 Nicholson Craig | Lodestone
 ■ Nicholson Tara | Lift'n Step
 Nicolodi Jonathan | Jon
 ■ Niekamp Andy | Captain Blue
 Nielsen Elizabeth | Cerveza
 ■ Niemczura Amy | Whoopie Pie
 Nitti Christopher | Food Network
 Nolen James | Tennessee Walker
 Oberdörster Benjamin | Cheeseburger
 ■ O'Brien Mark | Go Fish
 Ohlgren Derek | Giant
 ■ Oliver Andrew | Tillerman
 Oostema Stephen M. | Shadow N. Fox
 Orson Matt | Wall Flower
 Owen IV Rufus | Big R
 Pacinelli Todd | Piss Flaps
 Padgett Devin | Caveman
 Paetsch James | Skidmark
 ■ Palmer II Leo L. | Dead Man Walking
 ■ Parker Lucy | Spoonz
 Parker Zack | Nesta
 Parks Megan | Ace
 ■ Parrish M. Darrell | Numbers
 ■ Parrish Miriam A. | Butterfly Mama
 Patton C. Steve | Buckwheat
 Peak Laurel | Moose
 ■ Pendleton Cameron | Chili
 ■ Pendleton Dennis | Pepper
 ■ Peterman Bob | Skiman
 ■ Petrovich Wayne | Krispy Kritter
 Phillips Dana M. | HD Mama
 Pilzer George | T Cat
 ■ Platts Jaime | Earthling
 ■ Plunkett Ed | Moose Caboose
 ■ Pramuk Gabriel X. | San Gabriel
 ■ Prewitt Tim | Bluegrass
 ■ Prindville William A. | Capt. Bly
 ■ Prior Ford | Uncle Frank
 Provencher Sylvain | Sly Jangles
 ■ Quinn Michael | Strider
 ■ Quirk Jeff | buff Jeff
 Ranck Michael A. | Coal Cracker

FATHER AND SON HIKING DUOS = 7

MOTHER AND SON DUOS = 1

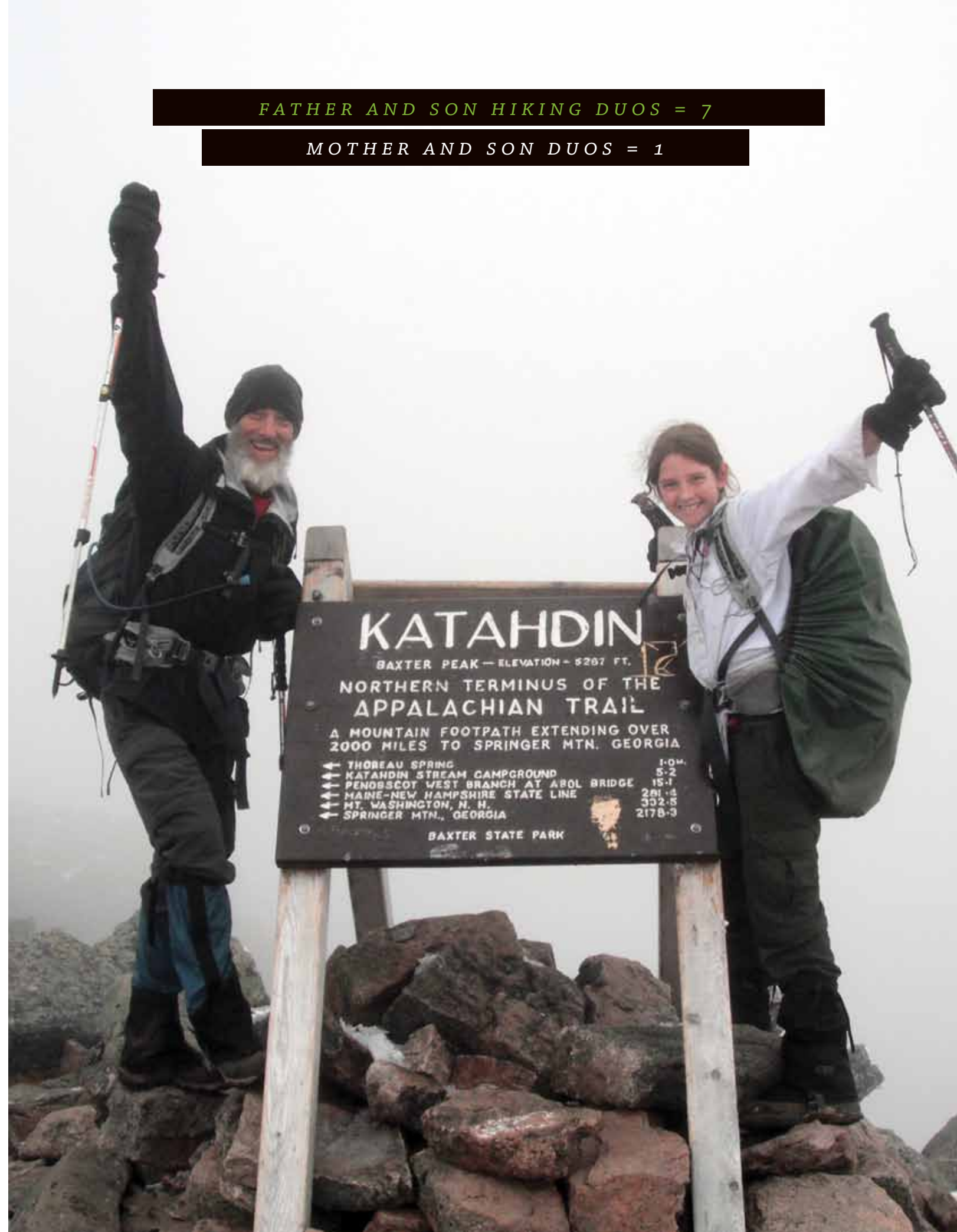


SOUTHBOUNDERS, TEKLA "ITCHYFEET" AND TYRELL "JUMPER" SEAVEY, AT THE SPRINGER MOUNTAIN PLAQUE, WERE TWO OF THE FIRST THRU-HIKERS OF 2011; RIGHT: DENNIS PENDLETON AND HIS SON CAMERON, A.K.A.: "PEPPER" AND "CHILI."

■ Kaufman Michael | So Far
 Keener Randal | Menno
 Kelley John G
 Kent Jeffrey | Beans
 ■ Keogh Tim | Spoon
 ■ Kersula Blythe | Bar Fight
 ■ Kerwood Ann M. | Birch
 ■ Killeen Evan | Dilly Dally
 ■ Kilpatrick Ethan | Barnabas
 ■ Kimmel Stephen | Greendog
 ■ Kinerk Lindley | Pi
 King David | Kricket
 ■ King Tina | Serenitina
 ■ King Vernon H. | East Wind

■ Kuehne Lance A.
 | Wool E. Mammoth
 LaBruzzo Salvatore | Agent Orange
 LaForge Jeff | Barley
 ■ LaFortune Jessica E. | Ghetto Sheep
 Lambert Jeffrey | Ichabod
 ■ Lamothe Joshua N. | The Animal
 ■ Lanius Jr. Ross M. | Photo Op
 Larimer Noel | Smokey's Friend
 Lavertu Jeremy | Toothpick
 Lavertu Kelly Beth | Little Aspen
 Lawson Kimberly A. | Peace-o-cake
 Lay Johnny | Tater Chip
 Leavesley Kristina | Crazy Talk

■ LIFE MEMBERS ■ CURRENT MEMBERS



CELEBRATE

YOUR TRAIL COMPLETION AT THE 2011 GATHERING

The Appalachian Long Distance Hiker's Association (ALDHA) and the Appalachian Trail Conservancy (ATC) will recognize this year's 2,000-milers during a special ceremony at the Gathering in North Adams, Massachusetts on October 7, 2011. At this event, the A.T. Class of 2010 will receive their ATC patches and certificate along with ALDHA's special patch and certificate during the "Roll Call of Years" Friday night. [Contact Mike Wingart for more information at coordinator@aldha.org.](mailto:coordinator@aldha.org)

- Rayson Joseph D. | *Rockefeller*
- Reardon Michael | *Michael J. Fox*
- Redpath Mandy | *Veggie*
- Reeves Joseph | *L J*
- Rehrig Scarlett R. | *Rambling Tanager*
- Reich Marc | *Almost There*
- Reid John Charles | *Uncas*
- Reinert Anthony | *Travele*
- Reyburn Brian F. | *lower case b*
- Reyling Chris | *Critter*
- Rhyne William | *Darkstar*
- Richards David E. | *Déjà vu*
- Richards Robert E. | *Snowman*
- Rink Thomas | *Fireball*
- Rizor Crawford | *Paps*
- Robbins Van W. | *Freight Train*
- Roberts Rodney K. | *Cornpatch*
- Robinson Carol A. | *The Canadian Geese*
- Robinson Richard C. | *The Canadian Geese*
- RoFrano Louis | *Jerzee*
- Romstad Deanna | *Scat Tracker*
- Ross Lachlan | *FELo*
- Ross Tyler | *T-Funk*
- Rottmann Thomas | *Fog*
- Royer Benjamin P. | *One-Pace*
- Rozov Daniel | *Apollo*
- Rummel Whit | *Cool Tool*
- Saari Mark J. | *Safari*
- Sanderson Eric | *Hollywood*
- Sandnas Christofer | *Puck*
- Sauer Jeffrey | *Sauerdough*
- Scher Robin | *Piere De Quinoa*
- Schirano Aaron | *Snickers*
- Schoenfelder Steven J. | *iTroD*
- Schoenike Kenneth | *Whistler*
- Schoning Polly | *TOTODOC*
- Schreiner Eric P. | *Salty*
- Scott-Lawson Phoebe | *Naptime*
- Seamands Tyler | *August Rush*
- Sell Nathan | *Preacher*
- Senger Scott | *Dune*
- Sestini Leo | *Capt. Leo*
- Shackelford Michael | *Moon Pie*
- Shanks Myra | *Biscuits*
- Shealy Michelle R. | *Tiny Dancer*
- Sheppard Steven Christopher | *Turtleback*
- Simphiss Helen | *Redwing*
- Simpson Nathan | *Sampson*
- Smith David J. | *Ponytail Dave*
- Smith Fred B. | *Fenceman*

- Smith Matthew Scruggs | *DOS XX*
- Souls Carrie | *Stucco*
- Spreha Rosemary A. | *Birdwoman*
- Sproul III Russell E. | *Moose*
- Spydell Matt | *Sherpa*
- Spydell Steven E. | *Draggin' Tail*
- Stacey Robert | *P-Nut*
- Stafford Kyle | *Aikido Jo*
- Stein Joe | *Tattoo*
- Steinfeld Daniel | *Powder*
- Stewart Chas | *Meglodon*
- Stewart Karen | *Cricket*
- Stock David M. | *Dirtroad Dave*
- Stockbridge Lindsay | *Dewlap*
- Stokes Taylor H. | *Sleepy*
- Stout Margaret "Peggy" | *Blueberry*
- Stylos Melissa | *Inferno*
- Sullivan Andrew C. | *Specs*
- Sullivan Jack Britton | *Full Value*
- Swanson Joanna | *Someday*
- Sweeney Jeffrey | *Geo*
- Syndram Willy | *Nature Boy*
- Tai Hsin-Chien | *Chippy*
- Taylor Neil | *Stick Walker*
- Temple II John B. | *Johnny Walker*
- Terry Winston | *Ratman*
- Tews Jay | *Bird*
- Thompson Brian | *Bowtie*
- Thompson Catherine | *Miss*
- Thompson Nathan | *Natedog*
- Thompson Ryan | *Hit*
- Tice Richie | *Buhne*
- Timmons Bruce | *Stix*
- Timpone Connor | *Flora*
- Torbett Craig | *Riverdog*
- Towle Richard | *Troll*
- Travers Paul J. | *Son-Dance*
- Triplett Glenda S. | *Hi Hills*
- Trocher Daniel | *Birch*
- Tucker Stevie | *Butter*
- Twigg Jason | *Twiggy*
- Twombly William R. | *Wilbur*
- Van Horne Matthew P. | *Snowfox*
- Ventura Nathan | *Rainer*
- Vezie Claire | *Lil' Dipper*
- Von Handorf Jerry | *Eureka*
- Wachtler Angela | *Bugsy*
- Walker Daniel | *Wendigo*
- Walker Ella Mae | *Traipsing Platypus*
- Wallace Jeffrey | *Southern*
- Warrington Justin | *Wazi*
- Wassa Nicholas | *Alkaline*

- Webb Marsha | *Tumbler*
- Welborn Larry | *Doubleback*
- Weldin Dylan | *Stiltz*
- Wetzel Kate | *Scatters*
- Wexler Andrew William | *Waldo*
- White Steven L. | *Silver*
- Whitesell Jonathon | *Speed Racer*
- Whitesell Rob | *Bandana Man*
- Wick Nathan C. | *TAAT*
- Wicklund Freeman | *Freeman*
- Wilcox Paul | *Roadhouse*
- Wilhelm Christopher | *Buck Minus Bard*
- Williams David Kelly | *Hot Wing*
- Williams Stephen | *Williams Terry O'Brian*
- Williamson John A. | *NASCAR*
- Wilson Jeremy | *Picker*
- Wilson John L. | *MoFo*
- Windsor Charles | *Silver Spring*
- Windsor Julie | *Turtle Hawk*
- Winnett Brian | *Moonshine*
- Wisdahl Nathan | *GrolarBear*
- Witte Mattison | *Legend*
- Woods Guy | *Sweet Tooth*
- Clark Wright Jr. | *Thinker*
- Wynne John P. | *Chewy*
- Zapp Charles C. | *Piece of Work*
- Zapp Nancy C. | *Tough Little Cookie*
- Zard Armlil | *Dinobuddy*
- Zellner Alyson | *Spark*
- Zellner Brian | *Caboose*
- Zimmer Mitch | *Explorer 61*
- Zimmerman Elissa | *Cheese*
- Zimmerman Emily | *Switchback*
- Zion Mathew | *Mouse*

2009

- Bailey Jessica R. | *Lady Jelly Bean*
- Ball Christopher | *Leif E*
- Bunn Daniel | *Nexus*
- Cardella Andrew | *Smiling Bandit*
- Chalfant Doug | *Watchman*
- Cordle Jesy | *Callus*
- Dadian Elizabeth | *Miss Step**
- Damgaard Susanna | *THE DARKNESS*
- Dennis Gary | *Phatmandu*
- DiSanto Dave | *<Kiros>*
- Downs Kevin | *Mississippi*
- Drake Wes | *Three Streams*
- Foote Adam | *A-Train*
- Gourley Joshua L. | *Ewok*
- Jacobs Jason | *Boy Floyd*
- Johnson Joe | *Smile Train*
- Kelly Jessica | *Downhill*
- Kent Robert B. | *3 Stove Tex*

- Madson Lance | *Lunatic*
- McEntire Michael | *Gorgonzola*
- Parrish Steven | *Root Beer Float*
- Pellinen Trevor A. | *Snags*
- Pleasants Colin | *Krammin*
- Robertson Carla | *Zipper*
- Scheller Dustin | *Indiana Jones*
- Schneider Patrick | *Poet*
- Schuringa Joost | *Larry*
- Star Kyler | *Star Trek*
- Sternhagen Kelly | *Firefly*
- Strader William | *Strider*
- Terpstra Derek | *Creep*
- Toole Eric | *Swampcricket*
- Towery William R. | *Wheeler*
- Varghese Priya | *Lefty*
- White Chris | *Joe Kickass!*
- Zelnick David | *Cajun Dave*
- Zimmerman Eric | *Fiddler*

2008

- Blake Daniel
- Crunk Phillip E. | *Downhill Phil*
- Noland Nicholas | *Smiles*
- Quinn Barbara | *Nails*
- Rohrig Dennis | *Southpaw*
- Ross Sheri | *Take Two*
- Syndram Willy | *Nature Boy*
- Zehr Michele | *Certain*

2007 — 1973

- Syndram Willy | *Nature Boy* | 2007
- Weber Daniel M. | *Hedgehog* | 2007
- Anastos Douglas | *Yabut* | 2006
- Ocampo Robert | *Miracle Man* | 2004
- Johnson Caleb H. | *Humble Harmon* | 2003
- Quinlan Paul | *Virgin* | 2002
- Hunter Brent R. | 2001
- Boland Sandra D. | *Boo Hag* | 2000
- Hough Colleen B. | *Crackerjack* | 2000
- Hammer Doris H. | *California Roadrunner* | 1999
- Lowe Charles Joseph | *Solowe* | 1997
- Garrett Thomas R. | *Gypsy Bones* | 1995
- Sherrell Eric | *VA Slim* | 1993
- McGinn Michael J. | *Boston Straggler* | 1988
- Alterman Stuart M. | *Limey* | 1984
- Taggart Deborah Atkinson | 1983
- Touchton Mary Morgan | 1976
- Banks Robert A. | *Boba* | 1975
- Chalfant Doug | 1975
- Richardson Tom | *TR* | 1975
- DeGalan Edward G. | 1973

■ LIFE MEMBERS ■ CURRENT MEMBERS



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: "BRANCH" AND "APPLESEED," PECKS CORNER SHELTER, NORTH CAROLINA; "TENDERFOOT" AND "SNOW WHITE"; "HOT LIPS" AND "ROCKER" AT HIKERS WELCOME HOSTEL, GLENCLIFF, NEW HAMPSHIRE. PHOTOS BY BEN BENVIE



wanderlust

Ben "Rooster" Benvie approached his 2010 thru-hike the same way he approaches every other aspect of his life: with a relaxed sense of adventure, an open mind, kindness, and with the exceptionally talented eye of a professional photographer. Of his thru-hike, Ben says "I loved the way life became so simple on the Trail. You don't need anything more than food, water, shelter, and laughter to get you through most days. My photography became more basic too; no flashes or tripods, no extra lenses, just a 35mm lens on a 35mm camera."

www.benbenvieblog.com

Fourth of July sunset from inside Madison Spring Hut, New Hampshire

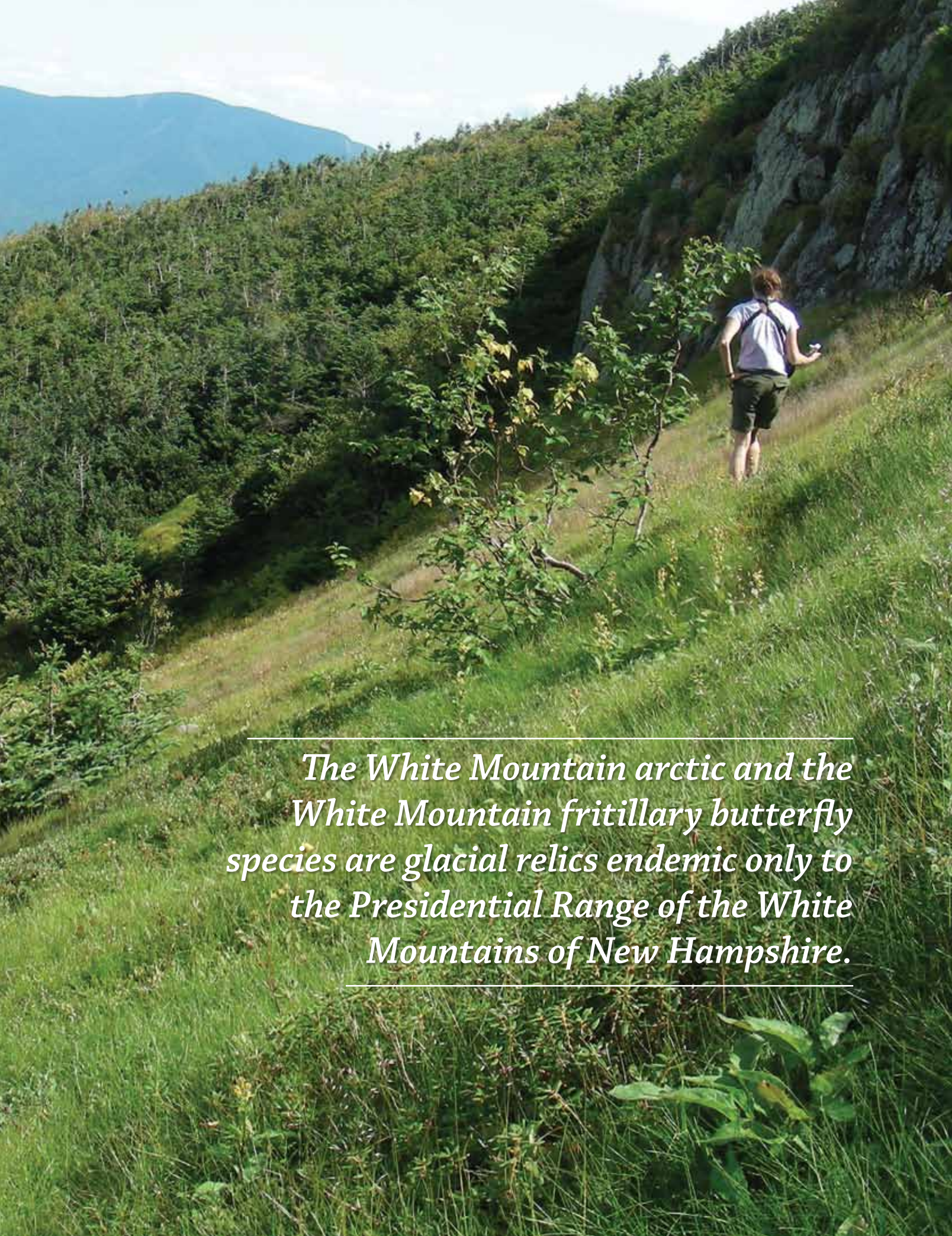


"#1 son" and "96" at Horseshoe Canyon Lean-to in Maine





"Roaring Lion" performing blister "surgery" on "Snow White"



The White Mountain arctic and the White Mountain fritillary butterfly species are glacial relics endemic only to the Presidential Range of the White Mountains of New Hampshire.

fragile fliers



BY KRISTAN PATENAUDE / PHOTOS BY KENT MCFARLAND

on calm, sunny days visitors to the White Mountains of northern New Hampshire might be lucky enough to catch a quick glimpse of a rare sight among the rocks. Dull gray butterflies blend in with the lichen-covered rocks they perch on, while more brightly colored orange butterflies enjoy wet outcroppings or snow banks. These fragile

fliers, if approached, will quickly take to the breeze in search of a more hospitable place to bask. At first glance these butterflies seem ordinary, even commonplace, until one considers that their resident elevation is approximately 4,900 feet and the tree line has all but disappeared. Even more remarkable is that the home of these delicate, winged creatures lies in one of the most inhospitable and unpredictable zones of the entire Trail.

The White Mountain arctic (WMA) and the White Mountain fritillary (WMF) are two subspecies of butterfly that have become isolated within the alpine zone of the Presidential Range. WMA exists in sedge meadows above 4,921-foot elevation characterized by the host plant, Bigelow's sedge. These sedge areas cover only seven percent of the alpine zone in the range, leaving WMA with limited suitable habitat. The predominant color of WMA is gray-brown with a median band that is generally lacking or faint with white outlines. This mottled shading allows the butterflies to blend in with the harsh landscape. Females can be distinguished from males by their larger forewings. This species rarely flies far from the ground and males fly farther than females, possibly searching for mates. From late June to late July, adults are known to consume the nectar of moss campion, mountain sandwort, and vaccinium species. Eggs are laid by the last week of July at the base of sedges or in the litter around them. Two years are required for full development of the larvae, yet adults fly every year.

Information on WMF is sparse; however it is known that the species prefers wet meadows or other wet communities in the alpine zone above 4,002-foot elevation. No host plant is identified but caterpillars of other species feed off dwarf willows, alpine

Left to right: Vermont Center for Ecostudies (VCE) biologist Julie Hart, doing a count of fritillaries; VCE biologist Kent McFarland completing a count of arctics; A White Mountain arctic rests on a lichen-covered rock; Two White Mountain fritillaries mating on alpine goldenrod — both species' populations depend on the health of their fragile, alpine habitats high in the Presidential Range.

smartweed and violets. These colorful cousins of WMA tend to have under wings that are tinged red and the median band is pale yellow-brown with a wavy black line. Adults are active from mid-July to mid-September and tend to consume the nectar of alpine goldenrod, purple-stemmed aster and meadowsweet. Two years are also required for this species' development, but little is known about what occurs during this time.

Sadly, these mysterious and rare creatures are in danger. Their habitat is as specialized and fragile as the butterflies themselves, leaving it exposed to a number of threats. WMA and WMF populations depend on the health of their habitats, and their habitat suitability depends on ground temperature, moisture, and winter snow cover. Global climate change is altering the unique characteristics of these communities by changing their structure and composition. For instance, the Northeast's average annual temperature has increased by about 1.8 degrees Fahrenheit since 1899. The alpine habitat these lepidopterans depend on is fragmented due to the fact

that this warming facilitates a poleward and northward shift in all forest species. This, in turn, causes lower elevation species to move uphill — displacing and forcing these specialist species into decline. Climate change is not the only threat to these butterflies. Atmospheric pollution, due to an increase in greenhouse gases, has been shown to pose a threat to ecosystems that are already sensitive to climate change, such as alpine habitats. Though recreationists on this part of the Trail are not a key threat to these butterflies, it is important to be diligent in efforts to stay on established trails and avoid trampling these delicate green areas.

The White Mountain arctic and the White Mountain fritillary butterfly species are glacial relics endemic to, and only to, the Presidential Range of the White Mountains of New Hampshire. Letting these butterflies slip away cannot be an option. The Center for Biological Diversity is currently submitting a petition to the Department of the Interior in anticipation of listing these species under the Endangered Species Act. This decision

would designate the critical habitat of the WMA and WMF, as well as create recovery goals to boost population numbers. Unfortunately, this designation is not guaranteed and interim measures must be taken to boost awareness in the hope of garnering funding for research, motivating vigilance, and encouraging conservation. Spotting one of these winged creatures will soon become a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity instead of simply an exceptional prospect. They currently are not listed on New Hampshire's Threatened and Endangered Species list or under the Endangered Species Act. You can help to preserve these resilient White Mountain butterflies by keeping your eyes peeled for them while on this portion of the A.T. and contacting New Hampshire Fish and Game or the Appalachian Mountain Club with the date and location, if you spot one. You can also spread the word to your fellow hikers or contact your local representative to let them know these species need help. ▲

For more information visit: www.vtecostudies.org

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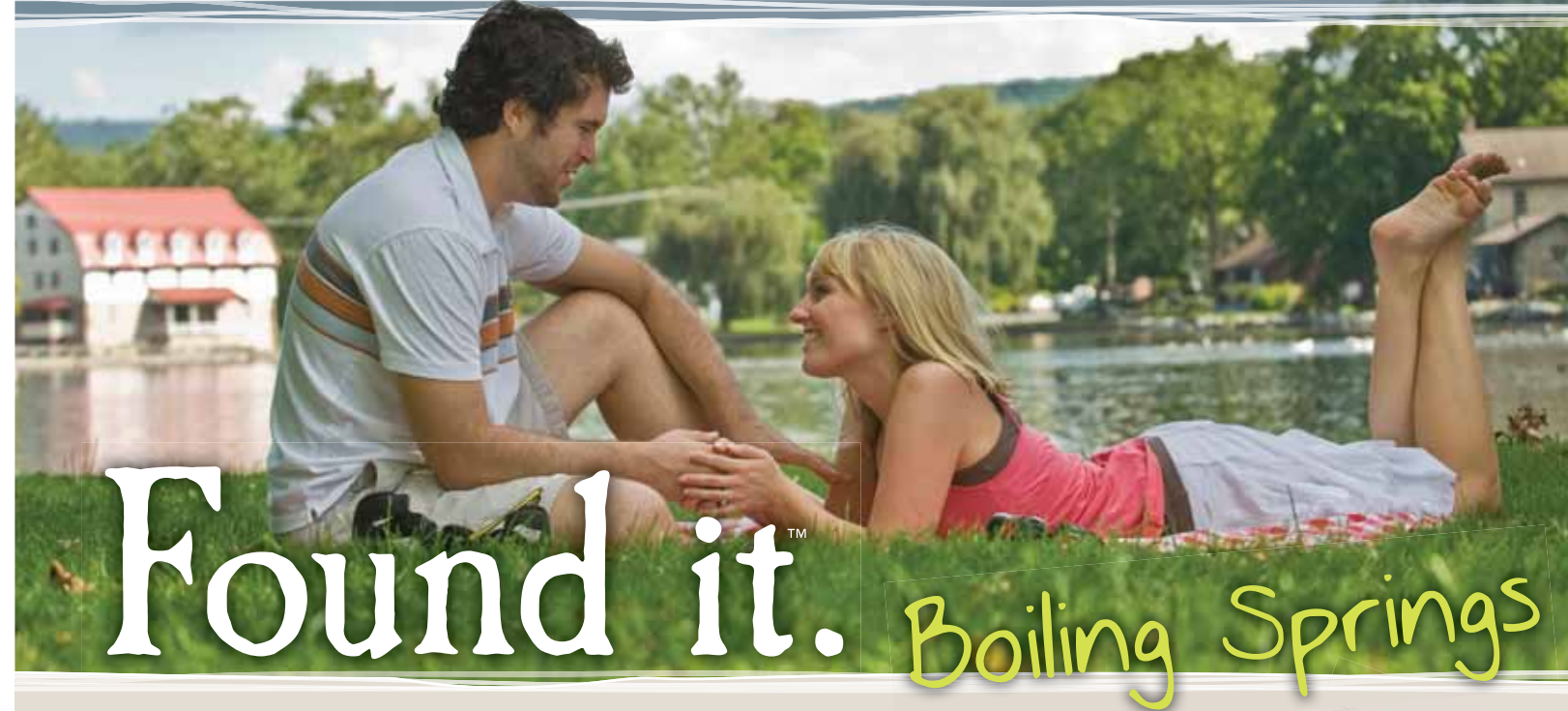
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Looking for the perfect getaway?



The quaint town of Boiling Springs is a picturesque collection of scenic beauty, relaxing activities and unique places to explore. Outdoor enthusiasts can fly-fish at the world-renowned Yellow Breeches Creek, boat or fish at the seven-acre Children's Lake or take the family to Cumberland Valley's oldest public pool and waterpark. Those looking to relax will enjoy the charming bed & breakfasts



and shops like The Village Artisans Gallery. The historic Allenberry Resort Inn & Playhouse is also located in the town and offers dining, live theater, lodging and the country's longest-running murder mystery weekends. The regional Appalachian Trail office is located in Boiling Springs and the A.T. runs through the center of town. Boiling Springs was recently acknowledged as an official Appalachian Trail Community for the town's commitment

to providing a service to hikers and promoting the asset of the Appalachian Trail. See you soon!



HighLANDS *in the heart of the*

Nestled in the mountains of Southwest Virginia, Marion is a small town with a bustling, “main street community” atmosphere.

its prime location where Interstate 81 intersects with the Route 16 B.F. Buchanan Highway, which winds through the mountains connecting the Mount Rogers National Recreation Area and Hungry Mother State Park, gives visitors to this Trail town easy access to the Appalachian Trail. The A.T. passes through Smyth County at several points, including a crossover just five miles from Marion at the top of Brushy Mountain, and through farm property at the Settlers Museum of Southwest Virginia. The Blue Ridge highlands offer challenging trails, stunning views,

Clockwise from top: Laurel Bed Lake offers great local fishing. Photo courtesy of Smyth County Tourism; Historians work the farm at the Settlers Museum of Southwest Virginia. Photo courtesy Smyth County Tourism; Hungry Mother Lake offers 108 acres of fishing, boating, and swimming. Photo by Amy Atwood

and plenty of attractions for the outdoor enthusiast.

The town of Marion, originally known as the Royal Oak Survey, was the first permanent settlement in Smyth County. In 1849, it was renamed Marion in honor of Revolutionary War officer, “the Swamp Fox” Francis Marion. The legendary Wilderness Road brought the earliest settlers to the area and continues to serve as a connection to the past as locals and visitors alike travel in the footsteps of our ancestors today. Each year the Civil War reenactments in Smyth County attract a crowd to commemorate the soldiers and families that lived through the many battles fought locally. The nearby town of Saltville, known as the “Big Lick,” was the Salt Capital of the Confederacy and offers preserved salt wells, fortifications, cemeteries, and the Museum of the Middle Appalachians for history buffs who want to learn more about the area’s past.

While the area offers a rich history beginning with early settlers, it has seen growth and change throughout the years as manufacturing and modern technology have had an impact on the

economy. Marion’s proximity to the Holston River and access to the rail system made it ideal for gristmills, sawmills, and furniture manufacturers. In recent years, Marion and the entire Smyth County community have recognized the value of the area’s natural assets that draw tourists year-round. The Smyth County Tourism Association has its headquarters in the historic H.L. Bonham house, located just off I-81 at exit 35 in Chilhowie. The Tourism Center offers visitors an opportunity to learn about local history and attractions as well as a place to relax in a rocking chair on the porch. A visit with the center’s ambassadors will lead to home-spun tales of local lore and the best kept secrets for fishing, dining, shopping, and more. One of the newest projects of the Tourism Association is the development of fishing trails throughout the region. The well-stocked Holston River, as well as smaller streams, lakes, and hatcheries,

TEXT COURTESY OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF SMYTH COUNTY, INC.



Marion, Virginia





The Mount Rogers National Recreation Area includes the George Washington and Jefferson national forests, through which 78 miles of the Appalachian Trail winds; The General Francis Marion Hotel has been renovated to its 1920s glory and features a restaurant, lounge, and art gallery. Photo courtesy of the General Francis Marion Hotel; Historical reenactors pay homage to local soldiers, past and present, as they participate in community events such as the annual Memorial Day Parade. Photos by Kristin Untiedt-Barnett



make Marion and Smyth County a great place to hook a “brookie” or “brownie.” Hungry Mother Lake has 108 acres for catching a variety of sport fish. Aquatic aficionados can also enjoy boating and swimming in the cool mountain water.

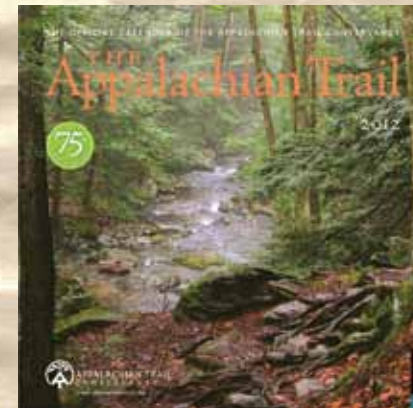
The Virginia State Parks system will celebrate its 75th anniversary in 2011 with the state-wide celebration, to be held at Hungry Mother State Park, which opened in 1936. The unique name is derived from the local legend Molly Marley. As the story goes, Molly and her baby escaped capture by Native Americans and, when they were found, Molly had already passed away, and the only words her child could utter were “hungry mother.” Today, one of the most challenging of the park’s trails leads to Molly’s Knob where hikers and bikers can enjoy magnificent views across the Appalachians.

Not only does the area offer a rich history and a variety of outdoor recreational activities, but it is also known for its art, music, shopping and unique dining experiences. A stroll through downtown Marion’s Historic District allows visitors a taste of the hometown flair. Storefronts of local businesses feature specialties such as handcrafted jewelry and furniture. Downtown restaurants include fine dining and quaint sandwich shops, one of which used to be the post office. A stop in to the Lucky Dog Pub will prove fruitful for ale enthusiasts looking to quench their thirst; offering live music and Wednesday trivia nights, this local favorite always draws a crowd. Saturday mornings bring shoppers to the Marion Regional Farmers’ Market pavilion; and

the second Friday of each month, April through October, downtown is buzzing with the Alive After Five Art Walk. This monthly event promotes local businesses with special exhibits and restaurant menus. Throughout the warmer months, Marion’s Downtown District hosts community events including the Hometown Independence Celebration, Chili Cook-off, Lunchtime on the Lawn, and craft festivals.

The town also has plenty to offer year-round as it is home to the historic Lincoln Theatre, which hosts the nationally-televised Song of the Mountains bluegrass concert series. In addition, the Lincoln Theatre features jazz, classical, comedy, and theatrical performances in a beautifully restored Art-Deco Mayan Revival theatre – one of only three that exist in America. Just up the street from the Lincoln Theatre is the historic General Francis Marion Hotel and Conference Center, a boutique hotel that has been remodeled to its 1920s grandeur. Other unique lodging include bed and breakfasts in beautifully renovated historic homes such as the Collins House Inn and the Lincoln House B&B. Whatever your style, downtown Marion’s Historic District is the perfect choice for filling up your belly, kicking back your feet, and laying down your hat. Steeped in history, tradition, and Appalachian culture, Marion is the home of Mountain Dew, the world-famous Dip Dog, and a gateway to the A.T. This Trail town not only draws visitors in with its unique attractions, but the friendly atmosphere and beautiful scenery keep them coming back. ⬆

Do you have a photograph that just screams, **“This is the A.T.”?**



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PHOTO: RYAN BONNEAU

A Family Affair

BY ROGER GARRETT



moves and towns have consumed the most recent 21 years of my life. That makes me 65 years old and counting. I currently get my mountain hiking fix with backpacks into the Ouachita Mountains of Oklahoma — beautiful mountains really — yet the A.T. is so often front and center in my mind.

The Garrett Guy Getaway is an annual event: three older brothers, two sons, a son-in-law, and another adventurer or two with family connections. The first Getaway was an October 2009 adventure into the Grand Canyon. This past November it was a trek in the Roan Mountain Highlands, balanced on the border of Tennessee and North Carolina. That's right, my A.T. obsession. The A.T. plan took shape shortly after our camping trip to Supai and the waterfalls on the Havasu River, situated on the Havasupai Nation reservation in Arizona in the Grand Canyon region. It was my turn to pick an adventure spot, and I chose wisely. After some research, I contacted Jonah McDonald — a knowledgeable hiker who knows the area — to lead this “band of brothers” in a northerly direction: from Hughes Gap, up and over Roan Mountain, across the Balds, and down into the valley to our departure point on U.S. 19E. As I explained it to Jonah, we needed an experienced hiker to recommend equipment, lead us, and guarantee our survival when we came out the other end.

Jonah was extremely helpful from the get-go, and in that, I mean, we got out of Uncle Johnny's Nolichucky Hostel van at Hughes Gap, hoisted our packs and took a few steps, then did an about face when Jonah informed us we were going the wrong way. There were a couple “challenges” out there for us near-sea-level inhabitants — my brother Nelson (67) has lived in Anchorage, Alaska these past 45 years, my brother Fred (59) is a resident of Freeland, Maryland, my son Cecil (40) and son-in-law Darren (37) reside in the Charlotte, North Carolina area, and Nelson's son Shane (41) and Shane's cousin Mickey (24) are Los Angeles residents. The first day (half-day of hiking actually) took us to the Roan High Knob Shelter. As many of you know, it is the highest shelter on the entire A.T., and that was a special treat for Nelson. You see, our older brother absolutely loves snow and cold. The morning cold and ice-coated branches, limbs, and twigs at elevation did have a wonderland feel. We did quite well on that first obstacle actually — that obstacle being the 2,235-foot elevation gain in those first four miles of our

adventure. Our second day covered the 7.3 miles to the Overmountain Shelter, a most scenic and restful spot. We were tuckered to say the least, and another camp fire and some good cooking did the trick, for we were up the next morning and on our way to what was supposed to be a 6.2 mile day and our third night out, at Doll Flats. But first, let's discuss the second “tough spot” — the hike up Hump Mountain on the bald, with gale force winds blowing from the west and maintaining our balance in the deep-rutted foot-wide Trail. It was a much steeper hike than it looked to be from a distance. I have to think a lot of hikers out there have had that same experience.

When we arrived at Doll Flats, I dropped my pack and assumed the others would do the same. I was wrong, as everyone else was good to go on down the mountain to U.S. 19E. Jonah made a call to Nolichucky Hostel, and arranged to have someone pick us up. So we tacked another three miles onto our day, and everyone was happy spending the night at the hostel and getting a shower. Then too, Nels, Shane, and Mickey had flights to catch the next day shortly after noon. So, fortunately for their fellow airline passengers, the guys were not fresh off the Trail — smelling of sweat and campfire smoke.

We all had a great time, and since then have shared memories and pictures and some conversation regarding the upcoming 2011 Getaway (Machu Picchu perhaps). These guys are a wonderful family unit, and I love each and every one of them. At any given moment, participants would shift about, into and out of discussion groups, with what seemed like a constant banter going on — with discussions of childhood years, moving and living here and there, girlfriends then wives and children, politics and religion, and life's twists and turns experienced as rewards and challenges unfolded. Our friendship, and our positive outlook is not to be credited to us directly. It's due to genetics and upbringing. We can blame it on our parents. Nelson and Esther Garrett were an amazing couple of 74 years (now gone three and two years ago respectively). Looking back, they never encouraged the fine points of arguing, or jealousy of any degree; nor the ins and outs of sibling rivalry. Perhaps they just kept us much too busy on our “Garrett Park Farm.” Suffice it to say, as scattered about the country as we are, our getaways are planned in their honor and carried out in their memory. ⚡



Clockwise from above: “Garrett guys” Shane and Fred, with Jonah at the Trail juncture near Grassy Ridge; A less-challenging, downhill trek near Ash Gap; Cecil looking westward as they ascend Roan Mountain; Collecting themselves, and their cardio-vascular, on their hike up Hump Mountain (Mickey, Shane, Fred, Nelson, Roger); Relaxing with a campfire at Roan High Knob Shelter, Fred and Nelson presiding.



I HAVE THIS OBSESSION NOW. IT'S called the Appalachian Trail. I have lived near it several times in my life, having grown up in Freeland, Maryland, and then living consecutively in New Freedom Pennsylvania, Newport, New Hampshire, and Glen Rock, Pennsylvania. I had ventured onto the A.T. only a few times — very few — during that span of 44 years. Then I moved away entirely, first to Houston, Texas, then up to Muskogee, Oklahoma, and now Flower Mound, Texas. Those

Acquiring Peace of Mind



The parcel is located in the watershed divide of the Ottauquechee and White rivers, and contains the headwaters of several tributaries including Locust Creek (above), a Vermont Class A stream with a pristine trout fishery.

IN THE FIRST OF A TWO-PHASE EFFORT TO protect more than 1,000 acres along the A.T., and thanks to the leadership of Senator Patrick Leahy in securing federal funding for Vermont, the National Park Service (NPS) and the Conservation Fund announced the permanent protection of a 631-acre property adjacent to the Killington Section of the Appalachian National Scenic Trail. Nestled in heart of a large, undeveloped forested area known as Chateaugay-No Town (CNT), the acquired tract will create a protective buffer against development along a one-mile stretch of the Trail and also protect vital wetland habitat in the town of Barnard, on the Bridgewater town line.

Purchased by the Conservation Fund — a leading, national environmental nonprofit — in December 2010 and transferred to the NPS this past March, the property will connect state-owned Les Newell Wildlife Management Area with several privately-owned conservation lands to create a core area of protected lands encompassing more than 9,000 acres. Bisected by the seasonal Chateaugay Road, the property will be managed by the U.S. Forest Service Green Mountain National Forest. The lands will be open to public recreation for hiking, hunting, fishing, cross country skiing, and other back-country uses.

In 2009, Senator Leahy secured the \$625,000 in funding from the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) in the Fiscal Year 2010 Interior Appropriations bill to enable the NPS to acquire the property. Senator Leahy is a senior member of the Senate Appropriations Committee. “I am really pleased to see this project completed. These are superb conservation lands by any measure, and all the more because of their proximity to the Appalachian Trail,” said Senator Leahy.

“Vermonters should be proud of our efforts to conserve land and protect our natural resources for future generations,” said Senator Bernie Sanders. “This project and others funded through the Land and Water Conservation Fund provide invaluable opportunities for wildlife preservation as well as public recreation activities such as hiking and fishing. I will work to ensure we continue supporting the Land and Water Conservation Fund.” “Vermonters take great pride in our forests and rural landscape,” added Representative Peter Welch. “This agreement preserves this important landscape for generations to come. I applaud all parties for their efforts to preserve this pristine corner of Vermont’s landscape.”

The LWCF program enables federal and state agencies to acquire lands that feature important historic, natural, scenic, and economic benefits for public use and enjoyment. The LWCF receives significant revenue from the development of federally-owned offshore oil and gas rights. The Conservation Fund, Appalachian Trail Conservancy, and the conservation community strongly support President Obama’s America’s Great Outdoors Initiative that proposes full funding for the LWCF in Fiscal Year 2012. The president’s fiscal year 2012 budget request includes funding to complete the second and final phase of the project, a 375-acre property in the town of Bridgewater. The budget request is currently pending before Congress.

“The Appalachian National Scenic Trail is an extraordinary resource for all Americans,” said Donald T. King, realty officer for the NPS National

Trails Land Resources Program. “Its pathway through Vermont is made more special by the conservation of this landscape. The Chateaugay is an area well loved by local citizens, who also realized the benefit to the national resource and acted to protect it.” In central Vermont, the A.T. leaves the National Forest, separates from the historic Long Trail at Killington and bears east in a narrow corridor through the Green Mountains and the CNT toward Woodstock and the New Hampshire border. An estimated 1,500 hikers currently use this section of the Appalachian Trail each year, including approximately 500 thru-hikers.

Rich in natural resources, the property features a high value wetland complex, marked with a string of beaver ponds, and serves as a key feeding habitat for migratory birds, black bears, and other free-ranging species like moose. The parcel is located in the watershed divide of the Ottauquechee and White rivers, within the Connecticut River basin, and contains the headwaters of several tributaries including Locust Creek, a Vermont Class A stream with a pristine trout fishery. The CNT Conservation Project, a cooperative effort of the Towns of Barnard, Bridgewater, Stockbridge, and Killington, was formed in 1997 to address and promote conservation in the 55,000-acre area of undeveloped land in the high elevations of the Green Mountains. A total of 16,200 acres have been conserved within the project area to date. “As chairman of the Barnard Conservation Commission (BCC), I could not be happier to hear that 631 acres of forestland bordering the Appalachian Trail has been transferred to the National Park Service as part of the Trail corridor in Barnard,” said Tom Platner. “When the Town established the BCC, we did a survey of what we considered priority wildlife habitat to conserve, and this parcel was one of the highest rated on the list.”

This project was made possible through the collaborative efforts of many local citizens, the Appalachian Trail Conservancy, Chateaugay-No Town Conservation Committee, Two Rivers-Ottawquechee Regional Commission (TRORC), and the Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife. “We are proud to learn about this latest success in our regional conservation efforts,” said Peter Gregory, executive director of the Two Rivers-Ottawquechee Regional Commission. “Through the hard work of many dedicated volunteers, professionals, and owners of some of the most pristine sections of our region, we have added a critical piece in the long-term protection of wildlife and recreation resources. TRORC is pleased to have been part of this process.”

“The Appalachian Trail Conservancy sends our appreciation to the Conservation Fund, Chateaugay-No Town Conservation Committee, Two Riv-



The CNT Conservation Project, a cooperative effort of Barnard, Bridgewater, Stockbridge, and Killington, was formed to promote conservation in a 55,000-acre area of undeveloped land in the Green Mountains; 16,200 acres have been conserved within the project area to date.

“These are superb conservation lands by any measure, and all the more because of their proximity to the Appalachian Trail”

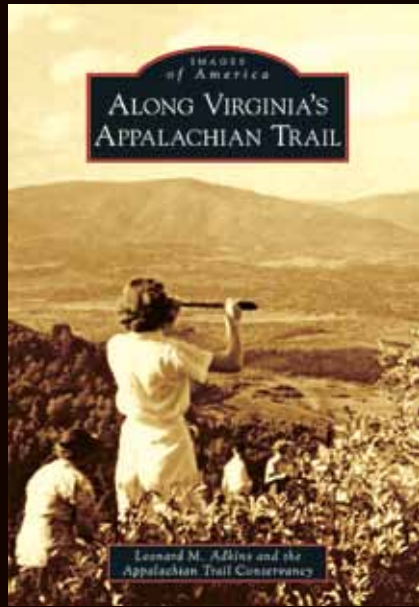
ers-Ottawquechee Regional Commission, and the Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife for working collaboratively on this project,” said said Hawk Metheny, New England regional director with the Appalachian Trail Conservancy. “We are pleased to see this land come into public ownership and to add further protection to this remote section of the Appalachian Trail. It is particularly satisfying to see such a rich diversity of natural resources be conserved, which add significant scenic and ecological value to this section of the Trail” “This is part of an ongoing, collaborative effort involving local citizens and other partners to keep this important area conserved and open for public use,” said Nancy Bell, Vermont representative for the Conservation Fund. “The legacy of Vermont lands open for hiking, skiing, hunting, and fishing will continue in the Chateaugay—a very, very special place!” ▲

PHOTO, MAP, AND TEXT COURTESY THE CONSERVATION FUND: WWW.CONSERVATIONFUND.ORG

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Because of Skyline Drive and then the Blue Ridge Parkway alone, perhaps half of the A.T. in Virginia was relocated before it was a quarter-century old. Now, about 200 never previously published photographs from Appalachian Trail Conservancy (ATC) and Trail club archives can give you a taste of the original Trail in the 1930s and changes up until the 1950s — not to mention a glimpse at hiking haute couture of the day! And, you can share 15 of the images through a special packet of postcards.



Along Virginia's Appalachian Trail, by Leonard M. Adkins, (\$18.65 to members), is part of Arcadia's well-known "Images of America" series. (The postcards are \$6.79 to members.)

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I TRAIL GIVING

I APPRECIATE YOUR ENTHUSIASM FOR THE APPALACHIAN TRAIL and your support of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy (ATC); and I encourage you to share that enthusiasm with your relatives, friends, co-workers, and neighbors.

Mother's Day, Father's Day, graduations, weddings, birthdays, anniversaries, remembering loved ones, and other special occasions are a great opportunity for you to share your love of

the A.T. with others. What do you get for mom or dad, brother or sister or even a co-worker on those special occasions? Why not give them a gift they will enjoy the entire year? Make a donation in their honor to ATC. You can also tell your relatives and friends that what you really want for your special occasion is for them to donate, in your name, to ATC.

Whether it is giving or getting a gift, ATC's membership department is here to help. You can use the enclosed envelope to make your gift. Call us at 304.535.6331 ext. 120 or make your gift online at appalachiantrail.org/give. We'll acknowledge you for your gift, let your special

person know that a donation has been made, and let the rest of the ATC membership know about the honor by publishing it here in *A.T. Journeys*. Gift memberships are another great way of celebrating special occasions. Give a gift that keeps on giving all year. Your family and friends will be reminded of your generosity every time they receive the next issue of this magazine.

Finally, don't forget to check with your employer about matching your charitable giving. Many companies match the giving of both employees and retirees and more and more companies are matching your volunteer hours with cash gifts. You can find out if your employer does any of these things by visiting: appalachiantrail.org/matching or calling your human resources department. Best of all, you just have to send us the paperwork and we'll take care of the rest. ♣

Thank you for all you do,

Royce W. Gibson | Director of Membership & Development

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Buford Eldridge by David Harmon, Hubert Mysinger, Ernest Roop, Nancy Snyder, Town & Country Neighborhood Association

Terry Feezel by Appalachian Mobile Crisis Team
Kyle Forrey by Barbara Thomas
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Paul Kurtz by David Bentz, Linda & Fred Roxbury, Al & Thelma Napoletano

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Membership dues and additional donations are tax-deductible as a charitable contribution. ATC is a Section 501(c)(3) educational organization.

To make a contribution or renew your membership, call (304) 535-6331 ext 119, or visit: www.appalachiantrail.org

Hiking Partners

Female, 64, **north bound on A.T. from New York to New Hampshire**; would like a buddy to hike with starting May 1, 2011. Contact: Peaceful Walker at jercise@verizon.net.

Looking for a partner(s) for a **thru-hike starting March 12-13 of 2012**. I am trail builder, hiker, and retired sergeant, and have hiked a short part of the A.T. in 2003, Trail Name "Robtex." This is one of my retirements and I am only 81. I hike now 8-10 miles days daily and would like hike 10-12 miles average. I plan a flip-flop stopping at Crampton's Gap in Maryland, then from Katahdin back south to Crampton's Gap. I am doing this since my family name is "Crampton" and this is the spot I first saw the A.T. I will

be hiking this May in southern Germany for about 5 days and German is my second language. Contact: robertcrampton91@gmail.com or (417) 268-7322.

For Your Information

Notice: **the Mason Hikers Hostel in Cheshire, Massachusetts, will be closed for the 2011 hiking season**. We regret any inconvenience this may cause you; - Jim Johnson.

A new hostel has opened in Harpers Ferry, West Virginia (technically in Bolivar). Open on weekends only until summer. Teahorse Hostel: 1312 West Washington Street (.5 west of ATC HQ, between the P.O. and bank). Rates are \$28 per bunk per night. Fully-equipped kitchen, free Wi-Fi, men's and women's

bunkrooms, and a common area. Plenty of parking. No pets, alcohol, or smoking allowed. No laundry, but there are showers. Contact: (304) 535-6848.

For Sale

Large Lowe Alpine backpack, excellent condition; \$50; Large **Dana Design backpack**, good condition; \$40. Both packs have two attachable compartments and rain covers (photos available). Slumberjack **"Denali" sleeping bag** (20 degrees) with stuff sack and fleece pillow, like new; \$35. Contact: mgdenney@aol.com.

Osprey **Aura 50 pack**, size M; \$110; **SteriPEN water treatment**; \$40; MSR 17" emergency snowshoes; could serve as child's SS as well; \$35.00; **Kayak package**; \$500 (used 5x or less),

10-foot manatee recreational kayak (29 & 1/2" cockpit), paddle, PFD : Stohlquist, Women's M-L, stowaway kayak cart, kayak console. Contact: peace@pathofharmony.com.

100 **Esbite fuel tabs**; \$40, shipping included. Kelty Red Cloud, 6650 cubic inch **internal frame backpack**; fits all torso sizes, used two days; \$100, shipping included. Contact: wingnutexpress@aol.com. ⬆

Public Notices may be edited for clarity and length. Please send them to:

editor@appalachiantrail.org

Public Notices
P.O. Box 807
Harpers Ferry, WV 25425-0807

WHEN I GO TO SLEEP, I USE TWO BIG PILLOWS AND insist on being next to the wall.

My diet includes a 10-ingredient smoothie, which I whip up in a blender every morning.

Going on an overnight trip requires that I bring all of this stuff — and a whole lot more. Total weight: really heavy. So who was that person who strapped on her 32-pound backpack a decade ago, embarking on her first overnight hike (other than a two-week Outward Bound course as a teenager)? And how did her A.T. thru-hike influence who she is today?

Food

Before A.T.: Fish-eating vegetarian
During A.T.: On day one, when offered a piece of beef jerky, I consumed it with barely a second thought. After one month, my husband Dave and I agreed to carry our own food bags. This was a calculated move on my part — if I didn't cook, then I wouldn't have a pot to wash. We'd use less fuel. And I could eat what I wanted to.

After A.T.: I can honestly say that I haven't eaten a peanut butter and cheese sandwich since 2001. I enjoy using my cast iron pan to sauté garlic, onions, and vegetables. Fresh fruit is a staple in my diet, and I am a true vegetarian.

Sleep

Before A.T.: Decade-long battle with insomnia
During A.T.: Being in a tent was okay, but shelters were often torturous: listening to the slow, rhythmic breathing of nearby hikers slumbering blissfully. And then, there was magic. We were in a cramped shelter in the Smoky Mountains, and on Dave's advice, I rolled my new foam earplugs into my ears and sank deep inside my

down sleeping bag. Suddenly, I was in my own little world — a potentially terrible thing for a person who thinks too much. But I liked it!
After A.T.: In the past 10 years, I haven't spent a single night without my ear plugs. On the Trail, they muffled the sounds of hikers' snoring, mice scurrying, and thunder booming. Today, they help me not hear two children rustling in the middle of the night.

Makeup

Before A.T.: Wouldn't watch TV with a naked face
During A.T.: It wasn't easy to get dressed in our small tent, and it was even harder to put on makeup. But try I did, despite rain, sweat, and heat. Then one morning in Virginia, when it was too dark to see anything in my mirror and I was too dirty to care, I packed away my makeup and

Looking at my lifestyle then and now, I guess I could beat myself up for all of the baggage I have accumulated. But in a sense, I am doing exactly what I did in Georgia a decade ago — adapting to my surroundings. Instead of a tent or shelter, I now live in a house. And when this 744-square-foot cottage starts to feel too small for me and my family of four, I realize that it's time to start lightening our load. ⬆

Kerri "Blur" and Dave "Longshanks" Macdonald completed their thru-hike in 2001. THEY LIVE IN MARSHFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS.



just started hiking. It was scary at first. But I ended up doing things I never imagined I could — venturing into supermarkets, post offices, and restaurants. I not only didn't have "my face on," but I sported dirt-streaked limbs, sweat-stained clothing, and body odor galore. I was living for the moment, totally maintenance-free.
After A.T.: I've learned that it's healthy to downsize one's beauty routine: less makeup, less clutter, less time in front of a mirror are all good things (as is no TV). Though I've kept my promise to never again go 11 days without plucking my eyebrows.

P.S. Despite the incredible adventure I had, hiking has become a bit more complex lately — a single overnight at Upper Goose Pond with an eleven-month-old in tow: to be analyzed at a future date.

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A.T. 2010 THRU-HIKERS BRYANT AND LAURA
BAKER, ATOP THE PRIEST IN VIRGINIA.

