

# TRAIL BLAZER

NEWSLETTER OF THE ROANOKE APPALACHIAN TRAIL CLUB

Summer 2011

*The Roanoke Appalachian Trail Club is a recreational hiking association of volunteers who preserve and improve the Appalachian Trail as the nation's premier, continuous, long-distance footpath.*

## CALENDAR OF CLUB ACTIVITIES

### Corn Boil

Saturday, August 6 - 6-9 PM  
Catawba Community Center.

### WORK HIKES

Saturday, July 23 - 8:00 AM  
Location TBA

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Saturday & Sunday, August 6&7 - 8:30 AM  
McAfee Konnarock Rehab.

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Saturday&Sunday, August 13&14 - 8:30AM  
McAfee Konnarock Rehab

-

Saturday, September 17 - 8:00 AM  
Location TBA

### Hike Scheduling

Contact Mike Vaughn  
992-1350 – mikeva999@yahoo.com

### BOARD MEETINGS

(All members are always welcome.  
Please let the host know you plan to attend.)

Monday, July 18, 7:00 p.m. (New Time)  
Hosted by *Roger Holnback*

Monday, September 12, 7:00 p.m. (New Time)  
Hosted by *Liz Belcher*

Angie Sheldon of the ATC met with members of the Pearisburg Appalachian Trail Community Committee to discuss Pearisburg's AT Community Program on May 24, 2011. Pearisburg, VA has now been approved as an AT Community and a designation ceremony will be

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held in Pearisburg at the Pearisburg Town Festival on 18 June 2011. The Outdoor Club of Virginia Tech and the Roanoke Appalachian Trail Club maintain the AT sections to the south and north of Pearisburg. Pictured is Angie Sheldon, ATC, and Pearisburg AT Community Committee members: Jerry Austin, OCVT, Ken Vittum, Pearisburg Town Manager, Jim Burton and Jo Martin.

## Welcome New Members

The Roanoke Appalachian Trail Club welcomes the following new members:

*Laura, Buzz, Tess & Lily  
Belleville  
Tom & Doris Berdeen  
Jennifer Blackwell*

*Margaret Ann Brown  
Timo Grueneberg  
Penny Hodge  
Tanner LaPrade*

*Cheng M. Lin  
A. J. McPeak  
Cherly Penn  
Hugh Scruggs*

And we thank you for making donations:

*Marcia Kelly  
Cheng Lin*

*Tom & Dolores Skelly  
Maurice Turner*

And for giving in memory of Charles Parry:

*Jason Hammer*

*Rodney & Kathy Kent*

*David Leaman*

We look forward to meeting you soon: hiking on the trail, at work, social event, or a board meeting.

***Bob Blankenbaker***

## Hike Reports

### Holy Family Appalachian Trail Hostel Work, Saturday, March 19, 2011

A group of volunteers from Appalachian Trail Long Distance Hiker's Association (ALDHA), Outdoor Club of Virginia Tech (OCVT), Roanoke Appalachian Trail Club (RATC), Potomac Appalachian Trail Club (PATC), and Holy Family (HF) church member installed a privacy fence between the HF Hostel and the new Pearisburg hospital plus did some cleanup and other work on the HF Appalachian Trail Hostel in Pearisburg, VA. A lot of work was done and everything was completed on schedule.

Workers showed up with shovels, digging bars, levels, wheelbarrows, concrete, drill, electric drivers, and other equipments to get the job done. The following volunteers completed this work: Michael Wingart, ALDHA Coordinator; Craig McNally, OCVT; Wayne Greenlaw, PATC and ALDHA; Monica Romine, OCVT; George Zolovick, HF Church member, Rob Dillon, HF Church Hostel caretaker; Wes Schmidt, PATC; Jim Thompson, HF Church member; Chase Davidson, RATC, ALDHA and ALDHA field editor of the ALDHA Companion, and Jerry Austin, OCVT and AT Pearisburg Community Committee member.

Pictures were taken and will be published on Facebook (Jerry Austin, Pembroke, VA). Also they will be published on other Facebook pages such as OCVT, ALDHA. These will be published within several weeks. Please send Facebook Friend Request to Jerry Austin, and watch his Facebook home page for the pictures and write-up to be published. A newspaper article will be submitted for publication and may or may not be published.

You all did a great and wonderful job doing this much-needed work at the HF hostel. Thanks and Regards, Jerry Austin, OCVT

### Saturday, March 19, 2011 6:00PM Catawba Mountain (Rt 311) to McAfee Knob Moonlight Hike

Maya Bohler & Rushdat Hale (Coleaders), Everett Setcliff, Jim Constantin, Judith Ogle, Tom, Cathy and Carrie Lafser, James Detlart, Dawn Lamb, Ellen Weinman, Lindsay and Patrick Beeson, Mary Hagmaier, Aaron and Michelle Dykstra, Andrew Whisnant, Joe Vaughn, Jeannette Howell, Steve Tanner, Carol McPeak, AJ McPeak, Sandra Cothran, Chip Donahue, Jon Beard, Bruce Davidson, Sarah Cuthbertson

27 people showed up for this hike. Almost all were either new to the club or had heard about the hike from the listing in the Roanoke Times or from the online site RoanokeOutside.com. The evening looked promising, with the weather clear and warm. In addition, the full moon was going to be a very special one, a so-called Super Full Moon because of its closeness to the earth. The next date for this kind of event will be in 2016. A super full moon looks larger and brighter than a regular moon.

We carpoled to the trailhead and started climbing at 6:30PM, keeping a good pace. The group was eager to get to the top for the moonrise, which was going to be at 7:50PM. We did not quite manage to be there in time but arrived at the peak when the moon was already up. There was a layer of clouds and haze along the horizon, so we had not missed much.

We spent time on the top admiring the bright disk in the sky and the beautiful view of the mountains at night. A drink of "moonshine" (non-alcoholic Russian tea) and cookies were offered. We questioned whether the moon really looked larger than usual. But it was very bright as it rose higher, and we could see it through the trees as we headed down the mountain.

We all made it back safely to the parking lot on Rte. 311, the last of us arriving there at 10:40 PM.

**Sunday, March 20, 2011 8:30AM  
Catawba Mountain Work Hike**

Liz Belcher, Karen Callahan, Elliot George, David Jones, Lori Jones, Peter Moshier, Kris Peckman

Today we again met at the Route 311 parking lot. Grabbing tools and heading up the trail we did not walk far to our first project, a loose step we had skipped last month. Kris and Lori volunteered to reset this rock, and the rest of the group continued hiking.

We encountered a couple of areas where the trail treadway was sloughing or sliding down the hillside. Using our pulaskis we redug the trail a little higher to maintain the original route.

At a rock ledge hikers had to make a big step up. But a steep bare earth patch adjacent to this ledge indicated that hikers were by-passing the step. Dropping our

packs we fanned out looking for a rock suitable for a step. After setting the new step some hikers came along and they used the step, but continued onto the steep bare earth spot. So, gathering more rock, we created a loose, unappealing pile to encourage hikers to continue stepping onto the ledge.

Late morning we arrived where we ended last month's workhike. Here water is running down the trail, and the treadway has eroded into a "ditch trail" or essentially a seasonal streambed. Since there is no alternative route to relocate the trail, we are installing check dams to slow the water, and hopefully stop the erosion. Time will tell.

Kris and Lori rejoined us and we broke for lunch. Returning to the check dam construction, two people scoured the hillside gathering rocks, and the others grubbed out the areas for setting the rocks. As we dug, a random ticking noise came from the leaves: raindrops. It was very light at first and everyone kept working. Then the intensity jumped a notch, hair started getting wet, and Sadie, the dog, offered a questioning look of "when are we going home?"

The rain made everyone's pace increase, and after we finished the last two diversion structures, we gathered the tools and our belongings and headed to the parking lot. The rain increased a bit and then stopped, so we had a nice walk to the cars.

**Sunday, March 20, 2011 1:00PM  
Catawba Mtn. (Rt. 311) to Sawtooth (Rt. 785)**

Maurice Turner (leader), Maya Bohler (assistant), Anne Krogenas, Carol McPeak, Nancy Friedman, Dawn Lamb, Barbara Bricks, Charlotte Gardiner, Dave Sutton, Rita Krasnor, Caryl Connolly, and Carl Cornett.

Merv and Blanche Brower were unable to lead this hike and requested me to take their place. Maya and I did the car switch while the others started their hike from Rt. 311. Shortly afterward we caught up with the group and continued our hike out Sawtooth Ridge. The day was overcast and we had some light rain but not enough to dampen our spirits. As I am a trail monitor on this section, it gave me a chance to also assess the trail; a few of us managed to remove a large limb that had fallen across the trail. At Rt. 785, I took the drivers back to the Rt. 311 parking lot to get their vehicles. Carl decided to hike back over Sawtooth to his vehicle.

**Sunday, March 27, 2011 8:00AM  
Anthony Knobs Loop**

John Merkwon (leader), Kris Peckman (assistant), Bob Peckman, Carl Cornett, Fred Meyer, H.R. Blankenship, Ivy Lidstone, Lois Smith

A winter storm warning with an 80% chance of wintery mix did not deter eight hikers looking for ten miles worth of spring time adventure. As is sometimes the case, the weather forecast had more bark than bite as the rain/snow stopped en route to the trail head leaving us with a cloudy but dry hike. Yes, we did have some wet feet from traversing through snowy leaves and swollen streams but spirits remained high throughout the hike. Everyone credited Lois and her positive attitude for stopping the rain. We hiked up to Anthony Knobs (there are three knobs) for lunch but the combination of a passing low cloud and high perch obscured our view of Iron Gate while we were there. From the Knobs the rest of the hike was primarily downhill and as we approached Trout Run we came upon - Trout Lillies! They were everywhere! In about that same area Kris pointed out a sarvis tree in bloom making for a striking display of white among the brown of the trees around it. Kris said the commonly held belief about why this tree was called the "sarvis" or service tree is likely because it is an early bloomer and the blooms could be gathered and taken to church services (sarvis) in the early spring, some of which had to be delayed until the ground was thawed enough to dig the grave and bury the dead. In case you think your leg is being pulled you can check it out here: [http://www.blindpigandtheacorn.com/blind\\_pig\\_the\\_acorn/2010/04/spring-in-appalachia-the-service-sarvis-sorbus-tree-blooms.html](http://www.blindpigandtheacorn.com/blind_pig_the_acorn/2010/04/spring-in-appalachia-the-service-sarvis-sorbus-tree-blooms.html) With the diversity of hikers, you can't help to learn something new and interesting every time you go out on an ATC hike!

**Sunday, March 27, 2011 1:00PM  
Poor Mountain**

Cancelled due to bad weather.

**Sunday, April 3, 2011 8:00AM  
Catawba Mountain (Rt. 311) to Daleville (Rt. 220) 113-Mile Hikes 3 & 4**

Don Hoke (leader), Kris Peckman (assistant), Bob Peckman, Carl Cornett, & Lindsey Quesinberry from Arizona

We met at the Daleville park and ride at 8 a.m. We drove around the back way to 311 and spotted a car at the Andy Layne parking lot, just in case anyone wanted to end early. We started hiking at 9 with bright blue skies and temps a little bit cool, perfect for a long hike. We came across a few hikers with large packs heading

back to the parking lot. When we arrived at McAfee Knob, we were the only ones there. Not many times that has happened. (Where is Carl?) After a short break we headed on to Tinker Cliffs and we arrived at 2pm, pretty good time considering that climb. (Where is Carl?) My goal was to climb up Tinker Cliffs nonstop, and I did. It was neither fast nor pretty but I did it. Bob, Kris and Lindsey decided to cut the day short and headed down the Andy Layne Trail; I continued on to Daleville. I stopped for a short break on the rock that overlooks Rt. 779. I saw the Witchers doing some trail work as I passed by. I took another short break just past Hay Rock at around 5. I arrived at the parking lot at 7pm and saw where Carl had arrived at around 5pm. That Carl sure can move!!!! The trail was in excellent shape: I can't remember having to step over any blow downs.

Thanks to Lindsey for coming out. I understand he's still a member of the RATC even while living in Arizona.

Animals seen - a few Turkey Vultures and a couple of squirrels.

**Saturday, April 9, 2011 11:00AM  
Roanoke River Greenway –Eastern End**

Diana Christopulos & Mark McClain (leaders), Donald Kreh, Dave Miller, Conrad & Marietta (Bea) Grundlehner

Chilly and overcast, but with no wind and a promise of no rain, we set out at 11:00 AM from the parking lot at the easternmost terminus of the Roanoke River Greenway. [For those seeking this trailhead, be advised that you may only enter this parking lot going northbound on Bennington. If you're coming southbound on 13th St. you must make a U-Turn at Brownlee then turn right into the parking area]. We walked on the greenway along the river, which was swollen and fast from recent rains, about three miles to Rivers Edge Park where we detoured about four blocks for a nice lunch at Fork in the Alley. As the day warmed, we returned to our starting place, making a total of about 7 miles. As it was Clean Valley Day, we pitched in by picking up some trash along the greenway and in the park. After our walk, we checked out the on-going construction of the eastward continuation of the Roanoke River Greenway, which will follow a neighborhood street for a couple of blocks, passing Golden Park, then up into the woods for a detour around the wastewater treatment plant, finally returning to the river where a new footbridge will connect the Roanoke River Greenway to the Tinker Creek Greenway and Vinton.

**Sunday, April 10, 2011 8:00AM  
Big Horse Gap to New River (Rt 460) 113  
Mile Hike #11**

Jim Walke (leader), Karen Callahan (assistant), Ivy Lidstone, Mike & Sheila Vaughn, Amy Burke, Carina Hughes, John Merkwon, HR Blankenship, and Kristy Collins.

Our trip started with a tour of the Woods Hole Hostel, a place a half-mile from Sugar Run Gap where hikers (and B&B guests) can get everything from a spot in the rough bunkhouse, to a private room and a professional massage. If we had hiked in the opposite direction and ended here, they may have gotten some immediate business. The proprietress said that 400-500 long-range hikers had come through our area in 2010, and the busy season is due to start again within a few weeks.

Once at the Gap we parked and started out on our 10.5-mile ridge-walk. The weather was beautiful, sunny and almost eighty degrees, although the storms from the day before were evident in a few downed branches and spots where the usually parched trail was a running stream. Spring is a little late this year. The lack of leaf-out meant not much protection from the sun (as a few pink faces at the end of the day attested). No wildflowers had bloomed yet at the higher elevations. Almost immediately the group began to spread out according to their various paces, with a few greyhounds in the lead and amblers bringing up the rear. We gathered in various combinations at Doc's Knob shelter, where the usually reserved spring was doing its best imitation of a gurgling brook, and then again at a rocky powerline cut with a fine view of the Wilburn Valley. A tiny garter snake tried to join us for lunch.

In between we passed through rhododendron tunnels and walked spots narrow enough to see off both sides of the ridge at once. At least one hiker stretched out for a quick catnap on a rock ledge. The final view of the day at Angel's Rest preceded the elevator-drop (2000') of the last two miles down to the New River where the shuttle cars were parked. A side-trip of just a few steps off the Appalachian Trail took some members to the family cemetery on the homesite of George Pearis, a Revolutionary War veteran and the man for whom Pearisburg is named.

**Sunday, April 17, 2011 8:00AM  
Catawba Mountain Work Hike**

Steve Burt, David Jones, Timo Grueneberg, Gene Rose

Who believes in self-fulfilling prophecies? During the March work hike to this area we examined the first and second rock slab bridge on Catawba Mountain, and concluded that after thirty years of use we need to replace them. Today, a month later, the second bridge, after thirty years of use, was a jumble of broken lumber. What a shock (I quickly said to myself three times: "I will win the lottery," just in case the fortune telling was still in effect).

The day's work had been decided. We dropped our packs and started poking around the mess. It became obvious that the bridge had collapsed from the deck surface. Did this failure happen as a hiker walked across? One person picked up a broken piece of wood and said that it was sound and not rotten as suspected, then another pointed to a large boulder leaning against a tree below the bridge. It then became obvious that the boulder had come loose, rolled down the hill and hit the bridge. (Unfortunately, the next week reports came from the ATC that a hiker on Saturday had heard another group of hikers rolling boulders down from the fire road and heard the impact, and when she got to the bridge, observed the damage.)

With limited tools we started taking the bridge apart. One hiker volunteered to go back to his home and bring back a large saw. What could we do to fix this problem? Well, out in the woods there are no two by fours and nails, but there is a lot of other stuff.

As the debris was cleared a natural route to walk could be seen. Using some logs and the rebar anchors for the bridge, cribbing was put in place. Then lots of rocks were retrieved and with the sledge hammer these were broken to smaller sizes for fill.

Several hours after we discovered the impasse, the trail was again open and safe for hikers to pass.

**Sunday, April 24, 2011 8:00AM  
Petites Gap/Hunting Creek Trail Loop**

Larry Austin & Lois Smith (leaders), H. R. Blankenship, Fred Meyer, Paul Jones, Gene Rose, Carl Cornett, Maurice Turner, Maya Bohler, Ivy Lidstone, Bob Peckman, Carina Hughes, and Dawn Lamb

The weather for this hike was mostly sunny and quite warm later in the hike reaching in the low to mid-80's. We started the hike at Petites Gap on the AT and headed up Thunder Ridge. Starting right out, there

were wildflowers throughout the woods and along the trail. We saw scores of Large-flowered Trilliums and Bellwort, and scattered along were Chickweed, Wild Ginger, Smooth Yellow Violets, Garlic Mustard, Toothworts, and Bloodroot. After climbing for a couple of miles, we reached several gaps where there were incredible displays of Trilliums numbering in the thousands. It was an amazing scene to say the least. There were also hundreds of May-apple which were up but not yet in bloom. After everyone reached the Thunder Ridge Overlook and had taken a break for a few minutes, we headed on to the Hunting Creek Trail. On that trail we stopped for lunch along the beautiful Hunting Creek with its many cascading waterfalls. On that trail, we spotted a number of other wildflowers, including the Wild Geranium and Lousewort. By the time we reached the Glenwood Horse Trail for the last leg of this hike, it was getting quite warm. We had some tough climbing to do on that trail with the heat. About the time we finished the hike at Petites Gap, we ran into four thru-hikers and gave them some of the refreshments we had at the end. Everyone seemed to appreciate the mass of wildflowers, especially the Trillium this day. We hit the area just right for such a magnificent flowering.

**Sunday, May 1, 2011 8:00AM**  
**Lee Hollow (RT 621) to Dragon's Tooth**  
**Parking, 113 Mile Hikes 6 and 7**

Cancelled, no takers.

**Sunday, May 1, 2011 1:00PM**  
**Curry Gap ( BRP) to Fullhardt Knob**

Dave Sutton (leader), Maya Bohler, Nancy Friedman, Dawn Lamb, Hugh Hall and K-9 companion.

We began the hike at Curry Gap, mile marker 102. From the small parking area we followed the road (Salt Pond Rd) past the junction with the AT and continuing 'til the road brushes against the AT after another 2 miles. When we reached Fullhardt Knob, we were greeted by Maurice Turner along with much cooler temps, wind, and fog. We must commend the group who put into place the new gutters and downspouts for drinking water collection on top of the shelter. This new cistern now collects almost twice as much water as did the previous. Descending the Knob, we followed the AT, then the road back to the parking area. We saw one orange salamander and one deer while hiking. We all thought it was a great walk!

**Saturday, May 7, 2011 11:00AM**  
**Mill Mountain Greenway and Trails**

Diana Christopulos & Mark McClain (leaders), Conrad & Marietta Grundlehner, Zetta Campbell & Joanne Derryberry

What a glorious day for a walk up Mill Mountain, sunny & cool with a light breeze! Starting from Piedmont Park we walked through the neighborhood onto the Mill Mountain Greenway, then took the Monument Trail to the Star Trail up to the summit and the Roanoke Star. Pausing for a picnic lunch at the pavilion, we returned to our starting place via the Mill Mountain Greenway (old road). We enjoyed a brief stop at Rockledge mansion where they were preparing for a Kentucky Derby Gala complete with life-size statue of thoroughbred horse (this was a fundraiser for charity)!

**Sunday, May 8, 2011 8:00AM**  
**Carvins Cove Trails**

John Merkwan (leader) H.R. Blankenship, Ivy Lidstone.

Mothers' Day and a terrible forecast may have lessened participation, but it was one of those days that as soon as we met at Orange Market the rain stopped and stayed away for the entire hike. We logged 11 miles and a variety of scenery by starting with Songbird to include a short excursion to the Catawba Creek Tunnel followed by Arrowhead and then Sawmill Branch to intersect with the AT and returned via Happy Valley, Riley's Loop, Enchanted Forrest and Comet. I had a scheme to do a short bike shuttle, so I dropped H.R. and Ivy off at the trail head and drove back to the Bennett Springs parking area where I would use my bike to quickly rejoin them at the trail head. Trouble was my bike tire was flat and the air pump broke! I ended up jogging a mile to meet them to start the hike and we all got to walk an extra bonus mile at the hike's conclusion. The pace was brisk as we traversed the 11 miles in 4 1/2 hours.

**Sunday, May 15, 2011 8:00AM**  
**Daleville (Rt 220) to Hay Rock**

Fred Walters (leader), Brad & Katherine Rings and Gene Rose

The hike started with overcast skies and high humidity with rain showers forecasted beginning in the afternoon. Our group of 4 hikers was determined to hike up to the Hay Rock Overlook in hopes of meeting a through hiker or two along the way. We weren't disappointed as we met several hikers along the 8-mile hike. It was truly a pleasure to greet hikers who hailed from Massachusetts, Tennessee, New Hampshire and

## RATC Phone List - July 2011 - Page 1

First Name	Last Name	Phone	First Name	Last Name	Phone
W. Graham	Adams	248-259-2423	Clayton	Cabiness	776-0469
Leonard & Laurie	Adkins	804-275-1208	Karen	Callahan	540-961-0640
Linda	Akers	540-382-1644	Zetta	Campbell	366-8165
Davey & Amanda	Arthur	529-5974	Harold (Hal)	Cantrill	387-2347
Todd	Athey	434-685-7762	Clyde	Carter	591-2463
Cindy & Family	Aubuchon	263-1024	Milton & Connie	Carter	798-1716
Larry	Austin	254-2092	Joyce	Castelli	342-6198
Harry	Ballard	540-721-5263	Rhonda	Chewning	798-9680
Kirk	Ballin	795-0752	Diane	Christensen	345-4295
Carolyn L.	Baratta	774-5651	Diana	Christopulos	387-0930
Wes & Hettie	Barnes	580-8044	Joe	Ciezkowski	387-2420
Suzanne	Barnett	772-4273	Dick & Judy	Clark	989-7053
Sheila	Barnhart	521-7125	Kay	Clatterbuck	989-8275
Michael	Beda	798-3673	Julia	Cochrane	678-516-0941
Liz	Belcher	384-6772	Hal	Coleman	725-1592
Laura	Belleville	540-953-3571	Sandra	Collins	797-9159
Laura, Buzz, Tess & Lily	Belleville	540-499-1138	Ed	Colvin	540-544-3087
Tom & Doris	Berdeen	588-0618	Katrina Yost	Cometa	540-639-6541
Ed	Bessell	362-2274	Caryl	Connolly	588-0548
Gary	Bible	977-2954	Murray & Donna	Cook	204-4219
Kevin	Black	312-4322	Karen	Coon	989-2041
Malcolm & Jimmie	Black	929-4369	Mia	Copeland	540-674-4407
Jennifer	Blackwell	610-763-4813	Carl	Cornett	342-3950
Bob	Blankenbaker	558-9752	Cos	Cosgrove	305-409-2461
H. R.	Blankenship	344-0313	Sandra & Chris	Cothran	776-3864
Maya	Bohler	344-6588	Fred	Coughlan	781-749-9130
Harry L.	Boone, Jr	387-2641	Pat	Cousins	389-1342
Nancy	Bower	520-299-6599	Ted & Linda	Creighton	540-449-1600
David	Bowers	427-4150	Darrell	Crick	540-626-3117
Cynthia A.	Bowles	345-6586	Rob	Crittenden	540-992-5359
Berlie & Patsy	Bowman	977-6082	Cheryl	Crowell	581-4966
Judy & Ed	Bradley	344-4558	Rupert & Gladys	Cutler	345-7653
Kenneth & Jo	Brooks	772-4877	Michael & Wynette	Dalsey	344-0023
Mervin & Blanche	Brower	387-9732	David	Danco	725-9650
Les & Kathy	Brown	387-3575	Bruce	Davidson	384-6760
Margaret Ann	Brown	540-345-5195	Chase	Davidson	276-650-5035
Peggy & Lynn	Bryant	343-2084	Larry & Janice	Davidson	580-7905
Brian & Kelly	Buccola	537-6221	Donna & Palmer	Deacon	540-885-3026
Doug	Buchanan	798-2550	Shelby & Bonnie	Dickerson	774-1870
Mary	Buchanan	540-814-2224	Frank	Dieter	342-7764
Steve	Burt	772-4907	Frank & Pam	DiRamio	521-1966

## RATC Phone List - July 2011 - Page 2

First Name	Last Name	Phone	First Name	Last Name	Phone
Daniel "Chip" & Ashley	Donahue	580-3015	Amit & Laura	Hajra	992-4541
Jeanne	Duddy	344-4803	Gary	Hale	540-268-5283
Gary & Barbara	Duerk	343-1616	Rushdat	Hale	309-7263
Jeff	Eadens	645-2575	Hugh	Hall	725-8874
JoAnn	Edmunds	982-5760	Anne	Hanna	540-965-3521
Greg,JoAnn & Haile	Edwards	580-1541	Phil & Thea	Hanood	207-462-1940
Sally	Evans	206-2834	Frank	Haranzo, Jr	362-2766
John C.	Everett Jr	802-649-7053	Jason (Jay)	Harcum	843-696-3427
Will, Jim & Karen	Fabrie	977-0350	Neville	Harris	540-921-3444
Marty	Farris	761-3523	Sharon	Harrison	819-6714
Kim	Ferguson	400-7482	Mary & Jimbo	Harshfield	344-4341
Mike	Ferguson	344-8525	Michael G.	Haynie	989-9456
Betty	Field	344-7809	Juanita	Hill	336-659-4628
Andrea K.	Flora	989-3171	Charles & Naomi	Hillon	703-754-7388
Bill	Floyd	540-951-7744	Jon	Hilton	540-250-7080
Bob	Foutz	540-951-3570	Penny	Hodge	986-5856
Dan & Mei Li	Foy	265-0927	Don	Hoke	563-2902
Ed & Linda	Francisco	342-4915	John	Hollandsworth	576-2364
Nancy L.	Friedman	265-7395	Duncan	Hollar	304-645-2186
Nate	Galbreath	491-9507	Roger	Holnback	556-2919
Georgia	Gallaher	345-8700	Paul	Howell	774-2619
Mary Lou	Gaminde	344-1637	Carina & Bill	Hughes	588-0433
Charlotte	Gardiner	989-9062	Wayne & Liz	Hunt	540-576-1094
Kenny & Dawn	Garrett	540-293-7967	Jim & Linda	Hutchings	540-427-4536
Matt & Colleen	Gentry	540-552-1698	Cynthia	Hutchison	309-3912
Baron & Tina	Gibson	540-268-5958	Mary	Innes	342-7764
Billy	Gibson	362-3156	Rhin	James	305-409-2461
Mary	Gilbert	774-0330	Beckie	Johnson	977-3833
Tim & Vicky	Gillow	540-557-7910	David & Lori	Jones	540-552-3058
O. Watts	Gills	776-2251	Paul W.	Jones III	774-2286
Dena	Goldberg	366-3186	Jennifer	Juul	540-764-1726
John	Goodwin	804-426-5396	Leslie	Kay	540-951-7744
Bill & Buz	Gordge	774-3016	George	Kegley	366-4607
Connie	Grant	989-6131	David A.	Keith	890-1415
Linda Sage	Greene	345-2291	Brian & Leigh Anne	Kelley	344-7757
Ruth	Greene	387-3317	Marcia	Kelly	387-1956
Dale & Sandy	Grubbs	540-864-7339	Sherry	Kessel	366-9167
Robert & Lucy	Grubbs	992-3303	Linda	King	342-2411
Timo	Grueneberg	540-231-4674	Paula	Kirtley	434-685-7579
Patricia	Guzik	540-381-9697	Jeremy	Kleiner	467-0186
Bill	Hackworth	857-8998	Bryan	Kloster	703-462-0057

## RATC Phone List - July 2011 - Page 3

First Name	Last Name	Phone	First Name	Last Name	Phone
John & Hilda	Knapp	591-2461	A. J.	McPeak	540-521-2791
Tom, Denise, Sam & Brooke	Knisely	904-7312	Carolyn R.	McPeak	540-890-2855
Ursula & Siegfried	Kolmstetter	703-237-4386	Emily	Meissel	982-5760
Rita	Krasnow	776-7654	John & Kathy	Merkwan	904-2299
Don & Ruth	Kreh	977-4637	Fred	Meyer	304-744-9219
Anne	Krogenas	314-0696	Vince & Lori	Mier	892-6109
Karl	Kunkel	336-882-8711	Dave	Miller	977-3142
Richard	Kurshan	982-8400	John	Miller	375-3250
Dawn	Lamb	312-9069	Donna L.	Mitchell	989-6226
Judith	Langenhorst	384-7340	Margaret & Dick	Moran	389-3744
Bob	Langford	725-8474	Scott	Morris	425-4496
Tanner	LaPrade	540-525-9157	Bonnie	Nelson	982-2265
Michael	Lasecki	540-921-3444	Marguerite & Tom	Noga	540-864-5403
Beth	Lawler	265-3554	Rhinda	North	556-6833
Jon & Annie	Lawrence	320-7822	Sam, Mitzi & Sammy	Oakey	342-9124
Ray	Lawson	982-2150	Cammye	Obenchain	521-8557
David	Leaman	797-3676	Gary & Linda	Oberlender	774-1244
Billy	Leaman, Jr.	774-3905	Reinhard	O'Neill	977-3311
Jim & Mary Lou	Lewis	977-2356	Suzanne	Osborne	556-4845
Ivy	Lidstone	204-3304	Jim & Kathy	Overholser	343-1928
Cheng M.	Lin	973-738-7273	Rachel & Family	Parks	206-2145
Donna	Logan	375-2792	Joe	Parrish	540-953-3571
Charlotte	Lomax	427-2849	Joe & Angela	Parrish	540-239-8508
Berndie	Lunsford	424-203-7860	Gloria	Parry	342-2523
Christopher David	Lynch	521-1798	Terry	Parsell	342-2272
John & Diane	Lynham	336-292-7637	Bob & Kris	Peckman	366-7780
Meredith & Jack	Malloy	540-864-5616	Cherly	Penn	525-0295
Louise & Michael	Maloney	540-721-5602	Greg	Perdue	815-7826
Robert & Evelyn	Manetta	345-1700	Mike	Perdue	977-1498
Mike	Marinos	804-754-8512	Marjorie Felton-Petry & Dan	Petry	929-5111
Taft	Martin	721-9956	Dan & Kathy	Phlegar	389-1783
Tony & Lynnette	Martin	989-4218	Rhonda	Prillaman	598-4585
Teresa	Martinez	303-838-2949	Bonnie	Pulliam	343-5526
Tim	Masick	491-9777	R. Lee & Inge	Pyle	540-961-5015
Holly	Matusovich	540-544-3087	Stafford	Query	989-5582
Paul	McAnnally	774-4553	Lindsey	Quesinberry	520-299-6599
Mark	McClain	387-0930	Harry	Reed	952-649-7622
Terri & Reid	McClure	375-2650	Jonathan	Reed	312-5865
Ron	McCorkle	982-8289	Ron & Edith	Reese	342-1233
Nancy	McDaniel	389-1529	Mike & Jennie	Reilly	540-382-0645
Jonathan	McGlumphy	540-552-8891	George & Donna	Repa	375-7372

## RATC Phone List - July 20112 - Page 4

First Name	Last Name	Phone	First Name	Last Name	Phone
Robert E.	Rich	513-522-2160	Bill & Juanita	Tanger	366-2228
Mike	Rieley	587-5817	Madeleine	Taylor	556-6895
Sharon	Rippee	387-3495	Rick & Sue	Terrell	776-0705
Debbie	Robbins	540-731-0078	Rebecca L.	Terrill	483-9222
Pete & Donna	Roberts	540-576-5065	Martha	Thomas	540-239-0556
Steve	Roberts	540-239-4039	Suzanne	Thorniley	540-339-9414
Gene A.	Rose	904-7391	Greg & Cathy	Tinaglia	989-0374
Kathy Reiff	Ruble	380-3070	Christine & Brian	Toevs	206-2465
Holly	Sacra	797-8262	Steven	Tomaziefski	537-5360
Vada	Sarsfield	981-2428	W. Peter	Trower	540-953-2249
Rob & Kay	Saul	384-6510	Christine & Ezra	Trumbull	986-0210
Sue	Scanlin	989-0497	Maurice	Turner	334-2128
Jen	Schaeffer	540-951-1074	Christopher	Vail	529-7134
Hugh	Scruggs	384-6841	Joe & Connie	Vaughn	989-2090
Bruce	Sellers	774-7068	Mike & Sheila	Vaughn	992-1350
Walter	Shroyer	276-322-4607	Durant	Vick	772-2555
Sally	Shughart	404-269-4455	Jim	Walke	540-231-3014
Paul	Simms	365-2353	Ed	Wallace	774-0175
Robert	Simpson	774-6438	Fred & Connie	Walters	977-1430
Tom & Dolores	Skelly	342-8124	Chuck & Ana Milena	Walz	774-3596
Ronald T.	Sloan	540-544-6818	Jean	Warren	384-6229
Bernie & Mary	Smith	540-721-1474	Vicki	Wells	540-381-0071
Lois C.	Smith	862-7370	Pamela	Welsh	992-1462
Michael "Tabasco"	Smith	540-864-6336	Jimmy & Kelly	Whitney	344-4117
Dave & Marianne	Snebold	776-9665	David	Wickersham	774-0439
Maurice P.	Sneller	434-392-3828	Laura	Wickstead	982-2009
Mike & Carol	Sowder	651-6902	Beverly Day	Williamson, Jr	344-3989
Laurie & Scott	Spangler	977-1881	Chris & Edward	Wilson	757-202-3331
Susan	Sperduto	434-443-4319	Roy & Gay	Wilson	910-567-6403
Lorrie	Sprague	304-645-2186	George Turner	Winston	989-6991
Dallas	St. Clair	871-7727	Homer & Therese	Witcher	992-3932
Nancy	Stafford	772-6372	Betty M.	Young	774-8924
Julio, Amanda & Noah	Stephens	540-357-1902	Michael	Young	345-1406
Al	Stewart	989-0483	Roberta L.	Young	904-7958
Steve & Melissa	Stiles	819-3140	David	Youngblood	309-6668
Bob & Polly	Stimson	540-552-0580			
Bobbie	Stitcher	397-2760			
Christy	Straight	354-3396			
Maria & Elizabeth	Surat	343-4982			
David & Linda	Sutton	774-0648			
Denise & Stuart	Talbert	540-943-3589			

Ohio. All seemed to be in good spirits given the fact they had been hiking in rainy weather over the last several days. Most looked forward to a day's layover in Daleville to rest before continuing the trek north.

As we ate lunch at Hay Rock, dark gray clouds gathered along the southwest horizon and a steady rain began to fall. Hiking back to the 220 Park and Ride, we discussed what it must be like to routinely hike in the rain as is the case with the through hikers trudging along the AT toward Maine.

**Sunday, May 15, 2011 1:00PM  
Chestnut Ridge/ Mill Mountain**

Chuck Walz (leader), Georgia Gallaher, and Maurice Earles.

It was a beautiful day for a hike. Sky was blue with white, puffy clouds. The trail had some mud but everything was really green from all the rain. Found some wild roses, raspberries, and a foundation of an old house. Also Maurice found many deer prints and two logs that appeared to be rolled by bear to get to food. A real nice hike. Too bad there were not more people to enjoy it.

**Sunday, May 22, 2011 8:00AM  
Catawba Mountain Work Hike**

Timo Grueneberg and Steve Burt

The dog days of spring arrived with a vengeance. On this Sunday the temperature was forecast to be near ninety degrees. Perhaps that is why only two names are listed under the participants section above.

So, as trail work goes, two volunteers are better than none. Using the McAfee fire road, Timo and Steve drove to the location of the second rock slab bridge, where we worked during the April workhike. Today the work was to haul the broken pieces of the bridge up to the truck. And in the heat it became apparent that when hauling broken lumber full of nails up a 60 degree slope in near ninety degree heat two volunteers ain't much. But, these two persevered and cleaned up all the refuse. For that dedication they get a great big Pulaski salute (i.e. *Thank you very much for taking care of this task!*)

But, these two trail maintaining machines were not done. Driving the truck a quarter of a mile further, Timo and Steve grabbed trail tools and struck out for the trail again. This time they went to an eroded area and proceeded to narrow the treadway and even installed a rock water bar. But in ninety degree heat with only two backs to move rocks even the most dedicated volunteers tucker out.

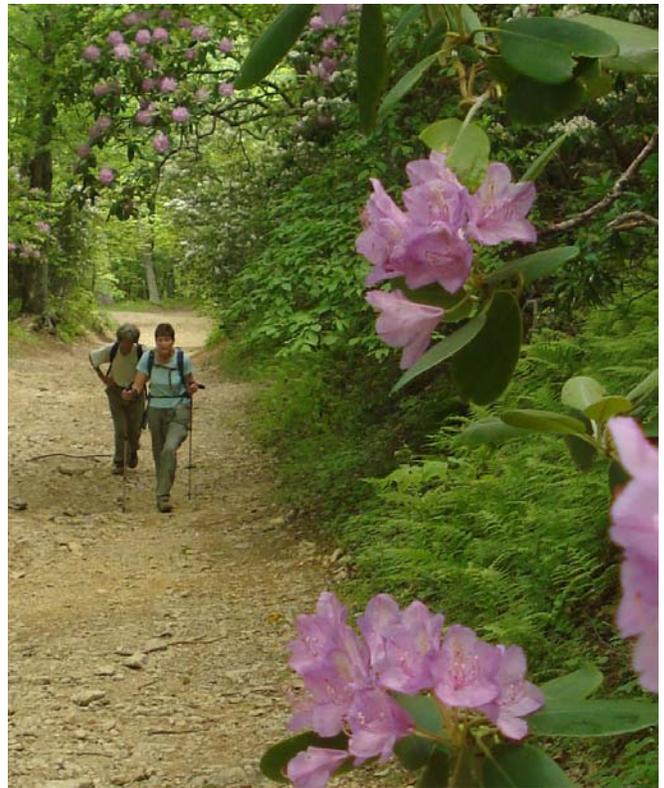
The day ended with the traditional cold drinks at the Route 311 parking lot.

**Sunday, June 5, 2011 8:00AM  
Crab Tree Falls, Priest Loop**

Kris Peckman (leader), Maya Bohler (assistant), H.R. Blankenship, Carl Cornett, John Merkwan, Bob Peckman

During the week leading up to this hike, we wondered whether we should even attempt it in the predicted 96-degree heat. But temperatures moderated, and ahead we went. We had three rabbits and three turtles, but the rabbits were patient and waited for the turtles at several points.

After a car shuttle and some bureaucracy (car fee of \$3.00 at Crabtree Falls, reduced to \$1.50 with a Golden Eagle pass), we started up the Crabtree Falls trail at 10:00. This trail is built to allow safe viewing of the falls, with sturdy wooden observation decks and encouraging mileposts every tenth of a mile. After a brief rest at the top of the falls, we continued on the 1-mile trail to Crabtree Meadows (which, to the disappointment of one couple we met, has no meadow at all). From there a half-mile of steep road leads to the AT. A right turn would take you in the direction of Spy Rock, but we turned left and began climbing again, this time in the woods with a lovely breeze. We passed the Priest shelter turnoff and headed for the overlook, where the turtles had lunch and rabbits took pictures and scrutinized a map. Lots of clouds were moving around, obscuring and then revealing the mountains around us, as well as keeping the air cool.



Back in the woods, after a little more uphill we began the long descent to Route 56. Mountain laurel trees up to 16' high were in bloom all around us, and an occasional

sumptuous pink rhododendron drew a camera from Bob's pack. Several other wildflowers graced the summit and the descent, including cow parsnip, fly poison, bowman's root, columbine, wild stonecrop, spiderwort, long-leaved bluets, beardtongue. Fauna consisted of two thru-hikers and Regina the Ridgerunner. When the turtles arrived at Route 56, the rabbits had already run the shuttle and Carl had taken a dip in the Tye River, which he said was way too warm.

**Sunday, June 5, 2011 1:00PM  
Thunder Ridge Overlook to Cornelius Creek  
Shelter**

Mervin & Blanche Brower (leaders), Cheryl Penn, Stephen Norris and Karen Callahan

The hike started from the parking lot behind KFC on route 460. We organized the car switch at the parking lot to leave one car near Cornelius Creek shelter and then drive on to Thunder Ridge. The day was nice and sunny and the temperature was about 80° F. The Rhododendron were in full bloom on the trail, and on the Blue Ridge Parkway north of the Peaks of Otter they were giving a very impressive display. We heard some thundering in the distance but had no rain. Stephen tripped and fell down into some leafy growth but suffered no damage from the fall. After he got up he found that he had fallen into a patch of stinging nettle. Blanche had Sting Ezee which helped a little. We met 3 through hikers on the trail and 2 section hikers at the Cornelius Creek Shelter. We finished our hike at about 6:30.

**Saturday, June 11, 2011 11:00AM  
Green Hill Park and Environs**

Mark McClain, Diana Christopulos (leaders), Chang Lin, Linda Harrison, Pat Cousins & Zetta Campbell

Starting and ending on the paved Roanoke River Greenway, we walked an extensive loop route around Roanoke County's Green Hill Park that included the Paw Paw Trail, Craig's Climb, and the Meadowview Trail - in all about four miles of walking. It was a beautiful sunny June day, though a bit hot. The park was abuzz with little league baseball, a carnival, picnickers, horseback riders, dog walkers, and even some folks swimming and tubing in the Roanoke River. After our walk we enjoyed the fabulous Italian buffet lunch at Mamma Maria's, just a few blocks up the road on Main Street in Salem, and were on our way home just as the thundershowers began.

**Sunday, June 12, 2011 8:30 AM  
Catawba Mountain Work Hike**

Blanche & Mervin Brower, Steve Burt, Julia Campus, Bruce Davidson, David Jones, Michael Lasecki, Lindsay Moldenhauer, Kris Peckman, Gene Rose, Evan Walters

The forecast was for a hot, hot, hot day. During the morning safety talk it was mentioned that the most likely

problems for today were going to be disturbing a yellow jackets's nest and the heat.

Nevertheless we had nine people to show up with two more coming in the afternoon.

This was our fifth work hike in a row on Catawba Mountain. The rationale behind scheduling work at the same location was that we would get the trail in ship shape up to the badly eroded section just before McAfee's Knob. Then we have two weeks of the Konnarock crew to rework that section.

What a great plan. Today, on our fifth work hike on this section we were again narrowing trail, putting in water control structures and installing rock steps where needed. And, we would be working just past John's spring shelter, nowhere near McAfee Knob.

So goes the life of a trail maintainer; there is always more work to do.

Today we did correct a badly worn section of trail. Also, we barricaded some rogue trails where hikers were deviating away from the established treadway.

With the hot weather, the group's energy and motivation started to sag like t-shirts wet with sweat. About the middle of the afternoon we turned our efforts to the trail south (back toward the parking lot) to "work our way out to the cars." Some people cleared water bars, one person clipped overgrowing plants. When we found rogue trails we dropped our packs and fanned out to gather dead tree limbs to block the way.

About half way back, working on gathering dead material, Blanche and Julia started to pick up a small dead log when Blanche sounded the alarm, "BEES!" Both ran. Blanche got a sting on the cheek, and Julia ran way up the trail. As Blanche pulled out and administered bees sting stuff, Julia could be seen in the distance frequently spasming as if doing the "bee sting boogie." After we called to her, she returned to the group, saying that the bees were still after her. Sure enough when she rejoined the group there was a bee that kept pestering her. David went to help her, and he did relieve her of her bee because the bee stung David.

So the score from the morning's predictions: it was a hot day, Blanche got one bee sting, David got one bee sting, and Julia on her very first work hike was rewarded with three bee stings.

Nevertheless, good times were had by all. The cold drinks at the car were much appreciated. Next month we are going to go work on a different section of the RATC's trail.

**Hike Schedule**

Going on a group hike can fulfill a number of worthwhile purposes. These include such things as physical conditioning, social interaction, the enjoyment of nature, and the thrill of reaching a spectacular viewpoint. The Roanoke Appalachian Trail Club consistently tries to provide a wide range of hiking opportunities for people of all ages, interests and abilities. Guests are always welcome to join us.

For the most part, we rate our hikes as follows:  
 Easy – 3 to 5 miles; good trails or old roads; modest elevation changes.

Moderate – 5 to 8 miles; steeper trails which may be rough in places.

Strenuous – 8 miles and up; long hikes with extensive climbs and possible rough trails or bushwhacking.

You may drive your own car to the trailhead if you wish. However, carpooling is encouraged to save

gasoline and because trailhead parking may be limited. The hike leader is responsible for arranging such carpooling as may be required. While there is no fee to hike with the club, the indicated amount is to defray automobile expenses and should be given to the driver of your carpool.

**You will need to call the leader to find out where the hiking group will be meeting. If you are new to hiking, the leader can also give advice about clothing, footwear, and equipment. If you are unfamiliar with the hike, the leader will be glad to answer your questions and help you evaluate whether or not it is suitable for you.**

**The club is always looking for experienced hikers to help lead club hikes. If you know of someone that you think would be a good hike leader, or wish to nominate yourself, please contact Mike Vaughn at 540-992-1350 or email mikeva999@yahoo.com.**

**Sunday, July 10, 2011 1:00PM  
Hoop Hole, Lower Loop**

4.0 miles, Easy, \$2.50 carpool fee  
 28 miles from Roanoke

Located in Botetourt County, the hike makes a loop by following two delightfully wild streams: Hipes Branch and Stony Run. Both of these pass through steep-sided canyons and have plenty of cascades and deep pools. While there is little change in elevation, there are many stream crossings, some of which may be tricky if the water is high.

**Dave Sutton .....540-774-0648**

**Saturday, July 16, 2011 8:00AM  
Lick Run Greenway**

7.0 miles, Moderate, No carpool fee, Roanoke

Walk the Lick Run Greenway from Valley View Boulevard (Target) to downtown Roanoke and return. This paved greenway trail runs along scenic Lick Run, through neighborhoods and city parks with little elevation change. We'll pause for brunch at a downtown restaurant before returning to our starting point.

**Mark McClain..... 355-6526**

**Or ..... mcclainmark@comcast.net**

**Diana Christopulos ..... 387-0930**

**Saturday, July 23, 2011 8:00AM  
Work Hike**

Work hike location to be announced at a later date.

**Dave Jones .....540-552-3058**

**Sunday, July 31, 2011 8:00AM  
Kimberling Creek (Rt. 606) to Jenny Knob  
(Rt.611) 113 Mile Hike #14**

9.8 miles, Strenuous, \$6.00 carpool fee  
 70 miles from Roanoke

This hike is located in Bland County. It starts by crossing Kimberling Creek on a suspension footbridge. This is one of the longest footbridges on the A.T. The trail then ascends steeply to the wooded summit of Brushy Mountain, before descending to Licksillet Hollow. It then crosses Route 608 and again ascends Brushy Mountain. It passes Jenny Knob Shelter before reaching Route 611, the southern terminus of the section of the A.T. maintained by the RATC.

**John Merkwon..... 540-904-2299**

**Saturday, August 6, 2011 8:30AM  
McAfee Knob Work Hike**

1.0 miles, Moderate, \$.50 carpool fee  
 6 miles from Roanoke

We will be working with the Konnarock crew on rehabilitating the trail north and south of McAfee Knob. This entails narrowing wide sections, cleaning and rebuilding water bars, installing new water bars, check dams and rock steps. This section of trail experiences high hiker traffic and we will be hardening the trail to withstand the use

**Dave Jones..... 540-552-3058**

**Saturday, August 6, 2011 6:00-9:00PM  
Annual Corn Boil**

The 2011 annual corn boil is scheduled for Saturday, August 6, from 6-9 at the Catawba Community Center, behind the post office at 779 and 311.

**Sunday, August 7, 2011 8:30AM  
McAfee Knob Work Hike**

1.0 miles, Moderate, \$.50 carpool fee  
6 miles from Roanoke

We will be working with the Konnarock crew on rehabilitating the trail north and south of McAfee Knob. This entails narrowing wide sections, cleaning and rebuilding water bars, installing new water bars, check dams and rock steps. This section of trail experiences high hiker traffic and we will be hardening the trail to withstand the use

**Dave Jones .....540-552-3058**

**Sunday, August 7, 2011 1:00PM  
Cascades National Scenic Trail**

4.0 miles, Easy, \$5.00 carpool fee  
54 miles from Roanoke

Located in Giles County near Pembroke, the hike uses trails which run along both sides of Little Stony Creek, which ends near the Cascades - an impressive waterfall. Usually the hike will go up one side of the creek and come back on the other. The Forest Service charges a nominal fee (\$3.00) to park at the trailhead.

**Chris Wilson.....757-202-3331  
or .....theshoelesswanderer@gmail.com**

**Saturday, August 13, 2011 8:00AM  
Wolf Creek Greenway**

5 miles, Easy, No carpool fee, Vinton

Walk the Wolf Creek Greenway, starting at the Blue Ridge Parkway trailhead in Roanoke County, stopping for brunch at a local eatery en route to the Hardy Road trailhead, then returning. This is a mostly gravel trail with little elevation change that traverses several parks, schools, and neighborhoods, connecting Vinton to the Blue Ridge Parkway.

**Mark McClain..... 355-6526  
or .....mclainmark@comcast.net  
Diana Christophulos ..... 387-0930**

**Saturday, August 13, 2011 8:30AM  
McAfee Knob Work Hike**

1.0 miles, Moderate, \$.50 carpool fee  
6 miles from Roanoke

We will be working with the Konnarock crew on rehabilitating the trail north and south of McAfee Knob. This entails narrowing wide sections, cleaning and rebuilding water bars, installing new water bars, check dams and rock steps. This section of trail experiences high hiker traffic and we will be hardening the trail to withstand the use

**Dave Jones .....540-552-3058**

**Sunday, August 14, 2011 8:30AM  
McAfee Knob Work Hike**

1.0 miles, Moderate, \$.50 carpool fee  
6 miles from Roanoke

We will be working with the Konnarock crew on rehabilitating the trail north and south of McAfee Knob. This entails narrowing wide sections, cleaning and rebuilding water bars, installing new water bars, check dams and rock steps. This section of trail experiences high hiker traffic and we will be hardening the trail to withstand the use

**Dave Jones..... 540-552-3058  
Kris Peckman .....366-7780**

**Sunday, August 21, 2011 8:00AM  
Punchbowl (BRP) to James River (Rt 501)**

10.9 miles, Strenuous, \$4.00 carpool fee  
45 miles from Roanoke

We will start this hike on an A.T. crossing on the Blue Ridge Parkway. Heading south, we will climb Punch Bowl Mountain. We will then climb to the summit of Big Rocky Row, which offers great views of the James River. We will also pass Fuller's Rocks, before descending to Route 501, along the James River.

**Mike Vaughn ..... 540-992-1350  
or email ..... mikeva999@yahoo.com**

**Sunday, August 28, 2011 1:00PM  
Poor Mountain Nature Preserve**

5.0 miles, Moderate, \$1.00 carpool fee  
10 miles from Roanoke

This will be a hike on Poor Mountain. It consists of the Overlook Trail, Canyon and Cascades Trails. There are nice view points on the Overlook Trail affording views to the west encompassing Ft. Lewis Mtn. There are over 130 rock steps on the Overlook Trail, then the descent down the Canyon Trail and a climb back on the Cascade Trail.

**Maurice Turner ..... 540-334-2128**

**Sunday, September 4, 2011 8:00AM  
Patterson Creek**

11 miles, Strenuous, \$3.00 carpool fee  
30 miles from Roanoke

This is a loop hike in Botetourt and Craig Counties. We will be hiking in Patterson Creek area. The trails are mostly faint in this section but should have some nice views from both Patterson and Price mountains.

**John Merkwon..... 540-904-2299  
Kris Peckman .....366-7780**

**Saturday, September 10, 2011 10:30AM  
Roanoke Valley Greenway**

6 miles, Easy, \$1.50 carpool fee (bus fare)  
0 miles from Roanoke

Walk the Roanoke River Greenway, using Valley Metro for our shuttle driver. Meet at Vic Thomas Park for shuttle - we'll walk from the Bennington trailhead back to Vic Thomas Park, covering the entire length of the Roanoke River Greenway in Roanoke, with a short side trip for lunch at Fork in the Alley. This is a mostly level paved trail along the Roanoke River. We will take time to check out the new sections of the greenway that are under construction on both ends.

**Mark McClain**..... 355-6526  
or ..... [mcclainmark@comcast.net](mailto:mcclainmark@comcast.net)  
**Diana Christophulos** ..... 387-0930

**Sunday, September 11, 2011 8:00AM  
Mt. Rogers Headquarters (Rt. 16)  
to Groseclose (I-81)**

11.5 miles, Strenuous, \$8.00 carpool fee  
87 miles from Roanoke

The hike is located in Smyth County, near Marion. It is mainly a downhill hike, starting from the Ranger Station on Route 16 to Rt 11 near Atkins. We'll be able to view the exhibits inside the Ranger Station plus check out one of the best shelters on the AT, the Partnership Shelter, 100 yards behind the Ranger Station. On the way to Atkins we'll pass by an old school house that has been turned into a museum.

**Kris and Bob Peckman** ..... 366-7780

**Saturday, September 17, 2011 8:00AM  
Work Hike**

Work hike location to be announced at a later date.

**Dave Jones** ..... 540-552-3058

**Sunday, September 18, 2011 7:30AM  
Garden Mountain (Rt. 623) to Poor Valley (FS222)**

10.8 miles, Strenuous, \$9.00 carpool fee  
97 miles from Roanoke

Located in Bland County, this hike offers spectacular views of Burke's Garden.

**Kris and Bob Peckman** ..... 366-7780

**Sunday, September 25, 2011 7:30AM  
Mau-Har Trail and Three Ridges Loop**

13.5 miles, Strenuous, \$7.00 carpool fee  
70 miles from Roanoke

Located in Virginia's newest Wilderness Area, the hike takes us on trails built and maintained by the Tidewater AT Club. It's a "balloon hike", starting and ending where the AT crosses Route 56 and the Tye River. After 1.7 miles on the A.T., we branch off onto the Mau-Har Trail, which takes us past a lovely waterfall and along a creek up to the Maupin Fields Shelter. Then we continue climbing on the A.T. to the summit of Three Ridges, with lots of great views, then down past the Harpers Creek shelter, up to the ridge, and back down to the Tye River.

**Kris and Bob Peckman** ..... 366-7780

**Sunday, September 25, 2011 1:00PM  
Jennings Creek (Rt 614) to Bryant Ridge Shelter**

5.9 miles, Moderate, \$2.00 carpool fee  
23 miles from Roanoke

Located in Botetourt County not far from Arcadia and Buchanan. This will be an out and back hike to the Bryant Ridge Shelter on the A.T. This shelter is located on a scenic part of the creek. The shelter has three levels and is well-worth seeing.

**Merv and Blanche Brower** ..... 387-9732

**Roanoke Appalachian  
Trail Club Application  
New & Renewal**

- If accepted for membership, I agree to:
1. Support the objectives of the Roanoke Appalachian Trail Club
  2. Abide by the rules of the National and State Parks and Forests
  3. Respect the interests of the owner when on private property
  4. Keep trails and woodlands free of litter and
  5. Abide by instructions of the leader on group hikes and trips

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ New Member Packet fee \$5.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Indiv. # of years \_\_\_\_\_ x \$10.00 \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Family # of years \_\_\_\_\_ x \$15.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Individual life membership \$250.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Family life membership \$300.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Year you joined RATC (make a guess!) \_\_\_\_\_ Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to **RATC, PO Box 12282, Roanoke, 24024-2282** Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TRAIL BLAZER**  
Roanoke Appalachian Trail Club  
PO BOX 12282  
ROANOKE VA 24024-2282



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President, Mervin Brower  
**387-9732** ..... [mervin.brower@verizon.net](mailto:mervin.brower@verizon.net)  
Vice President, Michael Vaughn  
**992-1350** ..... [mikeva999@yahoo.com](mailto:mikeva999@yahoo.com)  
Secretary, Fred Walters  
**977-1430** ..... [n2422y@aol.com](mailto:n2422y@aol.com)  
Treasurer, Blanche Brower  
**387-9732** ..... [blanche.brower@verizon.net](mailto:blanche.brower@verizon.net)  
Land Mgmt. Supervisor, Roger Holnback  
**556-2919** ..... [rholnback@westernvirginalandtrust.org](mailto:rholnback@westernvirginalandtrust.org)  
Conservation Supervisor, Liz Belcher  
**384-6772** ..... [lbelcher@roanokecountyva.gov](mailto:lbelcher@roanokecountyva.gov)  
Trail Supervisor, David Jones  
**540-552-3058** ..... [dhjones@together.net](mailto:dhjones@together.net)  
Shelter Supervisors, Kenny Garrett & Jonathan Reed  
**293-7967** ..... [codenine911@hotmail.com](mailto:codenine911@hotmail.com)  
**312-5865** ..... [ratc\\_shelter@yahoo.com](mailto:ratc_shelter@yahoo.com)  
Hikemaster, Michael Vaughn  
**992-1350** ..... [mikeva999@yahoo.com](mailto:mikeva999@yahoo.com)  
Newsletter Editor, Bob Peckman  
**366-7780** ..... [bob@peckmanjazz.com](mailto:bob@peckmanjazz.com)  
Membership Coordinator, Bob Blankenbaker  
**558-9752** ..... [lankyblanky@yahoo.com](mailto:lankyblanky@yahoo.com)  
Counselor, Sue Scanlin  
**989-0497** ..... [scanlin@verizon.net](mailto:scanlin@verizon.net)  
Counselor, Dick Clark  
**989-7053** ..... [jandrclark@cox.net](mailto:jandrclark@cox.net)

## ANCILLARIES

Social Chairman, Carolyn McPeak  
**540-890-2855** ..... [mcpeakcr@aol.com](mailto:mcpeakcr@aol.com)  
Webmaster, David Perry  
..... [dperry@westernvirginalandtrust.org](mailto:dperry@westernvirginalandtrust.org)  
Roanoke College Rep., Brian Chisom  
**389-7393 (H), 375-7393 (W)** ..... [chisom@roanoke.edu](mailto:chisom@roanoke.edu)  
Mid-week Workhikes, Bill Gordge  
**774-3016** ..... [bgordge@cox.net](mailto:bgordge@cox.net)

## OTHER

Southwest & Central VA Regional Director, Laura Belleville  
**540-953-3571** ..... [lbelleville@appalachiantrail.org](mailto:lbelleville@appalachiantrail.org)  
ATC Regional Representative, Joe Parrish  
**540-953-3571** ..... [jparrish@appalachiantrail.org](mailto:jparrish@appalachiantrail.org)  
Regional Partnership Committee Rep., Mervin Brower  
**387-9732** ..... [mervin.brower@verizon.net](mailto:mervin.brower@verizon.net)  
Regional Partnership Committee Alternate, Roger Holnback  
**556-2919** ..... [rholnback@westernvirginalandtrust.org](mailto:rholnback@westernvirginalandtrust.org)  
ATC-LT Coordinator - James River to New River and  
Director Western Virginia Land Trust, Roger B. Holnback  
**556-2919** ..... [rholnback@westernvirginalandtrust.org](mailto:rholnback@westernvirginalandtrust.org)  
ATC-LT Coord. New River to Damascus, Steve Reisinger  
**540-951-7580** ..... [srei38@hotmail.com](mailto:srei38@hotmail.com)  
Roanoke Valley Greenways Liaison, Roger B. Holnback  
**556-2919** ..... [rholnback@westernvirginalandtrust.org](mailto:rholnback@westernvirginalandtrust.org)  
Sir Speedy Printer  
**344-8550** ..... [info@sspeedy.net](mailto:info@sspeedy.net)

The Roanoke Appalachian Trail Club is an affiliate of  
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