

FROM MY KEYBOARD

I'm sure that many of you are really getting cabin fever and are ready to crank up your outdoor activities. We have fun filled weekends slated for PATH worktrips. These trips, as you know, are catered to all that show. There is also a list of other outings to keep you out of the house for several

months. Be sure to call Ken Rose or Gordon Burgess if you would like to go up on our section during January, February, or March. There are several task that need a little assistance, and your help would be greatly appreciated. This is usually the time of year that we visually survey and monitor the many tracks of land that PATH oversees.

Do you remember the fun you had working with Konnarock last summer? Well, the program begins again on May 28, so plan to join us on our trips this summer. Everyone has a great time.

There will be two meetings this spring that several of us will be attending. The first is the Southern Regional Management Meeting dealing with local issues of the southern clubs. Then in May, the ATC will hold its biannual meeting of club presidents. The club presidents from Georgia-to-Maine will meet in Harpers Ferry to learn of and discuss issues dealing with the entire Appalachian Trail.

We wish Hazel Monroe a speedy recovery from her illness. She has complete her treatment, and we hope to see her out soon.

Congratulations to Janet York and Harry Rolison, who were married November 23 in Winston-Salem.

Else where in this newsletter is a note from Beverly (Underwood) Douglas. Its hard to believe she has been gone from our area for a year and a half. We really do miss her company on our worktrips.

Now another PATH member has packed up his bags. Several met my "Proper" Reverend, Verdery Kerr, from the Episcopal Church in Reidsville. He has moved on to bigger things in Sioux City, Iowa. I don't think the weather was screwy enough for him here. We wish him well in his new Church. Being from Fayetteville, maybe he can still join us on a summer trip as he visits home.

From our Regional Field Office in Newport, Va., Teresa Martinez has been hired to be the Assistant Region Rep. under Mike Dawson. Many of you may have met Teresa on Konnarock trips, Mult-Club Meetings and Regional Meetings. Teresa is finishing up her B.S. at Virginia Tech, where she has been the Virginia Tech Outing Club President for the past three years.

Within the club, Jeff Brown, Dave Emery, and Gaylon Daves were elected to serve on board during the next three years, and I will be here through this year.

If you know of any challenging projects to offer Konnarock this summer, please contact Ken or Gordon. This being their tenth year, we are looking for a special project to commemorate their success.

Please renew your memberships now. We are purging our mailing list as of this printing. All membership dues and contributions stay with the club. The funds that you send us is used for:

- the printing of our newsletter,
- odds and end maintenance of trail equipment,
- mailing our newsletter to members, schools, libraries, outfitters, newspapers, television stations,
- PR people in the know, and other clubs with outdoor interest.
- occasional trail related donations

TAKE A KID HIKING!!

See you on the Trail.  
Danny C. Booker

**RENEW FOR '92!!**

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT 133  
REIDSVILLE, NC

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\*PATH, INC.  
\*PIEDMONT APPALACHIAN TRAIL HIKERS, INC.\*  
\*P.O. BOX 4423  
\*GREENSBORO, NC 27404-4423  
\*1/92  
\*\*\*\*\*



Piedmont

Appalachian Trail

Hikers



PATH

PATH maintains sections of the Appalachian Trail  
in Southwest Virginia

**27 YEARS!!**

The APPALACHIAN TRAIL is a 2,100 mile footpath along the crest of the Appalachian Mountains from Mount Katahdin in Maine to Springer Mountain in Georgia. The Appalachian Trail Conference in 1965, after The Rev. A.J. Shumate from Rural Retreat and ATC members had been assisting with the maintenance of the area for many years, assigned the PIEMONT APPALACHIAN TRAIL HIKERS (PATH) maintenance responsibilities on 50 miles of TRAIL from Va. St. Rt. 670 at the south fork of the Holston River north to Va. St. Rt. 623 atop the picturesque Garden Mountain which encircles the entire Burkes Garden area like the rim of a punch bowl.

CMP  
VAUGHN H. THOMAS  
2922-E ST. MARKS RD.  
WINSTON-SALEM, NC 27103



**DATED MATERIAL**

**PLEASE RENEW NOW!!!**

## \*PATH MEMBERSHIP:

NEW( ), RENEWAL( ), GIFT( )

FAMILY-\$10.00, INDIVIDUAL-\$7.50, STUDENT-\$5.00, \$  
DONATIONS: PATH IS A 501(C)(3) ORGANIZATION \$

## \*APPALACHIAN TRAIL CONFERENCE MEMBERSHIP:

ARE YOU A MEMBER OF THE APPALACHIAN TRAIL CONFERENCE?  
IF YOU LIKE, SEND PATH YOUR DUES TO JOIN ATC, AND PATH WILL  
FORWARD YOUR MEMBERSHIP FEE TO THE CONFERENCE IN HARPERS  
FERRY, W.VA. OR MAIL THEM DIRECT TO:

APPALACHIAN TRAIL CONFERENCE, PO BOX 807,  
HARPERS FERRY, W.VA. 25425

THE ATC OVER SEES THE ENTIRE AT AND WORKS CLOSELY WITH  
THE 32 RECOGNIZE MAINTAINING CLUBS, WHICH INCLUDES PATH.  
ATC MEMBERS WILL RECEIVE THE TRAILWAYS MAGAZINE PUBLISHED  
5 TIMES/YEAR. \*MAKE ATC MEMBERSHIP OUT TO "ATC"  
THE DUES ARE: FAMILY \$30, INDIVIDUAL \$25,  
IF YOU ARE A PATH MEMBER YOUR DUES ARE \$18 A YEAR.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ ARE YOU AN ATC  
MEMBER \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ WHAT ARE YOUR  
FAVORITE  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ HIKES? \_\_\_\_\_  
ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE(\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
OCCUPATION \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE CHECK YOUR MAILING LABEL FOR YOUR CURRENT MEMBERSHIP  
STATUS!! PLEASE NOTE!!! CMP or CMP-1 above your name means  
it is time to renew your membership for 1992. We will purge  
our mailing list prior to our next mailing. PLEASE!!! SEND  
IN YOUR RENEWAL NOW!!!

## \*\* 1992 PATH BOARD MEMBERS \*\*

|                    |                     |                  |                 |
|--------------------|---------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| President          | Danny C. Booker     | 919-349-5893     | Reidsville      |
| Vice President     | Chris Bracknell     | 876-5348         | Raleigh         |
| ATC Coordinator    | Parthena Martin     | 967-4449         | Chapel Hill     |
| Consultant         | Kathy Bobseine      | 919-781-4051     | Raleigh         |
| AT Field Rep.      | Mike Dawson         | 703-544-7388     | Newport, Va     |
|                    |                     | 544-7645         | Newport, Va     |
| Treasurer          | Bill Sims           | 919-272-7971     | Greensboro      |
| Secretary          | Vaughn Thomas       | 768-3314         | Winston-Salem   |
| Editor             | Danny C. Booker     | 349-5893         | Reidsville      |
| Trail Supervisor   | Ken Rose            | 299-4046         | Greensboro      |
| Trail Master       | Henry Ford          | 703-637-6767     | Max Meadows, Va |
| Trail Monitor      | Gordon Burgess      | 919-723-9819     | Winston-Salem   |
| Trip Chairpersons  |                     |                  |                 |
| Triangle           | Jim Wood            | 469-0820         | Cary            |
| Triad              | Bill Sims           | 272-7971         | Greensboro      |
| Beartown Wild.     | Barbara Council     | 852-1967         | Greensboro      |
| Legal Advisor      | Dave Bland          | 851-1641         | Cary            |
| Board Members:     |                     |                  |                 |
| Gordon Burgess '92 | Ken Rose '93        | Henry Ford '94   |                 |
| Tom Harmon '92     | Doris Ford '93      | Jeff Brown '94   |                 |
| Jim Wood '92       | Parthena Martin '93 | Gaylen Daves '94 |                 |
| Hazel Monroe '92   | Chuck North '93     | David Emrey '94  |                 |

## \*\* EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS FOR PATH'S SECTION OF THE AT \*\*

## VIRGINIA STATE POLICE

LOCAL 288-3131 OR 1-800-542-8716

PLEASE REPORT ALL INCIDENTS PROMPTLY  
TO A CLUB OFFICER OR FIELD REP.

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT ATC BE NOTIFIED PDQ!!!!

## FOR WOMEN ONLY

If your interested in a Women's only outdoor club to  
supplement your PATH activities, write to Barb Schwartz,  
PO Box 10815, Greensboro, NC 27404.

Sunday morning bike rides meeting and leaving from  
Kernersville. Call Christian at 722-1687.

UNLESS INDICATED, YOU MAY NEED TO DIAL 919 WHEN CALLING THE  
LEADER!! ALSO, SEVERAL HIKES LISTED MAY BE THOSE OF OTHER  
CLUBS WHOSE NEWSLETTERS WE RECEIVE, SUCH AS THE SIERRA  
CLUB, NC PARKS & REC., ETC...

JAN&FEB WINTER HIKING IN THE SMOKY MTNS. NATIONAL PARK.  
Join Frank on 5 & 10 day trips out of Big Creek and  
Smokemont to all the high tops and balds in the  
Park. Call Frank Barringer at 776-2417.

JAN 18 PILOT MTN. STATE PARK WINTER BIRDS  
Observe the migratory waterfowl along the Yadkin  
River. The trip will be lead by a park ranger.  
Meet at the canoe access area on the Yadkin County  
side of the Yadkin River section of the Pilot Mtn.  
State Park, follow "Yadkin Islands/Yadkin River  
Trails" signs from NC 67 at East Bend to the Shoals  
canoe access area. The program begins at 8 am, and  
bring a field guide and binoculars.

JAN 18-19 WINTER BIRDING  
Car camp at Pettigrew State Park and visit Pungo  
Wildlife Refuge, Lake Phelps and Lake Mattameskeet.  
Our agenda includes touring Somerset Plantation and  
viewing the oldest Indian artifacts found in NC.  
Easy hiking. For more info call Barbara Tremblay  
at 697-0697.

JAN 19 CROWDERS MTN. STATE PARK EVERGREEN HIKE  
Join a park ranger for a leisurely paced hike in  
search of green foliage in winter. Learn why and  
how the plants and trees remain green throughout  
the year. Meet at the park office at 2 pm.

JAN 25-26 SHINING ROCK BACKPACKING  
A winter backpacking trip into some prime  
wilderness area in eastern NC. Winter gear a must  
on this trip. Limit 6. Leader: Kathy Bobseine  
781-4051

JAN 25 CROWDERS MTN. STATE PARK WINTER BIRD HIKE  
Join a park ranger led hike in search of feathered,  
year-round residents of the park. A local expert  
will lead this one hour journey. Bring binoculars  
and meet at the park office at 10 am.

JAN 25 ENO RIVER STATE PARK BIRDWATCHING 101  
Join a park ranger for a two-mile walk looking for  
winter birds. Identification tips and natural  
history information will be shared. bring  
binoculars and meet at the Few Ford access picnic  
parking area. Limit 15. For more info call the  
park office at 383-1686.

FEB 1-2 WINTER BACKPACK  
Backpack either Grandfather or Mount Mitchell.  
This is a strenuous winter adventure. Leader: Rick  
Bragg 584-8706

FEB 8 BLUE BIRD HOUSE WORKSHOP  
Join the Haw River Sierra Club to build nesting  
boxes and learn proper placement, and maintenance.  
The cost is \$17 per box. For more info call Fran  
Outhwaite at 226-4770.

FEB 9 RAVEN ROCK STATE PARK DAYHIKE  
A ten-to-twelve mile dayhike in this state park  
north of Lillington. Good views of the Cape Fear  
River and of Raven Rock. Leader: Jim Wood 469-0820

FEB 15 UMSTEAD STATE PARK DAYHIKE  
A visit to a state park near Raleigh as part a  
series presented by Bill Sims and a park ranger.  
For more info call Bill Sims at 272-7971.

FEB 29-  
MAR 1 MOUNT MITCHELL BACKPACKING  
Join Kathy on this late winter trip to the highest  
peak east of the Mississippi. Winter gear is a  
must. Limit 4. Leader: Kathy Bobseine 781-4051

RENEW FOR '92!!

MAR 7-8 APPALACHIAN TRAIL BACKPACK: Carvers Gap to 19-E. A thirteen mile backpack over one of the highest balds and most scenic sections of the Appalachian Trail. Moderate-to-strenuous. Leader: Jim Wood 469-0820

MAR 7 URBAN WETLAND EXPLORATION  
Vance Arnold takes us to an urban wetland in Greensboro. Call Vance at 275-1736

MAR 14-15 JOCKEY'S RIDGE STATE PARK  
Join Bill "TOO TALL" Sims on a two-day trip to this Outerbanks state park and to nearby Mags Heads Woods. Easy day hiking, car camping. Leader: Bill Sims 272-7971

MAR 20-22 EARLY SPRING BLOWDOWN WORKTRIP  
JOIN PATH FOR THE DAY OR THE WEEKEND. WE WILL BE STAYING AT STONY FORK CARCAMPING. PATH MEMBERS WILL BREAK-UP AND HIKE SECTIONS OF OUR TRAIL AND CLEAR THE TRAIL OF BROKEN BRANCHES AND SUCH AS WE HIKE ALONG. THIS IS A GREAT CHANCE TO HIKE SOME OF OUR SECTION THAT YOU HAVE MISSED OR HAVEN'T HIKE FOR SOME TIME. SATURDAY NIGHT, WE MAY RIDE TO WESTERN STEER FOR DINNER AND THEN HAVE POPCORN BY THE FIRE. PREPARE FOR COOL NIGHTS. IF YOU NEED MORE INFO CALL GORDON BURGESS 723-9819 OR KEN ROSE 299-4046 BY 9 PM WEDNESDAY NIGHT, OR DAN BOOKER 349-5893 BY 9 PM THURSDAY NIGHT.

APR 4 ENO RIVER DAYHIKE  
Join Bill Sims as he continues his hikes in the state park series. The hike will be guided by the local park ranger. For more info call Bill Sims 272-7971

APR 3-5 SOUTHERN REGIONAL MANAGEMENT MEETING  
If you ever wanted to know just how we manage our section of the AT, then attend this semi-annual meeting of the southern AT clubs. The higher ups (the ATC Reps., AT Field Reps., National Forest Reps., National Park Reps., etc..) fill the southern clubs in on what's happening along the Appalachian Trail. This year the Spring meeting will be held at Kanuga, an Episcopal Conference Center near Hendersonville, NC. You would like to attend, please call for more info by March 9. Call Dan Booker 349-5893.

APR 5 MEDOC MOUNTAIN STATE PARK DAYHIKE  
We will hike almost all of the trails in this state park northeast of Louisburg. Easy terrain. Leader: Jim Wood 469-0820

APR 25-26 CAROLINA BAY LAKES DAYHIKE  
Join Bill "TOO TALL" Sims as he attempts "walk on water", while everyone else hikes along the banks of Singletary & June Lake next to a state forest in southeastern NC. We will be carcamping. For more info call Bill Sims at 292-7971.

MAY 2 SEVENTH ANNUAL DOGWOOD HALF HUNDRED HIKE  
Join the Potomac AT Club on their annual 50 km. hike on the Massarock, Massanutten Mountain and surrounding Big Blue Trails. The event will start at 7 am. The hike is limited to the first 150 hikers. Deadline to register is April 18. For more info call Kevin Parkes at 301-698-0970 in the evenings.

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#### RESPONSIBILITY FOR SAFETY

There are certain risks which are inherent in any hike or other Club activity. Each PATH, INC member, guest or non-member hiker agrees to accept personal responsibility for his or her safety and the safety of minors accompanying such persons. The Club cannot ensure the safety of any participant on hikes. In participating in Club hikes, each such person agrees to hold harmless and free from blame the hike leaders, and the PATH, INC, its officers and members, for any accident, injury or illness which might be sustained from participation in hikes or other Club activities.

MAY 15-17 WILDFLOWER HIKING/WORKTRIP

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!!

JOIN PATH FOR THE DAY OR THE WEEKEND. WE WILL BE STAYING AT STONY FORK CARCAMPING. PATH MEMBERS WILL BREAK-UP AND HIKE SECTIONS OF OUR TRAIL, ASSESS THE TRAIL CONDITION AND WORK A LITTLE IF NEED BE AS WE HIKE ALONG. THIS IS A GREAT CHANCE TO HIKE SOME OF OUR SECTION THAT YOU HAVE MISSED OR HAVEN'T HIKE FOR SOME TIME. SATURDAY NIGHT, WE MAY RIDE TO WESTERN STEER FOR DINNER AND THEN HAVE POPCORN BY THE FIRE. KIDS MY BRING THEIR BIKES TO RIDE IN THE CAMPGROUND. IF YOU NEED MORE INFO CALL GORDON BURGESS 723-9819 OR KEN ROSE 299-4046 BY 9 PM WEDNESDAY NIGHT, OR DAN BOOKER 349-5893 BY 9 PM THURSDAY NIGHT.

MAY 15-17 APPALACHIAN TRAIL PRESIDENTS MEETING

Want to be a PATH President?? Or maybe learn the inner workings of the ATC?? Then you need to sign up for this weekend of meetings. ATC club presidents and presidential candidates will be briefed by ATC Staff, Reps., Field Reps., Board Members, Several Club Presidents and Reps., as well as, a Department of Interior Rep., National Park Service Rep., State Park Rep., National Forest Rep., and many others. You will learn how the AT came to be, who runs the show, what part we play, etc... A wealth of knowledge comes forth on this weekend, that will last a lifetime. If you have an interest in digging deep into the AT workings, this is your chance. I do highly recommend that you also attend the Southern Regional Mgmt. Meeting in April first. If you would like to attend this meeting. Please call for more info by April 9. Call Dan Booker at 349-5893 for more info.

MAY 28-  
JUN 1

KONNAROCK/PATH WORK TRIP

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW FOR THE START OF THE TENTH KONNAROCK SEASON. COME FOR THE DAY, WEEKEND, OR THE WHOLE WEEK. NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED, JUST BRING YOUR CAMPING GEAR AND WORK GLOVES. PATH MEMBERS WILL ASSIST THE KONNAROCK CREW IN THE TRAIL WORK TOO LARGE FOR THE CLUB TO HANDLE OVER AN ORDINARY WEEKEND. JOIN IN THE FUN, FELLOWSHIP, AND CAMARADERIE. WORK FOR A COMBINED TOTAL OF FIVES DAYS WITH KONNAROCK DURING THE SUMMER, AND RECEIVE A FREE T-SHIRT. FOR MORE INFO AND DIRECTIONS, CALL GORDON BURGESS 723-9819 OR KEN ROSE 299-4046 BY 9 PM ON TUESDAY NIGHT, OR DAN BOOKER 349-5893 BY 9 PM ON WEDNESDAY NIGHT.

Dear Danny

\* \* \* \*

Having reread my last newsletter for the hundredth time and realizing that I won't get another unless I send you some money, I thought I'd write a short note along with my check. There's not much news from the high country, it's always beautiful and the view is always breathtaking. The hiking season is much too short. I'm sending a photo of my first trip to a "fourteener" which since it was September already, we did not get to the top of. Next year I'm getting up there by the end of June. We did get in some camping and hiking on the Western side (least populated) of the Rocky Mountain National Park.

There is rally always some outdoor activity going on, I find myself having to learn lots of new things. This year I plan to get better at skiing, both downhill and also cross-country. I started to learn last year and it's lots of fun. There are many opportunities for the avid hiker too. some of my friends snowshoe in the winter when you really can't see the trail. I don't know if I'm quite ready for that though.

As busy as I am, and as happy as I am with my new life, I still miss my friends at Path and look forward to all the new in the newsletter. I was saddened to hear of the death of H.B. Monroe. He touched many lives, including mine. So keep my membership current, and keep those cards and letter coming!

Sincerely,

Beverly (Underwood) Douglas  
7012 S. Eudora Street  
Littleton, Co 80122

The New River Trail is a Virginia State Park located near our section of the trail. The trail, a former railroad bed, that winds through four counties, following the scenic New River most of the way. When it is completed, it will be 57 miles long, from Pulaski, Va in the north to Galax in the south, with a spur to Fries. The map claims that only 37 miles are open to the public at present. It is open to any non-motorized transportation, and best of all, has very little elevation gain or loss. Most of us drive right past the most popular and convenient trailheads of the NRTSP on our way to the AT. This trailhead is located at the Shot Tower Historical State Park, on I-77 south of Wytheville.

Recently, on our way to our last worktrip, Christine, my brother Jeff, and myself biked two sections of the trail. On a perfect, cool Thursday autumn afternoon we started at the Shot Tower and rode through the peak of fall's colors southward. A few miles south the trail goes through a tunnel which is carved out of rock outcropping over the river. Further down the trail near Ivanhoe, we went across our first trestle. This trestle is about 120 feet over the river, 10 feet wide, and 200+ feet long. After numerous photos, we returned to the Shot Tower and drove to Stony fork to spend the night. On Friday morning, another perfect day, we drove to another trailhead in Draper, just south of Pulaski. The trail crosses several trestles over farmland until it meets up with Claytor Lake. We followed the trail along the lake, and across the Hiwassee River Bridge. Then it was on to Allisonia, past numerous vacation homes. Our map showed that the trail is closed at Allisonia, but we continued on the Beg Reed Trestle. Evidently more than 37 miles are now open to the public. We had lunch at the trestle, then returned via the same route. The trail is a great place to bike or stretch your legs on your way up or down the interstate. Or if you happen to have your horse along, they are permitted also. We plan to start riding on Sundays to finish our weekend worktrips in the future. Bring your bikes and lets ride!!!

Chuck North

#### UPDATE ON GUTLESS

When some of us were working with the Konnarock Crew on Chestnut Ridge in June we met an amazing thru-hiker. Mike Schank had started from Springer Mountain in April and the amazing thing was that he had lost his stomach and parts of other organs to cancer. He told us that he grew weary of sitting around waiting to die, so he decided to tackle the Appalachian Trail in what he called his "hike for life". He took the trail name "Gutless".

We thought about Gutless all summer and fall and wondered whether or not he made it all the way. Recently we heard from him. Here is what he had to say.

Hi Gordon,

I don't know if you remember me, but I am the hiker without a stomach that stayed and ate with your crew at Chestnut Knob Shelter. You also took pictures of me which you had waiting for me at the ATC office in Harper's Ferry. I just wanted to thank you and your crew for your hospitality and the great food I had from your camp. Also the great pictures that you took of me. I am sending you some newspaper articles of my hike that I would like to share with you, because without people like you I would not have been able to do what I did. I made it to Granconia Notch in new Hampshire before the weather forced me off, and I hope to finish the trail next summer. I'm also a writing a book about my cancer survival and hiking the A.T., and I hope to mention you and your crew in it. The trail has given me a new life and I hope other people hiking the trail finds all the good things of life. Again thanks for the food, pictures, and your hospitality. If you see the others sometime, please tell them for me. Keep up the good work.

Take care and may God bless all of you.  
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all.

Michael Schank (Gutless)

CAN YOU WRITE? CAN YOU DRAW OR SKETCH? CAN YOU DESCRIBE?

DO YOU KNOW WHERE OR HOW TO FIND A WATERING HOLE ALONG THE TRAIL, A SPRING, A SHUTTLE, A SAFE PLACE TO PARK YOUR VEHICLE, FOOD, MOTEL OR CAMPGROUND. ARE YOU INTERESTED IN THE HISTORY ALONG THE TRAIL, AND WHY THE TRAIL IS, WHERE IT IS?? THEN WE NEED YOUR HELP!!

MANY ARE NOT AWARE OF THIS, BUT THE SOUTHWESTERN AT GUIDEBOOK IS GOING TO BE DIVIDED CREATING TWO BOOKS. VAUGHN THOMAS IS HOPEFULLY GOING TO HELP EDIT THIS BOOK. SHE LOOKING FOR THOSE FEW INDIVIDUALS WHO REALLY HAVE GOOD INSIGHT ABOUT THE TRAIL. SEVERAL HAVE VOLUNTEERED TO DATE. MANY OTHERS WILL BE NEEDED TO WRITE-UP DESCRIPTIONS OF THE TRAIL AREA WHICH WE HOPE WILL PRESENT THE TRAIL IN SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA BETTER THAN BEFORE. SOME WILL BE NEEDED TO SKETCH DRAWING OF HIGHLIGHTS ALONG THE TRAIL. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP WITH THIS VENTURE, PLEASE CALL VAUGHN THOMAS IN WINSTON-SALEM AT 919-768-3314. WE HOPE TO HAVE A BRIEF MEETING WITH THOSE INTERESTED IN JANUARY 18. SO CALL NOW! THAT'S MS. VAUGHN THOMAS AT 919-768-3314.

#### SCOUTING THE BACK SIDE OF HANGING ROCK STATE PARK

In early December, someone approached PATH to take a local Scout Troop repelling. Knowing that most rock climbers don't care to strain their ropes repelling, I opted to take them rock climbing at Hanging Rock.

We traveled up the back roads to the base of Moore's Wall where we started our day of fun. After leaving the vehicles, we started by playing on the boulders, to show the scouts how to look for foot and hand holds. We free-climbed on the boulders for a while gradually learning more on larger rocks till we reached the 75 foot learning rock. When we got to the 75 foot boulder with an almost sheer flat face, we set up for the climb. After only a slight hesitation by the youngest scout (11 yrs. old), he reached the top. The excitement of success on his face was worth the trip. He is an inner-city scout.

After all scouts and leaders were up, we proceeded to follow the path up to the top of Moore's Knob Tower. When on top, we had lunch as we enjoyed the cloudless view of the distant horizons. With topo maps and a handfull of compasses, the scouts were given a lesson on map reading. It makes it a lot easier to study mapping from the top of a tower. As we finished on top a waggered a few that I could move a 50 thousand pound rock. With two takers we proceeded to "Balanced Rock", where with my two hands was able to rock the boulder. After a hike down the mountain, we all headed to Fuzzy's in Madison for a much deserved dinner. Needless to say, my dinner was paid for.

Danny C. Booker

#### MULTI-CLUB MEETING

On Labor Day Weekend, about 18 PATH members met with other southern AT clubs and their members for a weekend of outdoor fun. The gathering took place near Mt. Rogers, Virginia's highest peak. On Saturday and Sunday all interested people broke up into small groups and hiked sections of the AT. They had a choice of half or full day hikes. Also, many hikers brought their mountain bikes, to ride on the Virginia Creeper Trail. This is an abandoned railroad that the state turned in to a non-motorized multi-use trail. Many of us started our ride near White Tops and rode to Damascus. On Sunday night, a rather large group of people were treated to a play at the Barter Theater in Abington, Va., while the rest of us had a meeting on southern AT trail matters. We really had a great time and look forward to the next Multi-Club Meeting next Labor Day.

IF YOU HAVE ANY OUTINGS, TRIPS THAT YOU WOULD LIKE LED, TO LEAD OR INFORMATION THAT NEEDS TO BE INCLUDED IN PATHS NEXT NEWSLETTER, PLEASE SEND THEM TO PATH, P.O. BOX 4423, GREENSBORO, NC 27404-4423 OR CALL JIM WOOD 469-0820 OR BILL "TOO TALL" SIMS 272-7971.  
THE NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS APRIL 14!!