



PIEDMONT

APPALACHIAN TRAIL

HIKERS

PATH maintains sections of the Appalachian Trail in Southwest Virginia

WINTER 1979

Annual Dinner Meeting, January 20th; bring a guest!

Jan. 6 Sunny Day Bike Hike, Tom Harmon, leader. From Friendly
Sat. Shopping Center (Friendly Road entrance) to Bailles Mill
on 68. Meet at the Center at 10:00 a.m. if it's sunny.
Bring a lunch. Alternate date is January 27 if not sunny.

Jan. 13-14 Overnight backpacking trip to Bob's Creek Wilderness
Sat-Sun with Julia Giles, leader. This is a shared hike with the
Sierra Club members. For reservation, meeting place and time
call Julia (Jamestown, 454-1838).

Jan. 20 Annual PATH Dinner Meeting, Muir's Chapel Methodist Church.
Sat. Come at 6 p.m. for talk and trade. Dinner at 6:30 p.m.
Program at 7 p.m. Our speaker will be Jack Coleman, District
Ranger, Jefferson National Forest where our section of the AT is
located. Jack will talk with us about the trail relocation and
other interesting activities of the forest service.
Call Harriet Mattes (High Point 883-1930) or Tom Harmon
(h. 272-3859; w. 292-4400) by January 15 if you plan to eat with us:
adults \$2.50, kids under 12, \$1.50. We'll have lots of fun and will
be electing officers and making plans for the 1979 AT work trips
and other outings. Bring your slides and pictures to share, and a guest.

Jan. 27 Alternate date to January 6 (see above). Meet as above
Sat. only if January 6 didn't go and it's sunny.

- Feb 3 Richmond Hill, Louise Chatfield (272-8965) leader. An easy hike to North
Sat Carolina's first law school site, an old court house located west of Winston.
Meet at Hardee's on I-40 and 150, Kernersville, at 1:00 p.m.
- Feb 18 Hagan Stone, Hollyce Highfill (273-7055), leader. Meet at K-Mart, Randelman
Sun Road at 1:30 p.m. for an easy but interesting winter afternoon hike.
- March 11 Raven Rock State Park, Earl Bullinger, leader. Easy afternoon hike. Meet at
Sun K-Mart, Randelman Rd. at 1:00 p.m. Check with Maxine Blackwood (292-5863);
or meet at the Western Steer, h'wy 421, Sanford, northern city limit, at 2 p.m.
- March 18 Hanging Rock, Ken Stine (h.855-5417; w.274 0166) and Charles Adams (272-3033)
Sun leaders. A long round the park hike, some over rather rough ground. Come
prepared for winter weather. This is an outing shared with Sierra Club members.
Check with one of the leaders for the time and place of meeting.
- March Laurel Gorge (out of Hampton, Tenn.), Don Chatfield, Jr., leader, (272-4120).
24-25 Two day backpack, moderate difficulty. Bring your own food and gear. Contact
Sat-Sun Don by March 20 for meeting place and time and sharing rides.
- March 31 Work Trip, Bill Chatfield (Raleigh), leader. Winter fall-down needs to be
-April 1 cleared for the "mad throng" of through-hikers who will walk this section of the
Sat-Sun trail this spring. Leave the slings at home. Please bring your chainsaw (if
it's light) with fuel, oil, and sharpening file. Bring a cross-cut saw if you
have one. We will also do some painting. Be prepared for cold weather backpacking. Call
Louise Chatfield (272-8965) 124 Lawrence St., Greensboro, 27406, to register for the trip.

THE NORTH CAROLINA TRAILS ASSOCIATION

This is a newly formed group of citizens interested in promoting trails - trails of all kinds for all users. The Association is state wide with an advisory council of 20 people. So no matter where you live you are represented. Get active, says Louise - back your trail representative. Acting President, Louise Chatfield.

In keeping with the NATIONAL TRAILS ACT, with the '78 amendment, PATH was contacted in September and October by the Virginia Parks Department, the National Parks Service and the AT Project Office about trail location and protection where our section of the AT is outside the Jefferson National Forest or borders private land. Some of our members have made scouting trips and approximate trail location recommendation was made to the Project Office at a meeting with the Project Office Land personnel. Also target dates were set for December and January for some club members to go with Land Office representatives to contact land owners to secure easements or purchase land. The areas involved are around Groseclose, Ceres and along the ridge of Garden Mountain. It is rather exciting to be involved with a project taking place now all along the 2,000 miles of the Trail that will insure the protection of the AT for the future.

Tom Harmon, President, PATH.

A long day hike over the old AT route over the PINACLES OF DAN on November 12th was enjoyed by Charles Adams, Tom Harmon, Jack and Bob Huffaker. They set out from the Pinacles side of the Dan River gorge where the old AT is fairly well still marked, worked their way over the pinacles and down to the river (some of it on the seats of their pants) and up the VERY steep and treacherous "Indian Ladder" to the opposite rim, a climb of some 1500 feet, vertically. The old guide books referred to the "Indian Ladder" as one of the most difficult sections of the entire AT. Our hikers were very glad they ~~were~~ not carrying their packs. The scenery was outstanding. Overall the trip was rewarding and definitely earned a spot on our future hiking schedule, perhaps some time this spring. Jack Huffaker, leader.

HOSTING ON THE AT

PATH members hosted our sections of the AT on weekends in May, June, and July, 1978. They covered all the trail at least twice, sometime during the hosting. They cut summer growth, carried out thrash, checked the register in the lean-tos for usage, made reports on trail conditions, talked with numerous through- and weekend hikers, and endeavored to educate at least one set of day-hikers on trail etiquette with regard to flowers. An informal inventory of flora and fauna was made which we hope to build upon each year. Hollyce Highfill, Member of the Board of the AT Conference.

Mail membership dues and address to Henry Ford, P.O. Box 132, Colfax, N.C. 27235. (Tel. 919-993-4697); or better still pay at the Annual Dinner Meeting, January 20th.

Membership Form for PATH, 1979

Family, \$4.00; Individual, \$3.00; Student \$1.00

NAME _____

Interests: _____

ADDRESS _____

AT Maintenance _____

Local programs and hikes _____

TEL. _____

ZIP _____

Other _____

A Senior Citizens Hiking Group was formed a couple of years ago with the leadership of Louise Chatfield. It is centralized from the Greensboro Fairview Recreation Center where Louise also has a senior citizens swimming group twice a week. Richard Thompson, in charge of the Fairview Center, provides a city bus each Wednesday for the group and is the driver during the fall, winter and spring months. We are driving to many interesting sites around Greensboro and to areas usually not more than an hours drive. Each person brings his own lunch. The group varies from 15 to 30. We are becoming well acquainted with trails in this area and in the development of more hiking trails. Charles Adams.

Do not forget the Annual Dinner Meeting, January 20th.

Harriet Mattes is chairman of the Nominating Committee. Send to her your ideas for officers, members of the Board of Directors, or ideas for 1979 activities.

It is wise to check with a leader before planning to go on an outing. As a general policy we try to share rides, save energy, and share companionship. Do not hesitate to inquire with the leader or a friend for a ride. Also consider bringing friends who may wish to help on the AT or take part in our local programs and conservation.

Tom Harmon, President, PATH
307 S. Chapman St.
Greensboro, N.C. 27403