

PATH



WAYS

PIEDMONT APPALACHIAN TRAIL HIKERS

CLUB NEWSLETTER • MAY 1999

Beaver Pond: First Big 1999 Project

Anyone questioning the skills and perseverance of PATH members needs only to visit the puncheon (wooden foot bridge) project PATH started in February and recently completed over a series of weekends. A stretch of the AT, about one-half mile north of the I-81/AT intersection, was gradually changing into a boggy mess due to a family of beavers that was damming up a nearby creek.



Rather than
continued on page 2

PATH members worked with soaked feet and numb fingers for several weeks to build a wooden walkway over "Beaver Pond."

A Message from President Clayton

By Paul Clayton

As I write this, the rains are falling. They have been falling for two days, and they are forecast to continue for the rest of the week. I know the waters of Dry Run are rising, that the beaver pond is getting deeper.

We are off to a great start to the 1999 work season. We have had exceptional attendance at the March and April worktrips, and many members have come up on off weekends to do extra work. Boy Scout Troop 109 joined us for the April trip, providing an extra boost to our bridging operation, and introducing 14 young people to the volunteer ethic behind the AT.

The year promises to be a full one. In addition to

our regular worktrips, we have two weeks of Konnarock, Radford 99, Dawg Days and Multiclub to look forward to. In addition, I have heard some stirrings of interest in trying to bring back some PATH-sponsored outings like we had some years back. Members of five years standing might remember Mark Clayton's newcomer's backpacking trips or Jim Wood's Falls Lake Day Hikes. Those who have been around for ten years can look back on Kathy Bobseine's Shenandoah trips and Barbara Council's nature hikes to Hanging Rock. And twenty year veterans (there are more than you might think) may remember any number of hikes with various members of the Chatfield clan, Earl Bullinger, Ken Stine and Charles Adams. 🐾

Trail's End:

Charles A. "Charlie" Wells

PATH member Charles A. "Charlie" Wells, 72 of 1 Ashton Court, Greensboro, North Carolina died on March 4, 1999 of a heart attack while hiking the trail at Lake Mackintosh Park in Greensboro.

The service was conducted March 7 at St. Barnabas Episcopal Church, Greensboro with the burial at Forest Lawn.

He was a Greensboro native and a graduate of Greensboro High School. He participated in the United States Navy V-12 program during World War II, served as a midshipman at Columbia University and was commissioned an Ensign when he was 19. After discharge from the Navy he completed requirements for a degree in Mechanical Engineering from N.C. State University.

His professional life was spent with Bell Laboratories. He worked in North Carolina, New Jersey and Kwajalein in the Marshall Islands. He retired from Bell Labs as a Distinguished Member of the Technical Staff.

He was a member of the Appalachian Trail Conference and the Piedmont Appalachian Trail Hikers. He was a member of the North Carolina Society of Engineers and was a Registered Professional Engineer in North Carolina.

Mr. Wells was the son of the late Archie W. and Ola S. Wells. He is survived by his wife of 49 years, Nancy Beam Funderburk Wells; sons, Charles A. (Chip) Wells, Jr. and his wife Lynn of Greensboro, and Dr. Andrew H. Wells and his wife Kathryn and their children Annie Beam, Kathryn Lloyd and Andrew, Jr. of Flat Rock, North Carolina.

He is also survived by his sister Martha Wells Haworth and her husband John of High Point.

Charlie was with his good friend, Walt Davis at the time of his death, doing what he loved to do - enjoy Nature.

Memorials may be made to Piedmont Environmental Center, 1220 Penny Road, High Point, N.C. 27265.



Bill Medlin and Betsy Truscott were just two of the many volunteers on the project.

zapping the beavers, PATH figured out a way for both parties to co-exist. PATH members built a 150-foot elevated, wooden foot path from a footbridge over the bog to an elevated area. Members used a series of telephone poles, laid parallel, end to end, and then nailed together with boards for the walkway surface. The telephone poles were secured with steel poles driven into the ground to prevent them from floating when the bog flooded. The area has been affectionately dubbed "Beaver Pond." PATH's website has several good photos of the work as it progressed. Log on at www.path-at.org/nl0399c.html

The Beaver Days project was headed by Terry Bussey, representative from the U.S. Forest Service, with PATH leaders Gordon Burgess, Paul Clayton, Bill Boudman and John Hartpence. Over 21 members showed up one weekend alone. The project really was a group effort, with people carrying huge poles together, nailing boards, drilling holes and enduring all of this with soaked feet.

On a lighter note, some PATH members did a little ribbing on e-mail of PATH member Gene Greer, who was conspicuously absent. Gene is normally right in the middle of these projects. But this time he confessed that he was at "the beach." So, Gene was unceremoniously given the dubious title of "Slacker of the Year." 🐾

— Karl Kunkel

PATH Shelters of Yore

by Paul Clayton

(Editor's note: One of PATH's many functions is to preserve the AT in the present, for the future. But is it also important to remember the past. PATH president Paul Clayton tells us about three PATH shelters - Monster Rock, Fire Tower and Killinger Creek - that no longer exist, but once played an important role in the AT and for thru-hikers.)

Monster Rock is an overlook about a 1/4 mile south of the gift shop and sightseeing tower on US 52 on the crest of Walker Mountain. Monster Rock Shelter was located approximately 8/10 mile south of the gift shop, downhill off the east side of the trail. This shelter, built by the Forest Service in 1960, had cistern water, as was fairly common in earlier days. The walls were constructed of redwood, the roof of corrugated iron. The shelter had a wood floor but no bunks and was rated to accommodate six. An ATC Shelter Report dated 12/67 listed a latrine in good condition, a refuse pit, a fireplace with grate, an axe, fire rake and broom. It was stated at a meeting in late 1968 between the Forest Service and the maintaining clubs that the water at Monster Rock was not potable, and that hikers were dependent on the owner of the tourist trap at Highway 52 for water. In the end, the water situation along the crest of Walker Mountain was a major factor in the relocation to the Garden Mountain (Burke's Garden area) alignment.

My information indicates that at one time the trail climbed Walker Mountain from Crawfish Valley to Reddings Gap, then proceeded north along the ridge past a tower at a spot still identified on survey maps as Walker Mountain Lookout. On this point was a lean-to known to club members as Fire Tower Shelter, but officially Big Walker Lookout. The shelter was built by the Forest Service in 1960. It was 100 yards off the AT on a spur trail. The walls were redwood and the roof asphalt shingle. The floor was wood and there were no bunks. As of December 1967 the shelter was in excellent condition with the standard accessories of axe, fire rake, broom, fireplace with grate and registry book. The shelter, of standard Forest Service design for the era, was rated to accommodate six. There was a latrine and refuse pit, and a permanent spring variously described as 100 yards south and about 1/4 mile down mountain. When the trail was relocated off the crest of Walker Mountain in 1981, the shelter was dismantled and rebuilt as Knot Mole Branch Shelter, three miles north of O'lystery, and which is maintained today by PATH.

Killinger Creek Shelter was located at the south side of the crossing of FS Road 86. It was built in 1961 by the Forest Service to accommodate six. It had wooden walls and floor and a shake roof. There were no bunks. A November 1967 ATC Shelter Report reveals the usual axe, fire rake and broom, fireplace with grate, latrine and refuse pit. The piped spring, referred to in a least one document as a fountain, had been removed the previous summer as it did not meet State of Virginia standards for purity, leaving a stream 300 feet to the north as the water source.

Because of its proximity to the road, Killinger Creek Shelter was subject to misuse. As early as 1968 there were reports of serious vandalization and the club was proposing that it be moved. It was to be many years, though, before this happened. When a family set up housekeeping there, the Forest Service agreed that the time had come to go forward with the planned Glade Mountain Shelter.

After Glade Mountain was completed, the remnants of the old shelter at Killinger Creek were burned. The original location is still apparent at the FS 86 crossing. For all the problems, Killinger Creek Shelter left a lot of good memories. It also gained a place in AT history for its role in Ed Garvey's book "Appalachian Hiker." When Garvey arrived at Killinger Creek Shelter during his 1970 thru-hike, he was dismayed to find six or seven cars parked nearby, and a huge crowd of people at the shelter. It turned out to be a big group of truck drivers and their families from Marion having a picnic. Garvey was immediately welcomed into the group and fed. Shortly after dark, the families cleaned up the area and departed.

It appears that on occasion during the 1960s PATH crews used to meet at Killinger Creek Shelter for Saturday afternoon picnics. Some club members would stay at the shelter preparing a meal to feed the crews as they came off the trail. From the volume of correspondence dealing in one way or another with Killinger Creek Shelter, it is apparent that this now-forgotten shelter was once an important part of PATH. 🐉



For the Bookshelf

Story Line: *Exploring the Literature of the Appalachian Trail*

by Ian Marshall

Univ. of Virginia Press. \$19.95. 284 pages.

This is a wonderful book that combines the AT with American literature that deals with places along the eastern U.S. that the AT touches. The author, an English professor in Pennsylvania, described the book as “a guide to the literary history and geography of the AT and an exploration into the theory and practice of “ecocriticism; — the emerging field of literary scholarship informed by ecological awareness.”

Marshall, who has section-hiked the entire AT as trailname “Evergreen,” combines recollections of his hikes along the AT with references to Walt Whitman, Henry Thoreau, Annie Dillard, Robert Frost and many other authors who breathe their observations about nature and the geography of the Appalachians into their writings. Dillard, won the 1974 Pulitzer Prize for her non-fiction book *Pilgram at Tinker Creek*, which is set at Tinker Mountain near Roanoke, Va.

I bought Marshall’s book recently, through the ATC mail bookstore, and noticed that Marshall listed his e-mail address: ism2@psu.edu

I sent him a message, asking him if he had any recollections of his hiking along PATH’s territory that I could include in the newsletter. He responded promptly and remembered it — and some of the trail south and north of us — very well. Here is his account:

“Your note has sent me to my trail journals to look up those days when I was in your stretch of the AT. Looks like it was May 21-24, 1997. I saw a big crayfish in the stream by Chatfield Shelter, and on the trail that day I saw lots of wildflowers — four pink lady’s slippers, yellow adder’s tongue, summer snow, fringed facelia. I ran into a group studying salamanders, and they had some black-bellied salamanders and a mountain dusky. I met a thru-hiker named Ripple, hiking with his sister, Purple Ant, for a few days.

“Next night, I stayed in Knot Maul Branch shelter — nobody else there, mainly because I seemed to be in a lull between thru-hikers — ahead of those who had stayed at Trail Days (Damascus ‘Trail Town’, Va.), behind those who had gone on. Next night, I tented at the Davis Farm Campsite, overlooking Burke’s Garden. Loved the little spring-fed pond by the meadow on the way up Chestnut Knob. I took lots of pictures there.

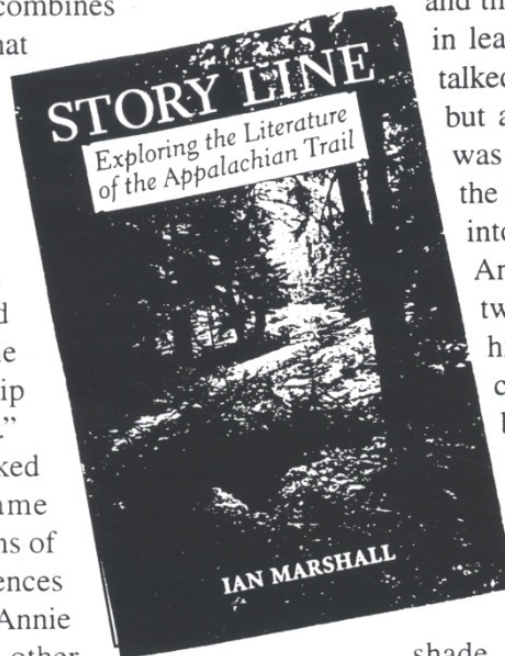
“The afternoon was hot, since the sun was out, and the trees on Chestnut Ridge were not yet in leaf. I got sunburnt that day. My journal talked mainly about how hot I’d been that day, but also about how beautiful my campsite was above Burke’s Garden. In the evening, the shadows stretched out from the hills and into the valley, gradually bringing night. And again, I camped alone that night — two nights in a row in mid-May, prime hiking season. It makes me think all the claims of overcrowding on the trail may be exaggerated.

“The next day I was pleased that it wasn’t so sunny. I thought Little Wolf Creek was gorgeous, and I was delighted that the walk along the ridge after that had lots of pines to offer shade. I stayed at Helvey’s Mill that night. Dismal Falls the next, then Woods Hole, then ended that section hike in Pearisburg.

“I remember that section hike fondly — Grayson Highlands (which, I guess, is just south of the section that your club maintains) is one of my favorite spots on the whole trail. But that pond by the meadow on the way up Chestnut Knob is one of the images of the South that always stays in my mind. And Dismal Falls offered one of the most invigorating swims — even on a rainy day.”

I asked Marshall if he would be attending Radford ‘99, since he would be a perfect guest speaker, but he said he wouldn’t be able to attend. I have since been in touch with the public relations folks at the University of Virginia Press to see if they can change his mind. They will give it a shot. They did say that if PATH members were interested in a group order of 10 books or more, we could get a substantial discount and maybe generate some money for the PATH treasury. If interested, let me know. I’ll shoot you the details.

—Karl Kunkel



"A Hot Springs Weekend"

by Karl Kunkel

HOT SPRINGS, N.C. — Anyone wanting to get in a weekend of AT hiking and maybe some rafting needs to check out Hot Springs, 32 northwest of Asheville. The AT goes right through town and has a good trail "feel" to it. I was there a weekend in April, spending one night, to do a 14-mile hike along the AT with four other hikers, hitting Max Patch Mountain, 4,600 feet elevation, and known for the large, grassy "bald" at the top. Good 360-degree, panoramic views of the Smokies and other sights. Several thru-hikers were in Hot Springs, about the 280-mile mark of the AT, getting recharged for the hike north from Georgia. We met a few at the "Inn of Hot Springs," (aka the Sunnybank Inn) where we stayed. It's a huge, rambling Victorian house downtown and definitely worth a visit. It is operated by "Elmer," a retired Methodist minister, who uses it as the Sunnybank Retreat Association, a place for personal-growth seminars and workshops. (P.O. Box 233, Hot Springs, NC, 28743 828/622-7206), located at 26 Walnut St. Elmer, a low-profile proprietor, had a distinctive bushy head of gray hair and a tie-dyed tee shirt when I met him. The Inn is a place for thru-hikers to crash and recuperate, get gear in order, talk to other hikers, laundry, pick up CARE packages sent there from home. etc. The back porch housed a large stack of packages for thru-hikers sent from home. Very interesting place, loads of old antiques, furniture, sprawling; bookshelves, piano, guitars, with a couple of friendly cats hanging around. I rented a bedroom, one of several, that I split cost with a hiking buddy (room cost \$40)., Not included in the cost was dinner. I arrived too late for that. Basically, it's a community-type meal, all vegetarian, \$10, served in the dining room with three tables. 20 people that night, passing bowls of food around. My hiking buddies ate there and liked it. Prior to eating, each person tells a little about themselves. The meal starts at 8pm. Community bathrooms. Recent scheduled events at this Inn were: Apr 23-25 Hot Springs Trail Fest - celebrating long-distance hiking with music, speakers and "Trail-magic." Guest: David Brill, author of "As Far as the Eye Can See." Apr 30-May 2 — In Search of the Wise Old Woman: a retreat for mid-life and older women to creatively explore issue of aging. Facilitator: Lyndall Hare, worked 15 yrs with elderly in US and South Africa. May 14-16 — Wildwood Weekend, An Appal wildflower and plant trek with Doug Elliot, a

continued on page 9

Those d@m#%\$ beavers!

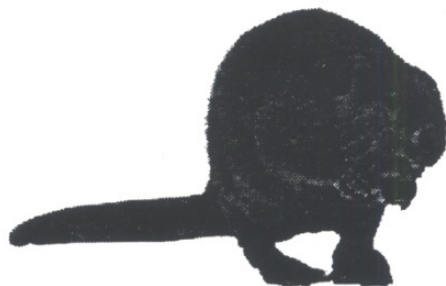


Dean Kanipe spotted the following journal entry on the Internet of thru-hiker "Amishrejec," going through our section.

4/5 ~ KNOT MAUL BRANCH SHELTER
(milepoint 539.5)

"I saw a creek where beavers had dammed the creek and it was a good dam too, with the water 3 feet higher on the upside, creating a sort of pond and nice beaver haven. They had cut several trees and built a couple of those beaver homes, or whatever you call em, on the bank. An interesting first for me."

"As I said, the terrain was somewhat demanding today, with me crossing over 5 mountains big enough to have names. And to be honest, some were downright, uh, not pretty. They were named; Brushy Mountain, Locust Mountain, Glade Mountain, Little Brushy Mountain, and the last one, also the ugliest and brushiest one, Big Walker Mountain. That one hurt my feet and got called a couple other names too, by the time I came down off of it." 🐿



On the Path to PATH

Editor's Note: A few weeks ago, we asked PATH members to share their stories on how they learned about the Appalachian Trail, and how they came to join PATH. We got some fascinating stories, which we've chronicled below. Due to space limitations, we did a little condensing. But we've tried to the individual voices intact.

Linda Francis of the Triangle area and a new PATH member got turned on to the AT in 1991, when she decided to do a tune-up hike on the AT for a hike the following day on Mount LaConte. It was on that AT hike that, with help from a friend in the Carolina Mountain Club in Hendersonville, N.C., she found a stick for hiking — which she still uses to this day. The stick, she said, “has character,” with an unusual handle she added later. She also writes on it the places she has hiked with it. Former PATH president Parthena Martin introduced Linda to PATH. Parthena often visited Linda's office on business. Later, they'd talk about “fun stuff” — and of course, PATH found its way into the conversation.

Richard Bostic started hiking the AT in high school. One time, he and his brother went from Wesser to Standing Indian Mountain. On the four-day trip, Richard made the mistake of wearing a new pair of boots. “I used a lot of moleskin,” he said. Since then, Richard has section-hiked various parts of the AT but never done any serious backpacking. He joined PATH after completing a 10-day relocation of the Smoky Mountains part of the AT as part of the Rocky Top trail crew. “I worked on the Mid-Atlantic crew in Pennsylvania in 1998, but did not get a chance to help PATH last year,” he said. “I look forward to working with the club in 1999.”

Susan Andreatta learned about the AT when she was 16 and a camper at Camp Ann Bailey, a Girl Scout camp in Greenbriar County, West Virginia. “About seven or eight of us girls with two leaders went backpacking on the AT for a week,” Susan said. “I think we started at Davenport Gap and went to Mt. LaConte, (near Gatlinburg, Tenn., on the Tenn.-N.C. border) although I don't remember exactly. We stayed in shelters and saw several bears. That was my first backpack trip, and I've never been the same since. I've never recovered. I've continued to hike and camp all my life, in West Virginia, Colorado, Washington, Norway, and hopefully, this summer in Switzerland. This enjoyment of

the wild places has been such a major part of my life that it inspires me to want to protect and maintain whatever is left of wild and beautiful places.”

David Craft is a second-generation AT maintainer. He learned about PATH and the AT from his father, Bill Craft, a long-time supporter of PATH and friend of Louise Chatfield, for whom a PATH shelter is named. David got a good vicarious look at a major part of the AT in 1977 when his brother Bruce hiked from Springer Mountain, the southern terminus of the AT in Georgia, to Harper's Ferry, W.Va., site of the ATC headquarters. David helped with the food drops.

In the late '70s, David attended several PATH work trips with his father. “I can remember staying at a shelter that fronted a nice stream, after a day of painting blazes. Jenkins? I can't remember. I haven't

done much with the club since then. I am currently working on reconnecting the Uwharrie Trail with the Uwharrie Trail Club. I hope to do more with PATH in the future. I will be leading two hikes at Radford '99 (the ATC conference in Radford, Virginia.)”

“That was my first backpack trip, and I've never been the same since. I've never recovered.”

— Susan Andreatta

Karl Kunkel of High Point, PATH newsletter editor and member since 1995, also learned of PATH from Bill Craft. Karl was interviewing Bill, a Greensboro environmentalist, for an article when the discussion shifted to hiking. Bill suggested contacting Ken Rose, a long-time PATH member in Greensboro. He did, and, after a few false starts, showed up for “duty” at Stony Fork campground a year later. Karl's first exposure to the AT came in the spring of 1994, when he was looking for a substitute to running while recovering from a foot

injury. He decided on hiking, a low-impact activity. During a two-hour out-and-back hike north along the AT at Troutville, near Roanoke, Va., he ran into two thru-hikers, a man and a woman, from New Hampshire, trudging slowly up the mountain with their 40-lb packs. Karl's interest in the AT was kindled by a conversation with an Asheboro poetry book editor who had thru-hiked the AT, north to south, with his father and had described that experience as one of his most memorable.

John Hartpence of Raleigh and his dog, Aslan,

got involved in PATH through PATH member and equipment-meister Bill Boudman. Bill took them on a hike at Mount Rogers, Va. "It was so beautiful there, I loved it," John said. "A few weeks later, Bill felt that we were ready for PATH's section. he took us to Chestnut Knob via Poor Valley (Chestnut Knob overlooks scenic Burke's Garden). I was hooked. I joined immediately. I wondered why we went four-plus miles instead of going one-and-a-half miles via Walker Mountain. I found out why on my first PATH worktrip when Gordon assigned us to go up to Chestnut Knob via Walker Mountain (a much steeper climb). The rest is history."

Don Childrey of Mount Gilead and author of "Uwharrie Lakes Region Trail Guide" (www.dtcpublishing.ac.net) learned of PATH when he was a student at N.C. State Univ. He picked up a few copies of the PATH newsletter at the Great Outdoor Provision Center retail store. After graduating and moving to Montgomery County, N.C., he started looking for a backpacking group. Don retrieved one of the old newsletters and called one of the names — Gordon Burgess (one of the more active "senior" members of PATH). "Gordon told me about a work trip in Poor Valley with a Konnarock crew and gave me directions," Don said. "I drove all the way into Poor Valley and amazingly enough was able to find them way back in the woods. Danny Bookers was there with his two girls, as well as Gordon and Ken Rose. ("Konnarock" refers to a small work camp at Sugar Grove, Va., where volunteer working on a work crew for AT projects live.) The Konnarock crew leader was a girl named Fred. One Konnarock girl was from California, and one guy was from Australia. I remember Gordon outwalking everyone each morning as we hiked in to the worksite. Parthena Martin and Trudy Whitney helped us collect rocks in the creek. I remember leftover scrambled egg sandwiches for lunch, torrential downpours and skinning logs. Needless to say, I was hooked."

Harrison Marks of Winston-Salem and PATH treasurer found out about PATH from a list at Hills and Trails, an outfitter in Winston-Salem. "I used to hike and backpack a lot before getting married and raising kids. I was interested in hooking up with others since my kids were grown. Also I was looking to be involved more in community service. PATH seemed to provide an opportunity to do some of both."

Wayne Riley of Cary, N.C., found out about the AT in 1975 when his church youth group went hiking on the AT up to the Delaware Water Gap for the weekend.

"We had a great time," he said. "The shelters then had dirt floors and the trail wasn't clearly marked in places. After that initial trip, several of us started hiking together on the AT during the next few summers. Unfortunately, I gave up hiking after college and didn't restart until recently. Wayne discovered PATH, indirectly, through a website. A frequent visitor to the Cary REI store, Wayne was interested in getting back into camping and started checking out REI equipment at the store. He noticed on the website that a PATH member was going to give a talk on winter backpacking. "I had never heard of PATH but did manage to find the PATH web page and was instantly interested," Wayne said. Wayne attended the PATH lecture, where he met Bill Medlin of PATH. Bill gave him plenty of information about PATH. "As I was leaving, Bill said something that left me little choice but to join PATH," Wayne said. "When I said I was interested in PATH, Bill said, 'Well, we would love to have you.' I have been a PATH member ever since."

Bea Wellborn of Blowing Rock wrote: "I found out about the AT at work. I work at Appalachian State Univ. and work with someone who used to work in Student Programs which is close to the Outdoor Programs Office. She told me about the AT when she knew I liked to hike. I found out about PATH on the ATC website. I was surfing the web for stuff about hiking, typed in Appalachian Trail and came up with the AT conference site. PATH was listed there."

Carla Osborne of Raleigh learned of PATH through Bill Medlin by way of her roommate Karen Worthington. She will quickly admit she stumbled on her first PATH worktrip. "Karen and I had driven up to Stoney Fork after work Friday evening. It was dark when we got there so I assumed that we were the last to arrive and I locked the gate behind us. After we set up camp we went to stand around the campfire and get to know everyone. I was having fun until someone approached us and asked who had the key to the gate because someone else had arrived and was locked out. Gordon, of course sleeping soundly in his tent, had the key. One of the guys around the campfire said, 'Oh no! He's a bear when he wakes up!' Karen was the only one who knew I had locked the gate. I was so embarrassed. The next morning when work assignments were handed out, Gordon mentioned that 'someone' had locked the gate last night. I sort of sheepishly admitted that 'someone' was me." Karen still teases Carla about the incident to this day. 4

Seven Complete First-Aid Course



Seven PATH members completed a rigorous Wilderness First-Aid course April 24-25. The course, consisting of 24 hours of classroom time and hands-on training, was conducted to enable PATH members injured on a trail maintenance project to get immediate aid and prevent it from getting any more serious until better medical care can be found.

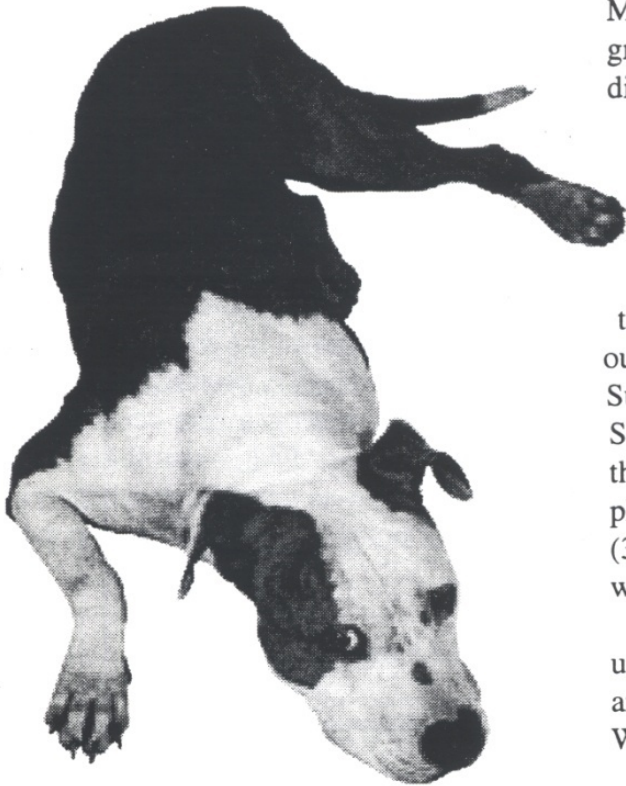
The participants were Bill Boudman, Marcia Cope, Scotty Folds, Marvin Kirkland, Tony Roberts, Scott Thomas and Susan Andreatta. Bill reported: "It was not boring. We had some great play-acting with lots of blood. The food was also great." He also complimented Justin Padgett, head instructor, and the other instructors. Tony added: "It was hard work and exhausting, but well worth it. The sheer volume of information presented was almost overwhelming, but I think enough of it will sink in so that those who completed the class will have a good idea of how to approach an emergency medical situation on the trail." 🧐

1999 Path Officers (and how to contact them)

President	Paul Clayton	Winston-Salem	336-723-5470
Vice President	Betsy Truscott	Greensboro	336-605-3588
Secretary	John Hartpence	Raleigh	919-839-8623
Treasurer	Harrison Marks	Winston-Salem	
Editor	Karl Kunkel	High Point	336-882-8711
Past President	Parthena Martin	Chapel Hill	919-967-4449
Trail Supervisor	Bill Boudman	Raleigh	919-782-3117
Trail Monitor Coordinators	Gordon Burgess	Winston-Salem	336-723-9819
	Marcia Cope	Winston-Salem	336-760-0887
	Barry Hester	Winston-Salem	336-767-3300



Dawg Days '99: A Real DIGGIN' Event



Our Inaugural Dawg Days Event last July accomplished an awesome amount of side hilling.... Barry has the stats on that!!! Many people worked really hard on that project and all help was greatly appreciated. Some dedicated dawgs were actually seen diggin' on all three days of the weekend event.

This year PATH already has two Konnarock weeks, plus Radford '99, and our regular Worktrip in July. Dawg Days has therefore been scheduled for August 7th and 8th... so that all dawgs can be rested up for our great diggin' adventure!!! We will need volunteers on Friday, August 6th, to help with transportation of tools and supplies and to setup our basecamp. Last year we were short on volunteers to stay over Sunday night and help break camp and return tools to the Forest Service, so we will need advance commitments to help with that, if possible. If you can help with the logistics for this event please contact Barry Hester (336-767-3300) or Marcia Cope at (336-760-0887) or <mhcope@ibm.net>. We will notify you when and where the planning committees will meet.

Those who do not have e-mail and want announcements and updates, please send Marcia two or three business size SASE's and she will mail you what is sent out via the PATH Email List. We don't want anyone left out.

Barry Hester/Marcia Cope

Mail SASE's to:
Marcia Hudson Cope
190 Wexham Road - Oxford Place
Winston-Salem, NC 27103-5250

Hot Springs Weekend: continued from page 5

June 11-13 — Bluff Mountain Music Fest. You might write for a brochure.

There were other places to stay, including a small motel, the Alpine Inn, next door. Restaurants tended to open late in the morning, not good for early day hikers, and close early. When we ate dinner after our hike, we were limited to the Bridge Restaurant and Inn, good gourmet place with a brick oven for pizza, but also very expensive, especially for the thru-hiker pocketbook. I saw three hikers huddled around a \$5 piece of cake, splitting it.

A few miles from the town is Max Patch Mountain. It is possible to drive within 1/2 mile to the top. Great views if weather is clear. Then you can do an out-and-back hike along the AT. We met a New Jersey thru-hiker at the top, catching a few rays. I took a photo of him, which I'll mail to his family.

Prior to your Hot Springs, do a little research and trail-planning and ask other PATH members about their experiences. It's a potentially interesting place for a weekend adventure. 🐾

At press time

Stoney Fork Campground, where PATH normally meets for its worktrips, is still under repair. Call Paul Clayton (336-781-0497) or Gordon Burgess (336-782-0492) for details on where we will meet for the May 15-16 worktrip.

May Worktrip Meal

However, wherever we are, Bill Medlin is preparing a hugh pot of Chili Con Carne' and also a pot of Vegetarian Chili. If you will be bringing a food item, please, let me know what and how many it will feed. If we are NOT at Konnarock you will need to keep perishables in your cooler until serving time. Hopefully we will have newcomers joining us from the organizational meeting for the proposed new SW-VA Club!!! We need to have plenty of food — which so far we have had!!! Last month \$7.14 was donated which will be used to purchase a roll of paper table covering. Thanks to those who donated and Bill Medlin who has been keeping us in supplies.

Marcia Hudson Cope

Cha-ching!\$

PATH's annual dues are \$15 individual, \$17.50 family, and \$10 student. PATH is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and dues are tax-deductible. Contact: Piedmont Appalachian Trail Hikers, P.O. Box 4423, Greensboro, N.C. 27404-4423.

Mark Your Calendars!

Konnarock Dates Announced

The Konnarock work project for PATH's section this summer will be set on the Kegley property, which is north of the Settlers Museum, a short distance south of the I-81/AT intersection. Konnarock is a project in which volunteers from around the country converge to work on AT projects that are too complex or time-consuming for AT maintenance groups. PATH members are encouraged to help as much as possible. Participants are awarded a special, "bragging rights" T-shirt at the end of the season.

The dates are: July 8-12 and July 15-19.

PIEDMONT APPALACHIAN TRAIL HIKERS, INC.

POST OFFICE BOX 4423
GREENSBORO, NC 27404-4423

Don't forget to visit the PATH website at <http://www.path-at.org/>