

PATH WAYS

Piedmont Appalachian Trail Hikers

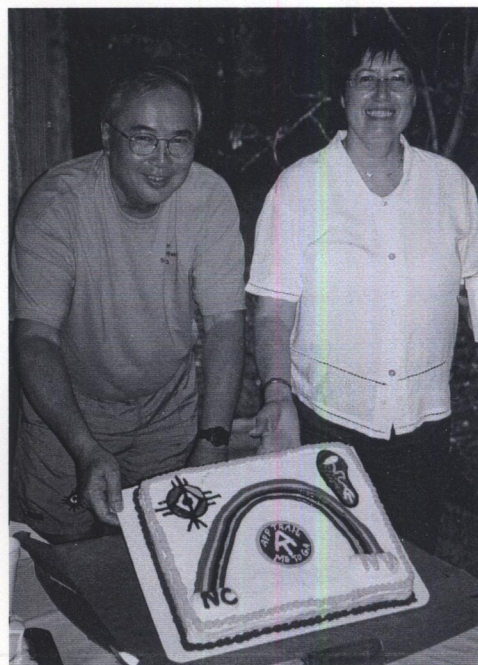
Fall 2004

Westward Ho!

PATH Bids Farewell to a Very Special Couple

MORRISVILLE, N.C. -- Rainy skies and remnants of a hurricane could not stop 50 close friends of Parthena Martin and Clint Kawanishi from paying them a special thank-you for a job well-done.

PATH members, neighbors, former co-workers and admirers of the couple converged on a covered picnic area near Cary, N.C. with tons of food, beverages and some pretty wild stories about Parthena and Clint on Sunday, August 29 to see them off as they prepared to move to Reno, Nevada. Parthena has landed an attractive job out in that special part of the country, home of Lake Tahoe, rugged mountains, great scenery and miles of hiking trails. Several PATH members provided interesting gifts, including wine, a kite, a hawthorne-and-poison ivy plant arrangement and a certificate to Clint, making him an ex-'slave,' finally freed from the bondage of Bill "Attila" Boudman.



Gene "No Show" Greer, one of the organizers, awarded Clint and Parthena with a sign for their new home, renaming it "Rainbow House." Being located in Nevada, the Pathena/Clint residence can logically serve as a house of ill repute, with Parthena as the madame. Since she has already served as president of ODATC and PATH and held a key position with the Appalachian Trail Conference as secretary at the national level, Parthena shouldn't have any trouble with her new role. Clint and Parthena have already extended an open door policy to PATH members eager to see some of the breathtaking western scenery and get in some memorable backpacking.

The couple have promised to return each year to that special stretch of the AT they cultivated so lovingly for so many years. Loyal PATH members like Parthena and Clint just do not come along like this very often. We will all miss them.

By Karl Kunkel

I'm Ready For My Close-up, Mr. Attila

When the Jon Bon Jovi movie, "National Lampoon's The Trouble with Frank," comes to your favorite neighborhood theater later this year, pay close attention to the key scenes featuring a courtroom and a jury pool. You'll likely see PATH member Barry Hester, the guy with long, red hair, in the jury box, portraying one of the jurors. The movie was filmed primarily in the Greensboro, Winston-Salem, Lexington, NC area earlier this year, and several scenes called for numerous extras, including the one Barry was in. PATH member Karl Kunkel may also be spotted in one of the crowd scenes during a hockey match.

Being part of the movie was an unforgettable experience for Barry, an aspiring rock guitarist, since he got to work so closely with Bon Jovi, a well-known rock star. The movie was directed by Arthur Hiller, who also directed "Love Story," "Silver Streak," "The Babe" and several others.

Barry also played a role in "June Bug," an independently shot movie here this spring. Check them out. And when you see Barry, be sure to get his autograph while you can. This may be the start of something big.

Summerfest 3

Summerfest 3 was held June 13-June 20 at Walker Gap in scenic Burke's Garden. We had a total of 37 workers this worktrip. The projects for Summerfest 3 were waterbars, checkdams and steps on both Garden Mt. and going south toward Chestnut Knob.

A rock-cribbing workshop was held on Friday and Saturday under the leadership of Deno Contos.. From Sunday to Tuesday, the crew leaders, Betsy

Truscott, Big Jim Houck (the CHEF), and Bill "Attila" Boudman marked where waterbars and checkdams would be placed. They also cut "Attila" size logs to be used for this project.

They were later checked by "The Slave" (Clint Kawanishi) to make sure that they met PATH standards. The crew leaders also marked seven areas for rock cribbing and rock steps on Garden Mountain.

On Wednesday and Thursday, work was done from Walker Gap toward Chestnut Knob. We installed a total of 10 Water bars, 13 check dams and seven steps. These projects should help to get the water off the trail.

On Friday and Saturday, Deno Contos (a landscaper from Georgia and rock specialist for the ATC) led the Path crew in cribbing six areas.

Bill Sadler and John Jaskolka built rock steps at the #5 sight. Despite all the rain and muddy conditions, we completed the entire six cribbing sites. In fact, the crews were working so well on Saturday that Attila returned to his hammock in camp two hours early. He knew that the crews were in good hands with "The Slave." It was quite a sight on Saturday to see the Muddy Crew returning down the hill. It looked like something out of Snow White with the Dwarves returning home. They were quite thrilled to find that Chris Bracknell had hot water for their showers.

On Sunday Betsy Truscott and Margaret Wainwright blazed the trail across Garden Mountain (4.5 miles). We also installed 17 water bars and 12 check dams and took the lips off the outside of the trail in spots to let the water flow better.

Chef Big Jim Houck (imported from the Florida Coast) with the help of Jeff Tysinger and John Boy Hartpence kept the crew well fed all week. The coffee pot was continuously

Summerfest 3...

going. Linda Robinson brought in some of her specialty blends to use. For breakfast Fast Food Specialist Jeff opened the grill for specialty requests of eggs cooked to each members liking.

We had a nonending supply of eggs. The chickens did a great job this weekend. There were some complaints directed at John Boy -- like egg shells in the salad, no buckwheat pancakes, pancakes not black enough, pancakes Too dark, and making sure that the meat spoon did not end up in the vegetarian pot. Even with all of these complaints, the PATH crew was satisfied with the food. No one ever went away hungry. Big Jim had meals that included pot roast, bratwurst, spaghetti, chef salads, and imported desserts from the kitchen of Valerie Hurt. The kitchen team wants to thank all the PATH members who brought eggs, fruit, sweet potatoes, and other goodies for the meals.

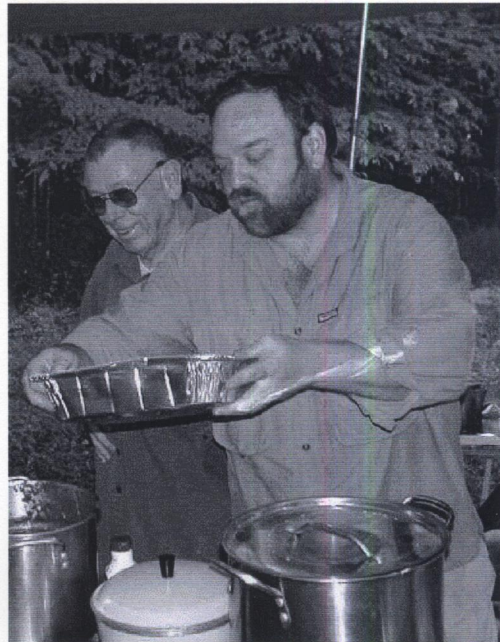
Summerfest 3 was a very successful venture. Despite the showers each day, the fog rolling in, and the muddy conditions afoot, we completed by Sunday afternoon all that we had planned to accomplish. Thanks to all our members for their hard work. Thanks for all the warm fellowship all week. We were able to put up our new tent for the first time. It was purchased out of the Bill "Privyman" Memorial Fund. Billy Bob Medlin would have loved it.

By John Hartpence

From the Knot Mole Shelter Register...

My pack is too full of food to push on nine more miles. So I'll eat, journal, eat and then read some. Sounds like a plan.

----*Officer Taco (To serve, to protect, to eat)*



John and Jeff ably assisted Chef Jim.

A Steady Rolling Crew at August Worktrip

In hot, humid and overcast weather, 24 workers split up into work parties, and the fun began. One group lopped briars through the beaver dam I area, and another group did the same in the beaver dam II area. Another group picked up litter at trailheads. Weed eaters were buzzing near the Kegley property. The main body hauled gravel in the turnpike area using buckets and wheelbarrows.

Thanks to an early start we had a lot of the hard work done by the time the rain came. We slogged ahead and finished the work as the rain increased. With our job done, 24 wet workers headed back to Stoney Fork. After cleaning the tools and showering, we met at Marcia's cabin for dinner and some rest on lawn chairs.

By Jim Houck

Who Are These People?

Send Paul an email at pmclayt@attglobal.net with your guess as to who these people are. Hint: The date is January 27, 1985, and the occasion is the PATH Annual Meeting. All successful guessers will be recognized in the next newsletter. If you get one name you are an old-timer with a sharp memory. If you get all four you are the new club historian.



Gordon Burgess Photo

Beam Us Up, Scottie

Ben Folds, son of PATH member Scottie Folds, has produced actor William "Captain Kirk" Shatner's first album in 36 years. "Has Been" features cameos by musicians Aimee Mann (daughter of director Michael Mann), Joe Jackson and Henry Rollins.

"I wrote poetry, and Ben Folds transformed it into song," Shatner said in an 'Esquire' interview. "I watched with awe how Ben was taking music the way I take words -- fiddling with it until he arrived where he wanted it to be." Shatner, with his first album, "The Transformed Man," secured a place in the musical Pantheon with his unforgettable rendition of "Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds."

New Books

The Best of the Appalachian Trail Overnight Hikes, 2nd ed.

Frank and Victoria Logue and Leonard M. Adkins.

Menasha Ridge Press.

Published June 20, 2004

184 Pages, Paperback. Maps. \$15.95

For hikers who love to backpack but can only get out on a trail a few weekends a year, this book can help with the first step. The book describes overnight hikes in 14 states along the AT. The text includes area maps, trailhead directions, trail profiles, hike difficulty ratings and trail lengths. The Logues, a married couple, hiked the entire AT in 1988 and have written four books about the AT. Adkins has hiked the AT four times. He is a board member of the Roanoke AT Club and author of several books on travel and the outdoors.

The Best in Tent Camping: Virginia, 2nd ed

Randy Porter and Marie Javins.

Menasha Ridge Press.

Published July 2004.

178 pages. Paperback. Maps. \$14.95

The authors traveled the state of Virginia and selected the 50 best campgrounds to pitch a tent. This updated volume includes a starred rating system covering beauty, site privacy, spaciousness, quiet, security and cleanliness. Sidebars contain information about fees, parking and restrictions. Features include directions to the sites and a table of contents separated by region of the state. Southwest Virginia sites include Hungry Mother State Park, Grayson Highlands, Hurricane, New River Trail State Park and Cave Springs Recreation Area. Porter lives just west of Charlottesville and is the author of *Mountain Bike! Virginia*. Javins, formerly of northern Virginia, lives in New Jersey and has tent-camped throughout the U.S. and New Zealand.

Dawg Days Reaches 7th Birthday

The Dawgs sidehill seven miles southbound to VA 615 and clean the Camp 282 Trailhead

"DAWG DAYS is awesome ...not like anything you've ever been to," one young person was overheard reporting by telephone, and it was an absolutely correct statement.

"Fellowship" was the order of the weekend on Brushy Mountain as club members and friends came together to sidehill on the Appalachian Trail by day and enjoy "Food" and "Fun" by night. With twenty adults, teenagers and children working and playing together, PATH's Seventh Annual Sidehilling Event had a decidedly multi-generational flavour.

This year's participants, friends, and dogs included a long list of special people. Marcia Cope, Zanna Floyd, Paul Clayton, and Valerie Cope were invaluable in the earliest planning stages. Jim Houck volunteered in June to transport equipment and supplies to/from the USFS, plus help cook and take a lead in sidehilling ..all of which he did and managed to make it appear nearly effortless. Betsy Truscott and Amy Roberts were Dawg Days Regulars who always lend helping hands wherever needed. Trevor Cope and Alex Burton helped with loading, unloading, sorting and hauling, getting the camping areas and pavilion ready, gathering firewood and setting up tents, sidehilling and helping Valerie and me clean on Sunday. They were my personal heroes for Dawg Days 2004.

Chris Bracknell helped on Thursday and Rabon Banks kept a watchful eye on the young men's shenanigans! Katie Floyd and Marie Minor played with younger and older students and our only pre-schooler. Kathi Dunphy and Michael Poore joined us for their first PATH Outing. John Hunt, who comes to PATH Events whenever possible, was new to me. Grace Cope entertained

us with the precocious innocence of a three-year-old. Thanks to friends Scott who played guitar and sang and Sharon Morgenstern plus Mike Tinchner who recently led the 'new roof on the bunkhouse' team and joined us Saturday afternoon and evening. And special thanks to "Happy Lady" (Dawg Days Mascot) and little "Stinky Dog" (Valerie and Grace's Mascot).

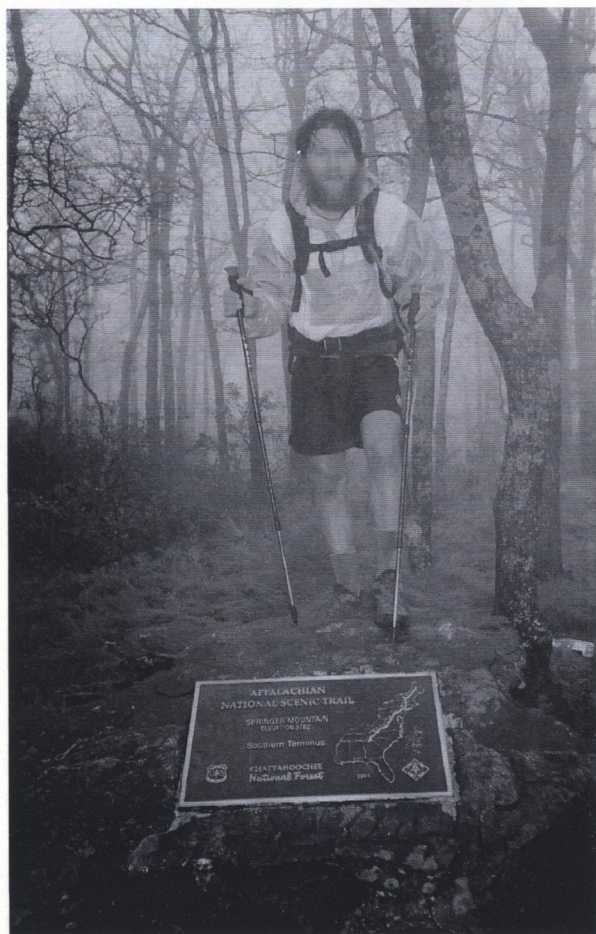
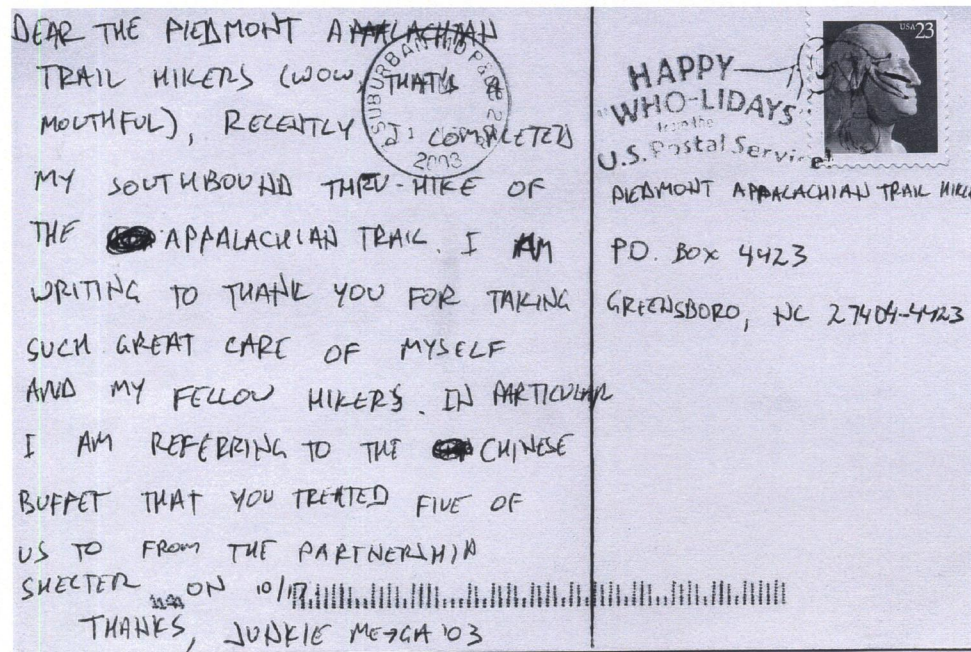
By Marcia Cope

Reminiscences...

Paul Haag, president, PATH: "On my first trip with Elliot, my son, we were greeted in Stony Fork by Dean and Parthena. They were very nice and informative and offered assistance. The next trip Elliot and I got to work Clint's section with weed eaters. Even though I had my head and body wrapped for protection, I was still attacked by Clint's brand of poison oak and ivy. Elliot also decided to stroll on down the trail by himself -- eight years old. Bad Dad I know. I ended up searching for him and running back with him on my shoulders in the rain. Clint has used me to take the President's job off his wife's hands and to get Renee to make him his favorite pineapple dessert. You tell me who I am going to miss the most..."

Kevin Mar: "I remember the time Clint was backpacking with me and other PATH members in the Wyoming Wind River Range. We got to Skull Lake where he nonchalantly peeled off his clothes and jumped into the freezing cold lake! Can you imagine the horror when we had to see his pale white belly as he jumped in? Privately, I had to mention to him that he cheated. The rest of us could smell each other for days and every time he breezed past, you could smell his deodorant...."

We Get Mail...



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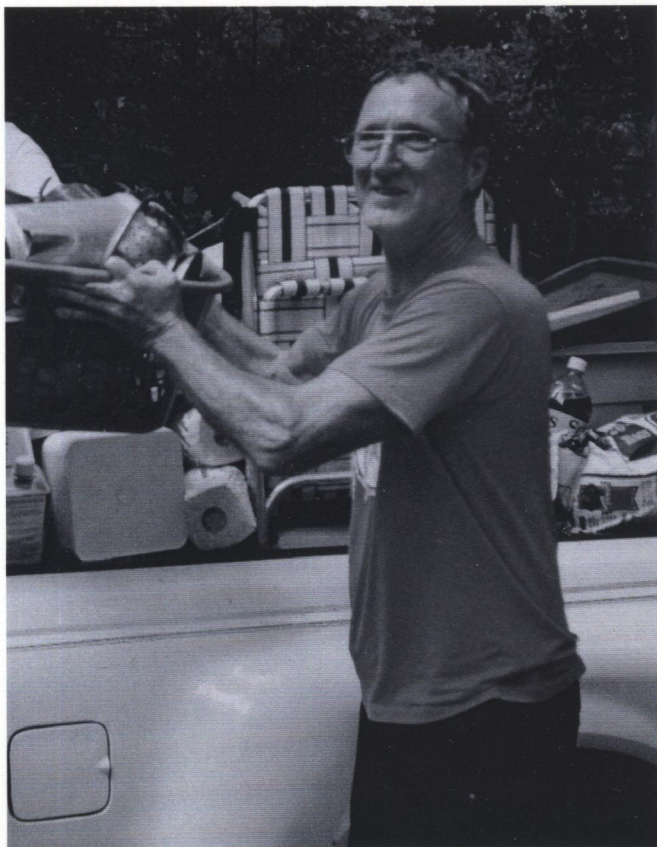
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Jim Houck unpacking gear for Summerfest Base Camp

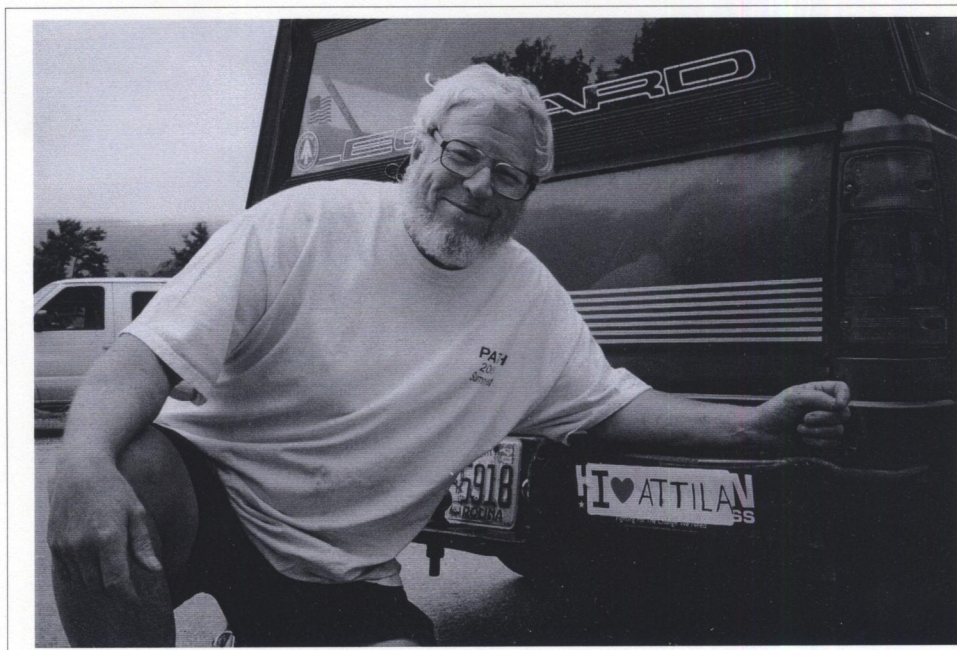
What is PATH?

Piedmont Appalachian Trail Hikers, Inc., is a nonprofit club which maintains a 58-mile section of the Appalachian Trail in southwest Virginia. Most PATH members live in North Carolina and Virginia, with the largest number between Charlotte and Raleigh.

The Appalachian Trail is a 2,000-mile-long footpath that runs along the crest of the Appalachian Mountains from Mount Katahdin in Maine to Springer Mountain in Georgia.

The Appalachian Trail is maintained by more than 30 volunteer groups, such as PATH. These groups comprise the member clubs of the Appalachian Trail Conference, based in Harpers Ferry, WV.

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Attila - I know, you had expected something a bit more fearsome...

What is...

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PATH looks after 58 miles of the AT in the southwest Virginia counties of Smyth, Wythe, Bland, and Tazewell.

Members typically meet at a Friday night camp-out, the third weekend each month during the spring, summer, and fall. Saturday mornings, the members are assigned to teams that clear weeds, saw through fallen trees, rebuild footbridges, maintain shelters and relocate portions of the AT. The group usually meets in either the US Forest Service's Stony Fork Campground, in the Jefferson National Forest near Wytheville Virginia or at the ATC's Konnarock Work Camp near Sugar Grove.

PATH members also sponsor day hikes and backpacking trips for anyone interested in hiking and the outdoors, and host an annual cookout with our "trail neighbors" each fall. The club also actively participates with the Forest Service and other volunteer organizations to protect and preserve the natural beauty and heritage of the southern Appalachians.

PATH volunteers are men, women and children of all ages, as well as unseen volunteers who support our mission through monetary contributions. PATH brings people together who share common interests and become new friends. To make the PATH experience more enjoyable for the interested, we recommend contact with a PATH member before a first outing. The PATH member can suggest proper equipment and clothing and help with directions

PATH's annual dues are \$15.00 for individuals, \$17.50 for families, and \$10.00 for students. Dues and donations to PATH are tax-deductible. Dues can be paid online through PayPal, by directing the payment to payment@path-at.org or can be mailed to: PATH Treasurer Renee Clark, 3785

Field Sedge Dr., Winston-Salem, NC 27107.

PATH has a website (www.path-at.org) which provides information and allows members and friends to communicate with each about the trail, maintenance, hiking, camping, and gear.



Ken Pugh, Valerie Hurt and Steve Coombs are all smiles on a recent worktrip



Huntington Beach SP

16148 Ocean Highway
Murrells Inlet, SC 29576
843-237-4440

A big, full-service campground with a very nice wooded back loop for tenters and several open center loops for sun-lovers. Open year round. All sites have water and electric hookups. Walking distance to the beach. This is one of the nicest beach campgrounds around. There are several miles of trails, boardwalks over tidal areas. The Huntingtons' summer home, Atalaya, is in the park and open to visit. Immediately across the highway is Brookgreen Gardens, one of the finest sculpture gardens around. Myrtle Beach is 20 miles north, for those who like that kind of thing, and historic Georgetown is 20 miles south.

Newport News Park

I-64 Exit 250B
Newport News, VA
757-886-7912
1-800-203-8322 (Reservations)
<http://www.newport-news.va.us/parks/park1.htm>

Situated in one of the largest city parks east of the Rocky Mountains, the campground features 180 large, wooded sites, many with electric and water hookups. Restrooms with hot showers and a coin laundry are among the amenities. There are 30 miles of hiking trails in the park, as well as 10 miles of bike trails. Much of the campground is sited on Civil War era entrenchments, still visible 140 years after the war. There are two lakes on the property with boat rentals and fishing.

The campground is centrally located near Interstate 64, which provides access to many Tidewater attractions, including Williamsburg, Jamestown, Old Point Comfort, historic Portsmouth and Virginia Beach. There are literally dozens of fun things to do and see in the area. Some of our favorite places are the Mariners

Museum, Fort Fun and Anna's Italian Restaurant in Hampton. We also enjoy riding the ferry across the James River at Jamestown.

All in all, Newport News Park is an exceptional campground in an exceptionally interesting corner of the world. It is also a great waypoint on a trip to the eastern shore of Maryland, just across the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel to the north.

Campground reviews by Paul Clayton - for more, see <http://pws.prserv.net/pmclayton/>

Calendar

Saturday, Sept 18 -- Worktrip, based at Stony Fork. Saturday afternoon is a joint picnic at O'Lystery, with PATH sharing a table with the area fire department barbecue fundraiser. Expect people to show up at around 5 p.m. Bring desserts and cookies to share with folks who wander by our table. The fire department barbecue is \$5 a head, including all the fixins'.

Saturday, Oct. 16 -- Worktrip. We will be staying at the Konnarock facility at Sugar Grove, VA.

November (date/place to be announced) -- Yearend business meeting and PATH family get-together for relatives and friends that don't get to the worktrips (and for those who do as well). Potluck lunch with yearend participation awards.



PATH Volunteers relax at Marcia's pavilion after a hard day of trail work.