

# History of the Carolina Mountain Club

Commemorating the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

1923-2003



*Incorporated 1924*  
*A member of the Appalachian Trail Conference*

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# **Carolina Mountain Club**

## **80 Years of Conservation, Hiking and Trail Work**

This publication celebrates the 80th anniversary of the Carolina Mountain Club. The Club was formed in 1923 by a group of Asheville naturalists who enjoyed the mountain region of North Carolina and wanted to foster in its members and others a “primeval taste” of the outdoors. In 2003, nearly 550 members continue this tradition with one of the most active hiking and trail maintenance programs in the United States. Anyone is eligible to join the Club.

Included in this booklet is a history of the Carolina Mountain Club’s triumphs and struggles during its 80 years of existence. This is followed by a copy of the CMC Bylaws which describe the rules and regulations which govern the Club’s activities. Also, included is a copy of the Certificate of Incorporation originally prepared in 1924 and amended in 1957 and 1988. This booklet updates the 1993 edition celebrating the 70th anniversary. A new section has been added that describes the Club’s activities during the 1994-2003 period. In addition, wording changes and grammatical corrections have been made to parts of the text of the 1993 edition.

# **History of the Carolina Mountain Club**

## **Commemorating the 80th Anniversary: 1923-2003**

### **Peter M. Steurer**

## **Foreword**

The Carolina Mountain Club was organized in Asheville, North Carolina to foster the enjoyment of the outdoors through hiking and to encourage the conservation of our natural scenery. The Club has a rich and diverse history. As with most organizations, controversy, waning interests, and changing goals and objectives threatened the very existence of the Club during its early years. During the past 80 years, the Club's philosophy has also changed from that of maintaining cabins for its membership to that of hiking and building trails. Fortunately, the Carolina Mountain Club has survived and been strengthened by these changes, and has become a driving force in promoting and protecting the beauty of the mountains of Western North Carolina.

## **Early History**

The Carolina Mountain Club (CMC) was established on July 16, 1923. However, to fully understand just how and why this historic event took place, we must go back almost a half century before that date.

Back in 1876, a number of outdoor enthusiasts got together in Boston, Massachusetts and formed a group known as the Appalachian Mountain Club. This was one of the first organized mountaineering groups in the United States. The membership grew rapidly and by the year 1920, there were several thousand participants on the roles. There were four chapters in the Northeast United States in addition to the original Boston Chapter. By this time, many trails, cabins, and overnight shelters had been built and were being maintained for the benefit of hikers.

On June 11, 1920, organized mountaineering began in North Carolina when a meeting was held in Asheville and a tentative Southern Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club of Boston was formed. Mr. J. S. Holmes, State Forester of North Carolina at that time, was quite active in organizing this first Southern

Chapter. In addition, an executive committee of seven was elected which included Dr. Chase P. Ambler as chairman, H. Taylor Rogers, treasurer, Dr. Gaillard S. Tennent, secretary, and N. Buckner, Verne Rhodes, E.D. Anthony, and S.P. Ravenel.

The organization of the Southern Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club was officially recognized on May 11, 1921 in the Asheville office of the Board of Trade. Verne Rhodes was elected as chairman of the club, T. Lockwood Perry was secretary, and H. Taylor Rogers was the treasurer. An executive committee was assigned and was composed of N. Buckner, G.S. Tennent, George Westen, and William Barnhill.

Little history is available about the activities of the newly formed club in early 1920s. However, it is evident that a cabin was maintained near the Big Ivy Forest Service Campground. Also, in 1922 the cabin known as Schenk Lodge, located in the Pink Beds section of the Pisgah National Forest, was leased by the Club. The cabins were available to members for outings and camping trips as well as for the use as the bases for their hikes.

By 1923, a major controversy was brewing between the Northern and Southern Chapters of the Appalachian Mountain Club which soon led to the severing of all ties between the two groups. At that time, the annual dues were set at \$8.00 per member. Seventy percent of this amount was sent to the Appalachian Mountain Club of Boston, under the provisions of the charter and constitution. The members of the Asheville chapter gradually came to feel that this was unfair since the money was chiefly used in the construction of trails and shelters in the mountains of New England and not the mountains of Western North Carolina. This led to lengthy correspondence through the mails with no resolution. Officials in the North decided that the constitution of their club required that the money be used on trails in the Northeast and could not be changed for the benefit of the Southern Chapter. As a result, all ties were

severed between the two groups and an independent Asheville hiking club was formed. On July 16, 1923, the CMC was formed in Asheville, and the Southern Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club ceased to exist. Dr. Gaillard Tennent was the first president of the CMC, Ray Mathewson was secretary, and Taylor Rogers was the treasurer.

Little written information is available about the CMC for the next seven years. It is known that interest in the newly formed club had waned after severing ties with the Northern Chapter. However, the CMC did succeed in equipping its two cabins and in becoming incorporated in 1924 by obtaining a State Charter. By 1931, CMC had a membership of around 60, but only about 20 or 25 were active and in good standing. It appears that there were very few organized activities among the members.

Fortunately, the history of the Carolina Mountain Club does not end here. On September 30, 1931, a



**View of Upper Whitewater Falls**

committee was appointed to confer with the Carolina Appalachian Trail Club (CATC) to consider the affiliation of the two clubs. This club was a vigorous and active organization, formed in Asheville in the winter of 1930 with George Stephens as president.

In many respects, the CATC was very similar to present day CMC, in regard to its goals and objectives. CATC was extremely active in getting unfinished segments of the Appalachian Trail (AT) routed, marked, measured, and maintained in North Carolina. During the Club's first year of existence, CATC had scouted, measured, and marked the 29.2 miles of the AT from Devils Gap on the Tennessee border to Hot Springs, the 31.6 miles from Hot Springs to Waterville, and the 43.5 miles from Nantahala Station to Rich Knob on the Georgia border. Like the present day CMC, the CATC also had weekly hikes and outings which met at the then newly constructed Grove Arcade Building (Federal Building). They were also very interested in compiling a hiking guide book, much like the CMC's present-day "100 Favorite Trails" map. The club existed for its members to explore and enjoy the beautiful mountains of North Carolina.

The written history does not tell us the reasons for the formation of the CATC when the CMC was already in existence. It is possible that the goals and objectives of the two organizations were vastly different. The old CMC appeared to be a declining organization whose main objective was maintaining cabins for its membership. This would have been a fairly expensive proposition by the early 1930s and may have resulted in discriminating toward wealthier individuals. In fact, an examination of the old CMC membership indicates a fair number of doctors and prominent Asheville individuals on the roles. The CATC, on the other hand, was an extremely active group with comparatively low dues and was more concerned with hiking and building trails than with maintaining cabins.

The written history also does not tell us why the old CMC organized a committee on September 30, 1931 to confer with the CATC with idea of affiliating the two groups. It is likely, that Dr. Tennent had a major role in the merging of the two clubs since he was a leader of CATC hikes and also attended some of its monthly meetings. It is possible that the old CMC

saw the opportunity to revitalize their declining club with the new members of the CATC. It is also possible that they saw an opportunity for the new members to contribute to the maintenance of their cabins, which were stated to be in great disrepair.

On December 9, 1931, sixteen members of the CMC voted to elect the entire membership of the CATC into one combined group. In many respects, the CATC was the main beneficiary of the unification and was very much in favor of the merger. In addition to the lease on two desirable cabins, the CMC had a balance of \$260 in its treasury. This compared to \$45.62 which CATC had on deposit. The CMC was already incorporated which avoided the legal expense for CATC to also obtain a State Charter. So for legal reasons only, it was decided that the CATC would dissolve and its present membership be elected into the CMC. The name of the merged clubs was to be the present day CMC. The enlarged club adopted all the by-laws of the CATC and almost all of the officers and Council of the CATC became the first governing body. Mr. Stephens was elected as the first president of the combined clubs and Dr. Barker was elected as the vice-president. The two members of Council were Mr. George Masa and Dr. Tennent. Annual dues were set at \$2.00.

Except for the name of the club, the old CMC appeared to have been completely taken over with the goals and philosophy of the CATC.

## **The Depression Years**

During the 1930s, the CMC evolved into a strong organization. The Club maintained a significant bank account throughout the Depression years (more than \$200) and also had a stable membership (between 50 and 60). The CMC was apparently immune to the Depression that had engulfed the nation, probably due to the fact that the Club attracted only the more wealthy and prominent citizens of the western North Carolina mountains. The Club was not immune however to the impending World War that would bring about many restrictions such as gas rationing and the loss of many members to the armed services. By 1942, the total membership had dropped to 29. In that year, CMC's president, Arch Nichols and councilman Bill Kirkman resigned both joining the

armed forces. With the national emergency entering into its darkest days, the activities of the CMC became less and less. On November 19, 1943, the last meeting of the Club was held until after the end of World War II.

Throughout the pre-war period, the CMC placed much emphasis on attracting new members by publicizing the Club. These were hard times and several methods were used in order to keep the membership at a suitable level. Publicity involved newspaper articles in the Asheville Citizen-Times describing the various hikes and social programs put on by CMC. Also, radio advertisements promoting CMC were used in 1933. A dues cut from \$2.00 to \$1.00 was initiated in 1940 but retracted shortly thereafter. Also, a new junior membership category was developed for people under the age of 18. This was "... in consideration of our investment for the future of the group."

There were attempts to attract new members in 1935 by inviting clubs with similar interests to attend CMC events. A notable example of this was the Asheville Camera Club since hiking and photography were very popular with many CMCers. In that same year, a letter was received from the Asheville Nudist Club suggesting that the two clubs form a merger. It would be curious to learn if any nudists actually joined CMC and took part in Club events. The Council was to consider this matter but no mention was ever made in subsequent meeting minutes.

The membership composition of CMC during the 1930s was quite different from that of the post-war era. This was an exclusive organization which had members who could afford the \$2.00 per person dues and also the cost of gasoline for leisure activities such as hiking. However, the Club was only exclusive in regard to wealth and apparently did not have a restrictive membership. The Club membership was quite diverse for a 1930s organization in that it contained a mixture of Christians, Jews, and members from other countries such as Japan.

In addition to the regular Sunday hikes, various social programs were held monthly or bimonthly, many times at a member's home. These programs were varied but usually involved invited lecturers or



**Typical CMC hike in the late 1940s  
This one to Ogle Meadows**

sometimes slide shows of various exotic trips from around the world that members had taken. It was not uncommon for members to resign from the CMC in order to take an extended trip to a far away place. The CMC membership of the 1930s contained some of the more wealthy and prominent members of the Asheville area. Names like Burnham Colburn of the Colburn Mineral Museum, Morris Lipinsky whose family was the founder of Bon Marche stores and would later be honored by the University of North Carolina-Asheville, and many Asheville physicians were on the roles.

The CMC members were also a very social and tight-knit group. Square dancing was an extremely popular activity after the annual meetings and other special events. In fact, the CMC budget always had funding allocated to square dance callers or something related. Also, many annual meetings made reference to learning the "latest" dance steps such as the Big Apple and the Lambeth Walk. The annual meetings sometimes were the scene of a talent show where members would perform various singing and dancing routines or good natured skits about CMC members. Another interesting annual event was the opossum hunt that was held on a club member's private land.

Although the CMC was a very social group, the membership of the 1930s was also extremely active in preserving and protecting the beauty of the western North Carolina Mountains. Nowhere was this more evident than in CMCs involvement with the

Appalachian Trail (AT). In fact the primary project of the CMC in the 1930s was getting the AT routed, marked, measured and maintained in North Carolina. The CMCs share back then was from the Virginia line to the Smokies. From there the Smoky Mountains Hiking Club of Knoxville took over to Deal's Gap. Then CMC backtracked across the Cheoahs and climbed the Nantahalas past Standing Indian to the Georgia line. In cooperation with the U. S. Forest Service, this work was completed by the middle 1930s. However, re-routing of the trail and maintenance continued as these activities do today. To assist in these efforts, the CMC enlisted the help of the many Civilian Conservation Corp (CCC) camps that were located throughout the mountains. Many CMC members took part but names like George Masa, George Stephens, Roger Morrow, Marcus Book, and Arch Nichols were the driving force.

CMC also was politically motivated toward conservation in the 1930s and stated in a 1932 letter to District Forester in Washington, D.C. that "...the Club approves and wishes to cooperate and help in any way for the preservation of virgin timber throughout the forests of western North Carolina." Dr. Gaillard Tennent was a major leader in this effort. He was commended by the U.S. Forest Service for assisting in the acquisition of a large virgin poplar stand in Graham County in 1936. Although not mentioned this may have been the purchase for Joyce Kilmer Memorial Forest. The Club also went on record as opposing any roads east of Newfound Gap along the high mountain peaks of the Smokies but supported the Scenic Parkway (Blue Ridge Parkway) entering the Smokies at Soco Gap. The Club also took a stand against the development of an artificial lake in the Smokies (likely Fontana) and also was opposed to a \$1.00 annual admission fee or \$.25 per visit fee to enter the Great Smokies National Park.

The history of the CMC during the Depression years would not be complete without mention of the death of George Masa and the Club's tedious efforts to have his body exhumed and moved to Bryson City, North Carolina. George Masa was a professional photographer and a major figure in the early history of the Club. In fact it has been suggested that his striking photographs of the western mountains of North Carolina were a significant influence in the

establishment of the Great Smokies National Park. His camera and his motto: "more walk, less talk," became legends of the Club.

Mr. Masa died July 7, 1933. He was of Japanese descent and because his family lived in Osaka, Japan, the CMC paid for his funeral expense. In 1938, the CMC thought it would be appropriate to honor Masa by erecting a monument at his grave to consist of a large boulder and bronze plaque. This effort was expanded in 1939 to exhume his body from Riverside Cemetery in Asheville and move it to Bryson City, North Carolina. There, it would be placed next to his friend and another Club legend, Horace Kephart who had died earlier. This had been Mr. Masa's wish shortly before he died. A claim of \$100 was filed against Masa's estate in 1938 and was received in order to pay in part for the Club's funeral expense in 1933 and also the memorial boulder. The logistics and expense of this effort dragged on through the years. The Club was prepared to expend the funds in 1941. But by the end of the year the second World War had begun. In 1942, Mr. Masa's memorial fund money was diverted, along with other Club funds, to buy \$296 of War Bonds. Although not mentioned in the written history, it is likely that strong feelings of the U.S. against the Japanese had an influence on this decision. Mr. Masa would have to wait until after World War II for his memorial.

## Post-War Prosperity: 1946-61

The first formal meeting of the CMC since Club activities were suspended in 1943 occurred on March 20, 1946. Arch Nichols was re-elected president of the Club. Throughout the remainder of the 1940s decade, many of the activities of the 1930s continued. These included the Club's primary mission of Sunday hikes, maintaining the AT, and promoting conservation. But also social events like square dancing and annual opossum hunts continued. Shortages after the war resulted in some transportation problems to and from hikes. The hiring of buses was considered but the expense was too great. The years after the war saw the election of the first female president of the CMC. Ruth Brothers assumed the resigning Arch Nichols' position in 1948 and was re-elected by the membership the following two years.

In the year 1947, George Masa finally received his memorial. The CMC purchased a marker and placed it at his grave located in Riverside Cemetery. But the saga of George Masa does not end here for in 1958 the CMC initiated a plan to have a prominent mountain named in honor of him. This began another laborious effort spearheaded by CMC member Dr. Samuel Robinson. After much effort, Dr. Robinson's work culminated in 1961 by the naming of Masa Knob for an unnamed heavily wooded peak in Great Smokies National Park.

The location of Masa Knob was significant in that it was very close to Mount Kephart which was named for Mr. Masa's close friend Horace Kephart. Mr. Kephart was an early CMC member and nationally renowned author of such works as Camping and Woodcraft and Our Southern Highlanders. It has been



**Duck Hawk Rock in the Smokies  
On Alum Cave Trail to Mt. LeConte**

stated that Masa and Kephart were both extremely active in the 1931 merger of the two hiking clubs and both worked hard to establish the Great Smokies National Park. This was a very symbolic gesture in that both these mountains were prominent peaks of over 6,000 feet in Smokies and it was George Masa's dying wish that he be laid to rest next to his friend Horace Kephart.

Other mountains over 6,000 feet have been named for two additional CMC members. Dr. Chase Ambler, one of the founders of the original CMC, was honored by a mountain in the Smokies called Mt. Ambler. It has been stated that he was one of the first to promote the idea of a Great Smokies National Park. In 1961, he was honored again by the U.S. Forest Service by the placement of a plaque in his memory at Curtis Creek in the Pisgah National Forest. In 1956, Arch Nichols succeeded in a 3-year effort to get a 6,040 foot unnamed peak near Black Balsam named for Dr. Gaillard Tennent who had died in 1953. As has been previously stated, Dr. Tennent had led many conservation efforts throughout his 30 years with the CMC.

The CMC continued to be very active during the 1950s and 1960s promoting conservation efforts in the western North Carolina mountains. The CMC supported successful efforts in designating the 7,600 acre Linville Gorge Wilderness in 1951 and the 13,400 acre Shining Rock Wilderness in the early 1960s. From efforts begun by CMC in the 1950s, the Craggy Mountain Scenic Area was established by the U.S. Forest Service, first in 1958 as a 17.8 acre natural area of virgin hemlocks near the Carter Creek Waterfall. In 1961, through the persistent efforts of member Jerome Dykeman, this area was expanded to approximately 950 acres.

As the prosperity of the nation grew in the 1950s, so did the need for new roads to handle the influx of visitors and automobiles into the North Carolina mountains. CMC took varied stances on road construction but usually was in favor of keeping roads off the high mountain peaks and routing them in the valleys below. The Club also opposed a 1955 proposed toll on the Blue Ridge Parkway.

The proposed road which brought the greatest controversy among CMC members was the disputed

north shore road along Fontana Lake. This much-debated road was promised to Swain County by the Federal Government in return for land taken when Fontana Lake was built. CMC's stance was to take no official action due to the political nature of the road.



**Swimming at Lower Whitewater Falls during a CMC Outing**

However, the overwhelming majority of attendees at the CMC annual meeting of 1960 were against the road. Emotions were high and this resulted in a letter being drafted to North Carolina Governor Hodges stating that CMC was opposed to the road along the north shore. Similar to controversy that still occurs today over the road, some members who were not at the annual meeting were quite displeased with the resolution sent to the governor. This resulted in much debate in future Council meetings over the appropriateness of resolutions of such political nature.

Work on the AT took on a new dimension after the war largely due to the efforts of Arch Nichols. In the

1940s, the AT was reported to be in very bad condition. Substantial efforts were made by the CMC to keep the trail open and in the 1950s it became one of the Clubs primary responsibilities. Throughout its history, the CMC actively participated in the Appalachian Trail Conference (ATC), supporting it both financially and through attendance at various ATC meetings.

## **Permanence and Change: 1962-1993**

The 30 year period beginning in the 1960s has seen the continuation of many of the goals set out by the original CMC of the 1920s and 1930s. But there have been many changes in Club philosophy brought about by the large increase in membership of CMC and changes in political views of the country.

One goal that did not change but one that has intensified during CMCs existence has been the Club's stance on preserving and protecting the natural beauty of the North Carolina mountains. Nowhere has this been more evident than in CMC's commitment to the AT. CMC has volunteered hundreds of thousands of hours in physical labor in maintaining its sections of the AT. This has involved countless efforts to re-route the trail due many times to the construction of new roads. In 1964, it was stated that 49 of the 80 miles that CMC actively maintained, had been rebuilt in recent years. The CMC also built, and rebuilt due to vandalism, many new trail shelters. CMC was one of the first clubs to adopt the "overseer" system of trail maintenance. This involved assigning an individual member a 3 to 5 mile segment of a trail. Prior to 1964, the CMC membership as a group maintained its section of AT as one large trail system. The overseer system not only divided the AT into manageable segments, it also created a personalized sense of pride and ownership of the trail which proved to be very effective.

The CMC has assisted in giving future direction to the AT by its political activity through the ATC. This has involved the membership on key ATC committees of several CMCers like Arch Nichols, Sara Davis, and John Dickson. But it has also involved the Club's active support of various AT projects. The most notable was CMC's support of the Appalachian Trail

Bill of 1965 which was to adequately protect and preserve the character of the AT for foot travelers. The CMC also actively supported the 1976 Corridor Project of the ATC which required an inventory of a 200-yard corridor along the AT to comply with the National Scenic Trail Act.

The CMC has played an important role in acquiring and protecting key pieces of property along the AT. Most notably was the Club's support for acquiring the Peake property in the Highlands and Roan Mountain area. Off-the-road vehicles and horses produced major damage to portions of the AT such as at Max Patch. The CMC devised compromise solutions for multi-use which usually satisfied all parties. And when the threat of oil and gas exploration loomed along the Trail in the early 1980s, CMC took an active stance in protecting the AT from potential damage.

In addition to the AT, CMC also continued the conservation practices of its past by supporting and sponsoring various legislation for other mountain projects. The CMC went on record in 1965 as opposing a planned trans-mountain road across the high peaks of the Smokies. In fact, the CMC printed a detailed 8 page brochure in 1967 which vigorously but tactfully expressed the Club's opposition to this road and the road along the north shore of Fontana Lake. The proposal also explained an alternative route in great detail. The Club opposed the 1977 Appalachian Corridor K Highway Project which was to do much environmental damage to the Nantahala



**CMC Trail Work on the AT in 1958  
Near Sam's Gap**

Gorge. CMC supported the Craggy Mountain Wilderness Study Area of 1981 and contributed financially to saving the Horsepasture River from development in 1985.

Continuing a long-standing tradition, another CMC member was honored on November 9, 1969 by the naming of a trail in the honor of Art Loeb, who had died a year earlier. The 28-mile Art Loeb Trail, which begins near the Davidson River in Brevard and ends atop Cold Mountain in the Shining Rock Wilderness, was dedicated to Loeb who was known as a champion of conservation.

A major project begun by the CMC in the late 1970s was the Club's involvement in the original planning of the Mountains to The Sea trail system. Arch Nichols was a major force in initiating this trail building effort which continues today. As the name implies, the goal of the project was to build a trail across North Carolina from the mountains to the sea. During the 1980s and continuing today, many CMCers have spent countless hours first assisting in the routing of the trail, followed by actual construction, and finally maintaining the trail for hiker use. By mid 1993, CMC had already completed 115 of the 125 miles for which the Club had responsibility. Due to Nichols' devotion to both the AT and this trail, a large section of the Mountains to The Sea trail from Mt Pisgah to Mt Mitchell was dedicated to him shortly after his death in 1989. A plaque honoring his achievements was placed along the trail at Asheville's Folk Art Center.

Another major accomplishment of the CMC was the publication in 1968 of the popular self-guiding map entitled "100 Favorite Trails of the Great Smokies and the Carolina Blue Ridge." This was published by George Stephens and edited by Bernard Elias, both past CMC presidents. The map was so popular with Club members and tourists that it was updated by Elias annually with over 12,000 copies being printed in 1976 alone. The map, although no longer updated, completed a long standing CMC project first proposed in the 1930s, to develop a hiking guide for the mountains. In 1955, an effort was launched to produce a guide called "My Ten Favorite Hikes Around Asheville" and it is possible that the "100 Favorite Trails" map had its origins from this.



**CMC Cabin at Big Ivy Campground in the early 1970s**

Although its number and frequency have increased over the years, another area that has remained permanent with the CMC has been the regularly scheduled hikes. CMC scheduled 160 hikes per year in the 1990s. These included a half-day and all-day hike every Sunday, an all-day Wednesday hike, and an all-day hike on the last Saturday of each quarter. All hikes are led by a volunteer hike leader, who is responsible for guiding the group. As can be expected there have been some broken bones and lost hikers through the years which have resulted in some unacclaimed heroes who have given a helping hand. But, remarkably there is no record of any death occurring on a CMC sponsored hike. Probably the most severe accident that occurred was on a hike to Rumbling Bald in 1975, when Bernard Elias slipped and fell over a 100 foot waterfall. Elias broke his hip in the fall and was ably assisted from 4:30 to 10PM by Margaret Scowden, a nurse who was along on the hike that day. Fortunately, Elias recovered and continues to be avid hiker to this day.

Several areas in Club philosophy have changed during its history. As described above, the 1920s CMC was primarily interested in maintaining cabins for its membership. Probably due to the expense, the CMC lost the lease on its cabins in 1935. In 1962, Jerome Dykeman led an effort to lease another cabin from the U.S. Forest Service in the Big Ivy Campground. The lease on the cabin was only \$25 per year but the cabin was in great disrepair and required considerable expenditure of Club funds to put it in order. This led to the fieriest debate in Club history, taking place at

the 1962 annual meeting. A brief synopsis was that Dykeman procured an electric water pump for the cabin apparently without the direct approval of the CMC Council. The pump cost \$125 and was extremely expensive representing almost 50 percent of the Club's annual income and 15 percent of the Club's reserve bank account. Arch Nichols led the opposition to this purchase lambasting Dykeman at great length for this unapproved purchase. This led to the taking of sides of the 103 attendees at the annual meeting likely resulting in many hard feelings among the membership. In the end the Club survived and so did the cabin, at least until the 1976 when the lease was not renewed.

A major change in Club philosophy had its origins with the change of the country's political view in the 1980s. When the Reagan administration took office in 1981, one of its major aims was the shift of government sponsored projects to private citizens and organizations. This and other factors resulted in severe budget cuts to federal agencies such as the U.S. Forest Service. With less resources, the Forest Service was forced to perform only work which was most critical to its mission and eliminate tasks such as trail maintenance and construction. In fact, it was stated in CMC Council meetings of the early 1980s that the Forest Service was now doing nothing in regard to trail maintenance and it was recommended that one third of all the Club's future efforts be shifted to trail work. As it continues today, the CMC had always maintained a very close working relationship with the Forest Service and National Parks Service through joint trail projects and safety programs. Although the CMC considered trail work a high priority as exemplified by its support for the AT, the 1980s saw a shift from trail work performed by the government to work performed by private sector.

In the 1980s, the CMC was actively maintaining a 92 miles of the AT, the Art Loeb trail, and other minor trail systems. The Club had also begun the construction of the Mountains to the Sea Trail which required tremendous volunteer resources. As a result, various CMC work teams were evolving. In 1993, there were three work teams composed primarily of retirees who volunteer an entire day of every week for trail work. During 1992, CMC members spent more than 14,000 hours on trail work. As the network of CMC trails expanded in the 1980s, the need for more

trail maintainers using the overseer concept also increased. As a result, a continuing need for volunteer work was ever present. This resulted in the passing of a controversial change in the CMC By-laws in 1992 requiring each prospective new member to participate in a single work trip in addition to the other



**Past CMC Presidents: 1963 Annual Meeting**  
**How many can you identify?**  
**Answer on page 10**

requirements. The idea behind this change was to expose the membership to the importance of not only being a hiker but also the responsibility of maintaining trails.

The CMC membership has also undergone dramatic changes during its history. From an exclusive organization of prominent Asheville citizens, the membership changed to the more common man after the World War. Since the 1960s, over half of the CMC membership is now from places other than Western North Carolina. In fact, if a profile of the typical CMCer were taken today, the individual would likely be a retiree who moved to the mountains within the last 10 years.

The number of members grew rapidly. The CMC broke the 100 member level in 1960 and peaked at more than 500 members in 1987. The membership then declined and in 1993, there were fewer than 450 members. The decline in members may have been caused by several factors. In 1988, the Council decided to no longer advertise any of the Club's hikes. This decision was the result of 109 hikers attending a

heavily-advertised half day Sunday hike to Bat Cave. There was intentional destruction done to the cave and wildflowers along the trail, reportedly by non-club members. This ended a long-standing Club tradition of promoting its hikes to attract new members. Another reason for the membership decline may have been the successive increases in annual dues. The annual dues rose from \$5.00 to \$7.50 in 1987 and to \$12.00 in 1991. Although still low compared to many hiking clubs, some members may have been



**East Fork of the Pigeon River  
Bridge Build by the CMC in the 1990s**

troubled by the 140% increase in a 4-year period and chose not to renew their membership. A final reason for the decline may have been the 1992 bylaw change requiring a work trip. Many prospective members are new to the area and are not zealous hikers. They join the CMC as a social experience. It is possible that the bylaw change lessen the number of future members coming from this faction.

## **1994-2003: Ten Year Update**

During the last tens years, CMC has continued its significant role in Western North Carolina's heritage. The Club has also continued its national influence in promoting and protecting the mountains of North Carolina through its hiking programs, conservation efforts, and trail work.

Foremost on the mind of CMC in 1994 was membership. The decline in CMC membership that began in the late 1980s was seen as a threat to the Club's existence and was vigorously addressed. By June 1994, club membership had further declined to approximately 400 which was more than a 20% drop from the peak in 1987. A committee was appointed to develop a plan to reverse the decline and attract new members to the Club. The committee proposed CMC Bylaw changes that removed the work trip requirement for membership. It also proposed the creation of an Associate Member category for those who just wanted to receive the *Let's Go*. These bylaw changes were approved at the November 1994 Annual Meeting and were an immediate success. A total of 469 members were on the roles by August 1995 and 545 members by 1998. To simplify the membership process even further, the bylaws were again changed in 1998 to the requirement of just completing a membership application form and submitting payment for dues.

As during the 1930s, there were other strategies to attract new members. Social activities were proposed such as weekend outings, backpacking, biking, after dinner hikes, rafting, and canoe trips in addition to evening programs with speakers. Many of these events were scheduled. CMC also reinstated the practice of advertising the Club in local newspapers reversing its 1988 decision against this. These activities resulted in a stable CMC membership with more than 550 on the roles in 2003.

With the membership issues addressed, CMC financial resources were increasing back to levels that would support the Club's activities. Additional resources were required for trail building and maintenance efforts which increased dramatically during the last ten years. In fact, many members would agree that CMC's volunteer involvement with

trails was the highlight of the last decade and has transitioned into a main focus of the Club. In 1992, CMC trail volunteers and construction crews logged 12,432 hours. By 1999, the number of work hours had almost doubled to 23,946 which is equivalent to about 12 people working full time each year.

CMC's volunteer hours with trails increased as its accountability for the number of trail miles maintained also increased. Back in the early days of the Club, responsibility for trail maintenance only included the AT, currently 92 miles of trail. This responsibility expanded through the years. As was stated above, in the 1980s CMC was also maintaining the 28-mile Art Loeb Trail and other minor trail systems in the Pisgah National Forest. The MST trail system would almost double CMC's trail building and maintenance responsibilities and place a heavy burden on the Club in terms of the volunteers needed. This was a burden that CMC would relish.

The MST trail system required CMC members to build new trails and connect existing trails that would produce a trail network across North Carolina. These trails then required continuous maintenance in order to keep them open for hiking. By 2003, CMC would be responsible for approximately 180 miles of the MST in Western North Carolina from Heintooga Road near Soco Gap to the Black Mountain Campground near Mt. Mitchell. Totaling all the trail networks, there are now about 400 miles of trail that CMC must actively maintain.

Trail maintenance work involves basically two types of efforts: adopting a piece of trail of usually a few miles or joining one of the work crews that meets once a week. In 2003, there were more than 100 trail maintainers and several work crews. Although many names could be cited, the long term leadership behind trail efforts during the last ten years has been Harlow Hoskins, Al Kohan, Bob Johnson, Howard McDonald, Dick Roberts, Phil Smith, and Sherman Stambaugh. These individuals and many others not named have put in numerous hours of volunteer work in leading CMC's trail maintenance and constructions teams.

A major loss to CMC trail efforts occurred on October 26, 2001 with the death of Phil Smith. Smith's death left a major void in trail leadership. The Phil Smith Memorial Fund was established by CMC shortly after

his death and is dedicated to the purchase of supplies and equipment for trail maintenance crews.

CMC lost another key member on March 6, 1999 with the death of Alan Barton. Barton was CMC president from 1976-77 and also a Hike Coordinator for many years, leading numerous hikes himself. In his memory, CMC established the Alan Barton Memorial Fund. This began a 4-year effort led by Don Walton to determine an appropriate use for the funds. Initial plans were to contribute to the construction of a footbridge across the North Fork of the Catawba River on the MST and have the bridge named after Barton. Since U.S. Forest Service policy would not allow Barton's name to be used, it was decided to use a portion of the funds for information signage at Rattlesnake Lodge on the MST. This was considered very appropriate since the Lodge was originally owned by Dr. Chase Ambler, one of CMC's founding members. It has also been a popular CMC hike for decades. His grandson and CMC member, A. Chase Amber, Jr. wrote "History of Rattlesnake Lodge" in 1994 (<http://www.rattlesnakelodge.com>) and also agreed this would be a fitting tribute to Barton. The balance of the funds was used for a web cam on Mt. Mitchell and interpretive signage on the Balsam Nature Trail with appropriate mention of Barton.



**Rattlesnake Lodge Information Signage  
Alan Barton Memorial**

Leadership in AT activities and conservation efforts continued as important CMC tasks. CMC leadership on the ATC was strong in 1995 with the election of Bill Keesee to the Board, Sara Davis as Secretary, and Art Foley as Treasurer. In 1997, CMC provided much of the funding to clear the 40 acres on Big Bald in order to maintain the vistas along the AT. In addition, CMC was instrumental in the relocating the AT at Sam's Gap as an underpass for the new Interstate 26. And in August 2003, CMC's 4-year effort to relocate the AT at Firescald Ridge was dedicated. This was an idea first conceived more than ten years ago and now provides one of the most spectacular vistas on the AT.

CMC was instrumental in a 1997 letter writing campaign to then Governor Hunt and North Carolina State Representatives to support the preservation of the Jocassee Gorges area. In 1998 it participated with the WENOCA chapter of the Sierra Club in attending a Jocassee Gorges Camporee to promote the sale of the property from Duke Energy to the State of North Carolina. And in 1999, it offered its support to North Carolina in providing CMC trail maintainers for the new Gorges State Park. Also in 1999, CMC was commended by the ATC for assisting in getting the funds appropriated for the purchase of the Gulf Tract property bordering the AT in Tennessee. In 2002, CMC joined the American Hiking Society which is a coalition of hiking and trail maintenance groups protecting America's footpaths.

In order to promote hiking in Western North Carolina, there were several hiking books published by CMC members. "The Mountains-to-the Sea Trail: Western North Carolina's Rival to the Appalachian Trail" was published in 1998 by John Hillyer and Don Dossey. The 238 page book provided an excellent history of the MST and also CMCs involvement in the original planning and construction. In 1999, Walt Weber's "Trail Profiles of the Mountains to the Sea Trail" was published in which the Club received profits that could be used for its activities. Plans are now being made to update this very popular book to include profiles of side trails, new sections, topographic maps, and descriptions. And in 2000, a Blue Ridge Parkway brochure was printed describing 30 CMC hikes along the MST.

During the last ten years, hiking programs were also created or revitalized by CMC. The 1970s program

"South Beyond 6,000" was brought back into the spotlight in 1997 with a new booklet and web site describing the program. This program involves hiking forty mountains over 6,000 feet that are located in North Carolina and Tennessee. To commemorate the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of CMC, the "92 in 98" campaign was implemented. This involved hiking all 92 miles of the AT that CMC maintained in 1998. A new program has been developed called "Pisgah 400 Program" which involves issuing a challenge to members to hike all 400 miles of trail in the Pisgah District of the Pisgah National Forest.

CMC continued to receive numerous awards for its volunteerism and public service both as an organization and for individual members. The Club received the J.C. Penney Golden Rule Award in 1997 for appreciation for public service. Dr. Ed Dunn received Honorable Mention for this same award in 1999 for his long-term volunteer activities. In 2000, CMC received the Award of Excellence from the Blue Ridge Parkway for construction and maintenance of trails on Parkway property. Sherman Stambaugh received the 2002 Volunteer of Year Award for North Carolina from the American Hiking Society for his efforts in preserving and maintaining America's trails. And in 2003, Lew Blodgett, Jim Bloom, Ed Dunn, John Hillyer, and Sherman Stambaugh were recognized by the ATC with a Silver Award denoting at least 25 years service to that organization.

Closer to home, CMC established its own awards in the 2000 to honor its members. The Distinguished Service Award was designed for long term and extraordinary service. The Award of Appreciation was designed for exceptional service in the past year. The first Distinguished Service Award and Award of Appreciation were made to Dr. Dunn and Walt Weber, respectively.

CMC entered the electronic age in 1994 with the purchase of the Club's first personal computer for \$2,200. In August 1998, the CMC website was up and running at [www.carolinamtclub.org](http://www.carolinamtclub.org) Don Walton spearheaded this effort and was honored in 2001 with the CMC Award of Appreciation for creating and maintaining the site. To allow more frequent communication with its membership, in 2002 CMC also implemented email addresses on its membership web page and then began issuing weekly

messages concerning the latest news about hikes and activities. In addition, CMC web site has a searchable data base of 300 hikes with very detailed descriptions about these hikes.

The history of CMC and its importance to our local heritage received a much greater emphasis during the last ten years. In 1999, an arrangement was made with long-time member Elizabeth Parker to transfer her collection of *Let's Go* and related publications to CMC. Remarkably, Parker had kept a complete set beginning in 1948 when she first became a member. The 1960-2000 subset was donated to Asheville's Pack Library and placed on the North Carolina Reference Section shelves to accompany the 1931-1959 set that was compiled by Jerome Dykeman in the 1960s. This was a major accomplishment since these publications provide a comprehensive history of Club activities.

In an effort to further preserve CMC's history for future generations, the Club entered into a mutual agreement with the University of North Carolina at Asheville (UNCA) to house and make accessible the Club's collection of historical documents, photographs, and other material. The collection is now a part of the Special Collections & University Archives of the D. Hiden Ramsey Library at UNCA (<http://toto.lib.unca.edu/>) under the category Manuscripts. Long-time club member Bernard Elias initiated the agreement. In 2002, Pete Steurer was named CMC Club Historian, a post that had been largely vacant since the 1970s after the death of the former historian, Jerome Dykeman. Steurer organized and inventoried the collection, and presented it to UNCA in December 2002. The CMC collection prior to reorganization consisted of three 2-drawer file cabinets, one 4-drawer file cabinet and numerous boxes of assorted sizes. After reorganization, the collection presented to UNCA consists of 19 boxes with the content of each box fully described and accessible at either the CMC or UNCA web sites.

The exact locations of the CMC history collection over the last 80 years remain a mystery. Since CMC never had a physical office except for possibly in the very early years, the club's records have been relocated throughout its history. The full details of these relocations have not been documented. It is

known that since the 1990s, the CMC records were transferred from CMC club president to president. CMC president, Howard McDonald, retained the collection after his term and had provided stewardship since 1997.



**Smiling Blaze on the MST**

The Club's history records were an integral part of a 2003 documentary film entitled "The Mystery of George Masa." As stated above, Masa was a prominent CMC member and his striking photographs of the Western North Carolina Mountains may have had a key role in the establishment of the Great Smokies National Park. In 2001, CMC entered into an agreement with Bonesteel Productions to sponsor the film by allowing financial donations for the Masa film to flow through CMC in order to receive tax advantages. CMC then would receive credit for the film. The Masa film was shown on North Carolina Public Television in 2003 and provided very favorable comments about CMC and Masa's involvement with the Club.

The regular weekly CMC hikes continued to be a mainstay of the Club and its members. Due to the revitalization of downtown Asheville and the resulting lack of parking, the Sunday meeting place was moved from the Grove Arcade building to Westgate Shopping Center in 1996. This changed a decades old tradition. And in 1999, the Wednesday hikes no longer met at Fleming Street in Hendersonville with the location being set by the hike leader.

Safety and the training associated with it have always been of paramount importance to CMC. For many years, CMC sponsored hike leader training courses for new and also veteran hike leaders. To address liability issues concerning hiking, the wording about CMC's regular weekly hikes was changed in the *Let's Go*. In 2000, the words "trips are made regardless of weather" were changed to "hikes may be cancelled due to weather." Also in 2000, the sign-up sheet for each CMC-sponsored hike was changed to include emergency contact information for each hiker. And in 2002, CMC subsidized and endorsed 30 hike leaders and trail maintainers to attend a Wilderness First Aid Training course. CMC is now in the process of developing an Educational and Training Committee. With the increased public use of trails that is expected, there will be increased pressure on these limited trail resources. This committee will provide the planning that will address higher use of trails and also address the training needs for our trail volunteers.

The volunteer aspects of CMCs existence were tested in 1997 when several key CMC members left the club. Hike leaders and schedulers were in short supply for much of 1998 resulting in many regular Sunday hikes being cancelled. As in the past, strong leadership and persistent efforts by the Club brought in new leaders to carry on the CMC tradition.

## Future

One can only speculate on what future direction the CMC will take. As can be seen from its past, the CMC has seen triumphs and struggles throughout its 80-year history. But one must look at the main enticement that brought the membership together in

the beginning and that which has kept it strong for 80 years: the mountains of North Carolina. As long as these mountains exist and there are people to enjoy them, then in some form a Carolina Mountain Club will exist.

## History Sources

Information used in compiling this history was obtained from two primary and two secondary sources. The first primary source was the official minutes of club meetings. The second primary source included hike schedules and related information available from Club records and the North Carolina Reference section of Asheville's Pack Library. Secondary sources included two previous club histories written by George Sanders in 1953 and George Stephens in 1963 which commemorated the 30th and 40th anniversaries of the CMC, respectively.

Credit goes to Bill Kirkman for the photographs of Upper Whitewater Falls, Ogle Meadows, and the 1958 AT work. Bernard Elias supplied the photographs for Lower Whitewater Falls, the cabin, Duck Hawk Rock, the river bridge, and the Annual Meeting. Don Walton supplied the Barton Memorial photograph and the Smiley Blaze photograph was supplied by Jeff Brewer, president of the Friends of the Mountains to Sea Trail organization. The past presidents in the 1963 photograph are standing left to right, George Stephens, H.A. Haseltine, Arch Nichols, Caroll Cromwell, Piercy Carter, Edward Lyngholm and seated left to right, Jerome Dykeman, Ruth Morrow, Roger Morrow, O.C. Barker, and Verne Rhodes.

This history would not be complete without a word of praise for Jerome Dykeman. Dykeman was a CMC historian who quietly but tediously prepared extensive and well-organized Club records for the period through 1965. At that time, he became less active with the Club due to his advancing age. He died in 1973. Without Mr. Dykeman's detailed work, much of CMCs past would have been lost, as it is sometimes lost with each passing member.

# **BYLAWS OF THE CAROLINA MOUNTAIN CLUB, INCORPORATED**

**(Adopted as revised and amended 7 January 1957)**

**(Amended 17 November 1973)**

**(Amended 12 November 1983)**

**(Amended 26 October 1985)**

**(Amended 7 November 1987)**

**(Amended 9 November 1991)**

**(Amended 11 November 1994)**

**(Amended 13 November 1998)**

**(Amended 12 November 1999)**

## **ARTICLE I – NAME AND LOCATION**

The name of this organization shall be the Carolina Mountain Club, Incorporated.

## **ARTICLE II – OBJECTS**

The objects of this organization shall be to explore the mountains of Western North Carolina and adjacent regions through its hiking trails and rivers, to carry out the responsibilities we have been given by the Appalachian Trail Conference to develop and maintain our assigned section of the Appalachian Trail and to act as its stewards, to develop and maintain other hiking trails in Western North Carolina as approved by the Club Council, to encourage the conservation of our natural scenery, to foster in Club members knowledge and enjoyment of hiking, trail construction and maintenance, and fellowship and enjoyment of the out-of-doors.

In order to fully prosecute these objects, the organization shall have full power and authority to purchase, own, lease, or dispose of all kinds of property, both real and personal, and generally to perform all acts which may be deemed necessary for the proper fulfillment of these objects.

## **ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP**

Any person is eligible for membership by completing a membership application form and submitting payment of the prescribed annual dues. Any name may be dropped from the membership list for non-payment of dues by mid-year, and may be reinstated upon payment of such dues. A

membership may be canceled for cause upon a two-thirds vote of the Council. Thirty days notice will be given to such member, in writing to his or her last known post office address, of the cause and the Council meeting at which such motion will be voted upon.

The dues for membership shall be as set by the Council with approval of a majority of the Club membership present at any regular or special meeting.

The classifications of the Club membership shall be:

Individual Memberships  
Family Memberships  
Associate Memberships  
Life Memberships

Each Individual Membership and each Family Membership will be entitled to one vote in Club matters and will be entitled to one mailing of all Club notices and publications. Associate Memberships are not entitled to vote in club matters or to receive Club notices but are entitled to receive Club publications and a membership packet. A Life Membership is granted by the Council to a Club member in recognition of long and extraordinary service to the Club. A Life Member enjoys full benefits of membership of the Club without payment of dues.

## **ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS AND COUNCIL**

The Officers of the Club shall be a President, a Vice President, a Secretary and a Treasurer. The Officers

shall administer the affairs of the Club under the direction of a governing body known as the Council, consisting of the four Officers of the Club with the President serving as Chairman, together with six other Councilors. Six members of the Council shall constitute a quorum. The four Officers and six additional Council members shall be elected at the annual meeting of the Club each year beginning on January first following their election.

In the event of the resignation or death of any Officer or Councilor, the President may appoint a successor to serve until the next election. In the event of the resignation or death of the President, the Council may appoint a successor to serve until the next election. Unless excused by the Council, absence of an Officer or Councilor from three successive meetings shall be deemed a resignation.

Regular meetings of the Council shall be held on four days notice to its members by the President. Special meetings may be called by the President or by a quorum of the Council on three days notice to each Councilor.

#### **ARTICLE V – COMMITTEES**

As far as is expedient, the President shall appoint the Vice President and the six Councilors as committee chairmen and maintain standing committees as follows: Appalachian Trail, Hiking, Membership, Photography, Program, Publicity, and such other committees as may be deemed necessary for the efficient administration of the Club's affairs.

The President shall appoint a Historian, who shall keep records of the activities and accomplishments of the Club and who shall also act as Club Librarian.

The President shall appoint a Nominating Committee whose responsibility it will be to recommend to the general membership a slate of officers and council members to stand for election as provided in Article IV of these by-laws. The Nominating Committee shall consist of four members and the immediate past president of the Club, who shall serve as chair of the committee.

The chair shall not vote as a committee member except as necessary to break a tie vote of the committee. The selection of the committee shall be done to reflect, insofar as possible, the composition of the Club. The committee shall be appointed during the first quarter of the President's term.

The President shall appoint someone to be custodian of and responsible for the property and equipment owned by the Club. The Custodian shall keep an inventory of all such property and equipment.

#### **ARTICLE VI – RULES AND REGULATIONS**

The Council shall make such rules and regulations, as it deems advisable not inconsistent with the by-laws.

#### **ARTICLE VII – MEETINGS**

The annual meeting of the Club shall be held in the Fall of each year on a date to be selected by the Council. Special meetings of the Club may be called by the President upon one weeks notice by mail to all voting members, and shall be so called upon the petition of one-fifth of such members.

#### **ARTICLE VIII – AMENDMENT**

These by-laws may be amended by a two-thirds majority of the Club membership at any regular meeting of the membership of the Club, or at any adjourned session thereof, or at any special meeting called for said purpose, provided that before any such meeting, a notice of the subject matter of the proposed amendment to be voted on at such meeting be sent to each voting member of good standing at least ten days before such meeting. Any member may propose amendments to these by-laws. Before submitting amendments for the vote of the membership, the Council shall approve such amendments by a majority vote.

#### **ARTICLE IX – EFFECTIVE DATE**

These by-laws shall become effective upon approval by two-thirds of the Club members present at a meeting called for the purpose of its consideration.

**CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION**  
**OF**  
**CAROLINA MOUNTAIN CLUB, INCORPORATED**  
(As Amended 7 January 1957)  
(As Amended 6 January 1988)

This is to certify that we, the undersigned, do hereby associate ourselves into a non-stock corporation under and by virtue of the laws of the State of North Carolina, as contained in Chapter twenty-one of the Consolidated Statutes entitled "Corporations" and the several amendments thereto, and to that end do hereby set forth:

**I.**

The name of this corporation is Carolina Mountain Club, Incorporated.

**II.**

The location of the principal office of the corporation is 43 Grove Street, in the City of Asheville, County of Buncombe.

**III.**

The objects for which this corporation is formed are as follows:

To explore the mountains of Western North Carolina and adjacent regions through its hiking trails and rivers, to carry out the responsibilities we have been given by the Appalachian Trail Conference to develop and maintain the Appalachian Trail and to act as its stewards, to develop and maintain other hiking trails in Western North Carolina as approved by the Club Council, to encourage the conservation of our natural scenery, to foster in Club members knowledge and enjoyment of hiking, trail construction and maintenance, and fellowship and enjoyment of the out-of-doors. [As amended 1/6/88.]

And in order to properly prosecute the objects and purposes above set forth, the corporation shall have full power and authority to purchase, lease or otherwise dispose of all kinds of property, both real and personal, both in this State and all other States, territories and dependencies of the United States, and generally to perform all acts which may be deemed necessary for the proper and successful prosecution of the objects and purposes for which this corporation is created.

**IV.**

The corporation is to have no capital stock.

**V.**

The names and post office addresses of the incorporators are as follows:

Name	Post Office Address
G. S. Tennent	Asheville, NC
H. Taylor Rogers	Asheville, NC
Ray Mathewson	Asheville, NC
Verne Rhodes	Asheville, NC
Chase P. Ambler	Asheville, NC
Kingsland Van Winkle	Asheville, NC

**VI.**

The period of existence of this corporation is limited to thirty (30) years. (Extended an additional sixty (60) years by amendment of 1/7/57.)

**VII.**

Members may be admitted to the corporation, and membership in the corporation may be cancelled, in accordance with the provisions of the organization's by-laws.

**VIII.**

Neither the incorporator nor the members of this corporation shall be individually liable for its debts, defaults or other obligations.

In Testimony Whereof, we have hereunto set our hands and affixed our seals, this the 2nd day of Sept. A.D. 1924.

Galliard S. Tennent  
H. Taylor Rogers  
Ray Mathewson  
Verne Rhodes  
Chase P. Ambler  
Kingsland Van Winkle  
(Acknowledgement)