

Hike • Save Trails • Make Friends

Carolina Mountain Club eNews



August 2024



Rediscovering George Masa, Smoky Mountains Photographer: Iconic Photo's Location Identified

by David Huff

Exciting historical news! The location of an iconic photograph of George Masa, previously misidentified as being taken at Graybeard Mountain in Montreat, NC, was actually Blackstack Cliffs in Cherokee National Forest, Greene County, TN.

This photograph, taken over 90 years ago, is believed to have been captured while Masa was photographing and mapping the future route of the Appalachian Trail. We can now stand where Masa once stood—an exciting discovery indeed!

George Masa was an important early member of the CMC, advocating for the creation of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and the Appalachian National Scenic Trail. CMC members hiked with him and assisted in his photography and mapping endeavors. We believe the man sitting on the rock is CMC member and friend, Roger Morrow. CMC maintains the section of the A.T. that includes Blackstack Cliffs.

For Citizen-Times article, [click here](#).

Volunteer to Staff CMC Booth at 2024 Blue Ridge Pride Festival

Saturday, September 21st, 11am-6pm
Pack Square Park

This year CMC will join dozens of our fellow community organizations and businesses in support of our LGBTQ members and neighbors at the Blue Ridge Pride Festival in downtown Asheville. [Blue Ridge Pride](#) seeks "to promote equality, safety, and quality of life for western North Carolina's LGBTQ and allied communities". If you'd like to help promote inclusivity within the club and can speak to how CMC has contributed to your quality of life, please consider donating an hour or two to help staff our booth by signing up [here](#).



MAX PATCH
**6th Annual
Workday**

CAROLINA MOUNTAIN CLUB
100 YEARS
1923 - 2023




SAVE THE DATE!
Saturday September 28
National Public Lands Day

 **AllTrails** **Sawyer**



Monday Trail Maintenance Crew

by Jayne Carbone

The Monday crew is unique for several reasons including its rich history. It began with a synergy that combined the original Asheville Monday crew with the North Carolina High Peaks Trail Association (NCHPTA founded in Burnsville in 2010). Joining the two crews expanded the geography to include both the Carolina Mountain Club (CMC) trails in Yancey county and also the MST from Graybeard Overlook to Black Mountain Campground, the Big Butt Trail, and the Appalachian Trail (A.T.) from Devils Fork Gap to Spivey Gap. The fusion also added 60 more miles of trails in Yancey County including the Black Mountain Crest Trail, and all the trails that connect to it from the valley below, the Lost Cove Trail, the trails along the Blue Ridge Parkway (BRP) like Green Knob and Blue Ridge Pinnacle Trails. It's a diverse 100-mile blend of trails.

To read more, [click here.](#)



Rugby Middle School Expands Cross-Country Trail with Support from Carolina Mountain Club

by Jan Onan

Hendersonville, NC, July 14, 2024 – Rugby Middle School is excited to announce the expansion of its cross-country trail, thanks to the invaluable support from the Carolina Mountain Club (CMC). This initiative, spearheaded by West Henderson Cross Country Coach Aaron Saft, aims to revive high school cross-country meets at Rugby with a unique route winding through the woods. Unlike the flatter, grassy trails that have become common in recent years, Rugby's new trail emphasizes the experience of running through wooded terrain and hills.

To read more, [click here](#).

Asking again . . .

Award Nominations Needed

by Tom Weaver

Each year, a CMC Awards Committee reviews nominations for two special awards given by the club. Tom Weaver is the 2023 Committee Chairperson and has assembled a committee from last years award winners, including members from both hiking and trail maintenance.

If you know of a club member who you would like to nominate, please send their name, which of the awards you feel they should receive, and a brief reason why you feel they qualify for the award to Tom at tomjweaver@gmail.com. This year's recipients, will be announced at our annual meeting and dinner on November 2nd.

The nominations need to be submitted before October 1, 2024.

Further details on these awards can be found on the CMC website. See the link below.

<https://www.carolinamountainclub.org/index.cfm/do/pages.view/id/42/page/Service-Awards>

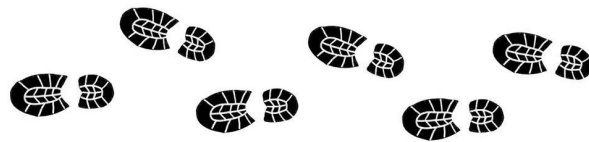
The Award of Appreciation can go to any member who, during the year prior to the Annual Meeting, has rendered such exceptional service to the operation of Carolina

Mountain Club that its goals were significantly advanced.

The Award of Distinction can go to a member who, during his/her membership, has made consistent and cumulative extraordinary contributions to the operation of the Club and to the achievement of its goals.

We are also looking for nominations for the Honorary Lifetime Award - nominations will be reviewed and decided on by the CMC Leadership Council.

We encourage CMC members to recognize your peers in their outstanding volunteer efforts in trail maintenance, hiking and conservation efforts.



NEW BOOTS ON THE GROUND

Volunteers Appointed Through July

TRAIL SECTION MAINTAINERS:

Paul Witty—One Tree Access to Two Trees Access, MST
Tara and Chris Wu—Tanyard Gap to Roundtop Ridge, AT
Dennis Boone—Roundtop Ridge to Hurricane Gap, AT
Bryson and Kelly Walker--Brown Gap to Max Patch Road, AT
Jayne Carbone—Rice Gap to Sams Gap, AT

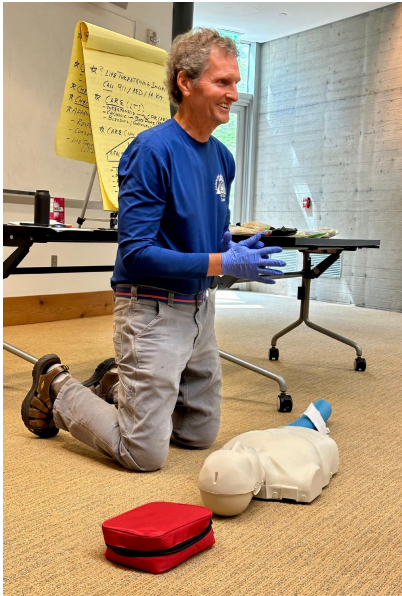
THANK YOU!



Help Wanted: Section Maintainers Needed!

The Club needs more section maintainers! Section Maintainers “adopt” a section of trail. Adoption includes (but is not limited to) quarterly walk-throughs, routine maintenance (tread, trimming, water diversions), and noting downed trees and other trail blockers. For complete adoption guidelines, see the Members’ Section of CMC’s webpage. Click on “Trail Work,” then “Trail Maintenance,” then “Extras.”

To see which sections need your help, [click here](#) and contact the Supervisors listed. Thanks!



DR. TOM BELT LEADS CMC FIRST AID TRAINING

by Kit Ogburn

The Carolina Mountain Club is very fortunate to have retired physician Tom Belt as the leader of its First Aid training. Tom became a CMC member in 2020, shortly after retiring. In Asheville and previously in Tyler, Texas, Tom's career spanned over three decades, specializing in geriatric and internal medicine. Tom grew up in Austin, Texas, where he attended the University of Texas and later medical school at UT Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas, followed by residency training in Augusta at the Medical College of Georgia. Tom says that he and his wife Donna were happy to eventually

land in Weaverville in 2017 after over thirty years of practice in Texas.

Tom assumed leadership of the CMC's First Aid program three years ago in 2021. At that time, he was already a dedicated member of the Asheville Thursday Trail Maintenance Crew and the maintainer of an adopted trail, the scenic Laurel River Trail near Hot Springs, so he understood the environment where CMC members work and hike, and he knew the importance of CMC members learning first aid skills. Tom brings a physician's perspective and a wealth of professional and practical knowledge to this role.

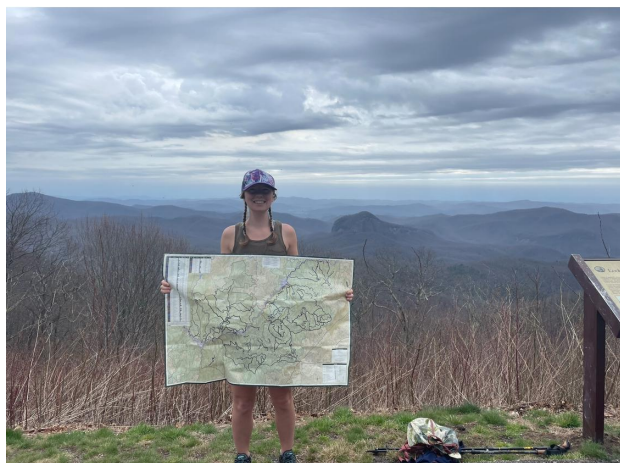
To read more, [click here](#).

The Joy of Hiking Challenges: Beyond the Familiar Path

By Marielle DeJong

From ages seven to seventeen, I hiked Looking Glass Rock trail more times than I can count. It was my home trail and where my earliest memories in Pisgah National Forest were made. However, I rarely thought of the

400+ miles of other trails in the Pisgah Ranger District waiting to be explored.



Fortunately, knowing and loving just one trail was enough to spark and nurture my love of Western North Carolina's expansive public lands. After high school, life took me to many other places, but my heart was always firmly rooted in the

Southern Appalachians. Sometimes it takes leaving a place to truly understand how special it is.

To read more, [click here](#).

Carolina Mountain Club eNews is published on the first Friday of each month. Members can send your news to eNews@carolinamountainclub.org. **Articles are due on the last Friday of the previous month.** Please limit articles to no more than 1,000 words. You may send up to two photos as jpg attachments. For members' address and email changes, log in, select "Modify Profile", make changes and click on "Update Member" or email Dennis Bass at dbass3607@gmail.com. Your email changes will be automatically reflected in eNews delivery.

About Carolina Mountain Club:

Hiking. CMC leads about 200 group hikes per year. Hikes are open to all, and we welcome guests (though please contact hike leader first). Hike information--including dates, times, meeting locations, scout reports, and leader contact information--can be found on the CMC website [here](#). Additional information about hiking can be found [here](#).

Trail maintenance. CMC maintains over 440 miles of trail in western NC. Individuals of all ages and groups/organizations are invited to participate. CMC membership is not required, and all required tools are provided. We have weekly crews every day of the week from Monday-Saturday, quarterly Saturday crews, and other special events. For those with busy or unpredictable schedules, we also have section maintainers who maintain a short portion of trail and/or report issues that require a larger work crew. To volunteer, please email volunteer@carolinamountainclub.org or visit [here](#) for more information.

Conservation. The CMC Conservation Committee advocates for the sustained natural beauty and access to our hiking areas. More information can be found [here](#) or by emailing Conservation@carolinamountainclub.org.

How to join the CMC

For just \$20 (\$30 Family) per year, you can join western North Carolina's oldest and largest hiking trail club. CMC members receive the *Let's Go!* quarterly hike schedule via email and have full access to member services on the CMC website. There is a link to join on the [CMC website](#).

Carolina Mountain Club | P.O. Box 68
Asheville, NC 28802
www.carolinamountainclub.org

[Let's Go!](#)



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Carolina Mountain Club | P.O. Box 68 | Asheville, NC 28802 US

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