

Hike • Save Trails • Make Friends

Carolina Mountain Club eNews



March 2024



Meet the Section Rovers Trail Maintenance Crew!

By Priscilla Estes

Section Rovers are roving trail maintainers, a merry band that travels hither and thither on Tuesdays and two Saturdays a month, dispensing brawn, brain, and training to crews in need of a helping hand. Rovers are an outgrowth of the Secondary Trail Program, which Rich Evans started as a training crew (with a “gentle” push from Les Love). Crews appreciated the training and cross pollination of ideas, and Section Rovers was born. “We are section maintainers who help one another,” Rich summarizes. On this cold Saturday in February, we work the heavily used Cat Gap trail, the location for most of CMC’s Quarterly Works Crews this year.

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

**Educational Hike with
Hemlock Restoration Initiative
on March 18th**

by Jeff Wilcox

Please consider joining an educational hike with staff from the Hemlock Restoration Initiative (HRI) on Monday, March 18th, at 1pm. We will head to the Green River Gamelands and take the ~2-mile, 280', roundtrip trail to Little Bradley Falls. This hike has a couple of technical sections and shallow stream crossings. Along the way, HRI leaders will discuss the ecological importance of hemlocks, how to ID them, what is threatening them, and what is being done about it. Jeff Wilcox, a geology professor at UNC Asheville, will talk about the importance of trees and vegetation on streams and flooding. Upon returning to the trailhead, those with time and energy will have the opportunity to add a ~2-mile, 300' roundtrip hike to the Big Bradley Falls overlook. If you opt for the hike to Big Bradley Falls, note that there will be another creek crossing.

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

An Invitation from our President

We are in need of a CMC member, who is a CPA, to work with our dedicated treasurer, George Bauernfeind, in a vice-treasurer role, to be another set of eyes on the club's financials, and maybe even step in as treasurer at a much later date. If you feel this might be the perfect way for you to give back and help our amazing 100-year-old club, please send an email to Les at president@carolinamountainclub.org

John Rock Trail Workday

Join the Carolina Mountain Club as we restore this popular trail as part of **Pisgah Project Day!**

SATURDAY

April

20

9am - 3pm

REGISTER NOW

<https://carolinamtnclub.org/eventform.cfm?eventid=22>

No experience necessary. All are welcome.



CMC100th.org



Save the Date - May 25th for CMC Spring Social and Picnic!

When: Saturday, May 25, 2024, 11:00 am

Where: Lake Julian Park (directions to follow closer to the picnic)

Who: CMC Members, Friends, and Families

Yes, it is Memorial Day weekend, but what better time to bring all your visiting guests to a fun, friendly, music filled event in a beautiful setting.

Chef Tim will be grilling, and you will be dazzled by all of the wonderful potluck dishes provided by CMC members and guests!

We hope to see you there!



Waynesville Wednesday Crew Builds New Trails for North Canton Elementary School

by Chris Werbylo and Donna Bange

It is not every day that a CMC trail maintenance crew is able to design and build brand new hiking trails. Behind North Canton Elementary School was two acres of untouched mountain terrain. This past summer, Niki Paganelli, 5th Grade Teacher, approached CMC about building hiking trails on the unused land for educational, physical education and recreational purposes. Niki had previously volunteered at a CMC event for new trail maintainers and was familiar with CMC. She contacted the CMC Website and ultimately Priscilla Estes connected her to Chris Werbylo (Waynesville Wednesday Trail Crew Leader). Chris, a retired school teacher, could hardly say no to the request. Canton, which is in Haywood County, is part of the geography that the Waynesville Wednesday crew serves.

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

**Our friends at Smoky Mountains Hiking Club are
celebrating their Centennial this year!**



Save the Date!

SMHC Centennial Fish Fry and Square Dance

May 11, 2024

4:30 p.m. -9:00 p.m.

Appalachian Club, Elkmont
Great Smoky Mountains National Park



Save the date for the SMHC Centennial
"Tom and Meta Dewine Fish Fry and Vaughn Browder
Square Dance" celebration.

SMHC held regular fish fry events and also Square Dances over many of the early years of the club as social events, banquets and election picnics. Plans are being finalized to celebrate and relive this history which will include a fish dinner and then a square dance. We've lined up old time square dance caller Leo Collins and friends and live music from Boogertown Gap and friends. Further details and registration will be available soon on the SMHC web site.

Attendance will be limited to 100.

Bent Creek Experimental Forest Brown Bag Lunch Presentations

Bent Creek Experimental Forest has two upcoming Brown Bag Lunch presentations.

On March 18th, Katie Greenburg will be giving a talk on wildlife and natural disturbances and forest management in the southern Appalachians.

You must register to attend. For more information, [click here](#).

For the flyer, [click here](#).

Then, on April 1st, Margaret Woodbridge will give a talk about spring wildflowers in the Southern Appalachian Mountains.

You must register to attend. For more information, [click here](#).

For the flyer, [click here](#).



The UNCA H.I.P.P.I.E.S join CMC and Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy for a hike at Deaverview Mountain!

by Karen Schultz

You may remember our UNCA McCullough Fellow Felipe Ahumada, who worked on a research project with the CMC Diversity and Inclusion (D&I) Committee last year. Felipe is now a student leader for a new UNCA student group, called the H.I.P.P.I.E.S., which stands for High Impact P.E.E.R. Practices in Environmental Science. PEER are people often excluded from specific activities due to ethnicity or race. Felipe asked the D&I Committee to support the group on their first group hike!

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

CMC's Endowment Fund - Update

by George Bauernfeind

2023 was a year of impressive growth for CMC's Endowment Fund. With over \$10,000 in contributions from CMC members and others, the Fund balance at 12/31/23 now exceeds \$50,000!

The Fund, established in 2022, is managed by the Community Foundation of Western North Carolina (CFWNC) and is invested in their Socially Responsible Fund. Its purpose is to grow and to ensure the financial viability of our Club for at least the next 100 years.

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

New Councillor for Hiking appointed

by Karen Schultz

At the CMC Council meeting held on February 20, 2024, Les Love, CMC President, announced the appointment of Karen Lachow as the Interim

Councilor for Hiking. This appointment was necessary because Daisy Teng Karasek, whose term as Councilor for Hiking began in January, had submitted her resignation effective March 4, 2024.

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

Get to Know Jeff Wilcox Councilor for Education and Outreach

I was born in Indiana and then moved to Michigan as a kid. I earned a B.S. in geology and chemistry from Hope College (MI) and M.S. and Ph.D. in geology from Wisconsin. I met and married my wife, Sara, when we were graduate students, and we moved from Madison to Asheville in 2007. I've been a professor in the Environmental Science department at UNC Asheville ever since. We have two teenage daughters, Anna and Ella, who are in 12th and 9th grade at Reynolds High School.

I joined CMC shortly after moving to Asheville in 2009 and for many years hiked primarily on Wednesdays during my summer break. As Education and Outreach Councilor, my priorities are to schedule educational hikes, e.g. tree and bird ID hikes, more accessible hikes, "Leisure Hikes", and outreach opportunities where we can set up the club tent/booth and let more people know about all the great things happening in the CMC!



Get to Know Jan Onan Councilor for Membership

I grew up in the south side neighborhood of Beverly in Chicago spending most of my childhood outdoors with the other kids. My first experience in the mountains was as a young teen. I road my brother's huge ten speed the length of the Blue Ridge Parkway with a youth group. I moved to Milwaukee WI to pursue a career as an American Sign Language Interpreter and Instructor. I worked at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, where I earned my degree in Exceptional Education and met Kevin.

We moved to Hendersonville in 1998 with our 3 young children following many family members who moved to the mountains through the years since 1971. My introduction to CMC was when Bruce Bente asked if I wanted to

scout hikes where my kids were invited. Les Love was the first hike leader to welcome my kids on a CMC hike.

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

Carolina Mountain Club eNews is published on the first Friday of each month. 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.

To join Carolina Mountain Club go to: www.carolinamountainclub.org. Click on "Join CMC" on the right side. Follow the instructions. For all 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.

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