

Hike • Save Trails • Make Friends

Carolina Mountain Club eNews



May 2024



CMC Quarterly Crew/Pisgah Project Day at John Rock Trail in the PRD a Huge Success!

by Donna Bange

In celebration of Earth Day, what better way to honor our planet than doing trail maintenance. That is exactly what 111 CMC volunteers did on Saturday, April 20. CMC and Pisgah Conservancy partnered together on the Cat Gap Loop/John Rock Trail in the Pisgah National Forest. The CMC volunteers ranged in age from teenagers (Boy Scouts) to CMC trail maintainer legends in their 80s (Skip Sheldon and Roy Davis).

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



SPRING POTLUCK SOCIAL

Bring your best potluck to share with everyone. Sign up on the members side of the website by clicking the Spring Social button, adding how many folks you're bringing and what dish you're bringing.

May 25, 2024 | 11 AM - 2 PM

Members, friends, and guests are all welcome!

Lake Julian Park, Shelter #6, which can be accessed from the park entrance off Hendersonville Rd., just south of the intersection of Long Shoals Rd, after you go under the railroad underpass.



Potluck Social Saturday, May 25th

It's that time of year!! Come join the fun at the CMC Spring picnic and potluck. Bring your best potluck dish to share. CMC will provide grilled meat and tea & water to drink. If you want something else to drink, including beer and wine, please bring it along.

Sign up on the members side of the website by clicking the red Spring Social button, adding how many folks you're bringing, and the dish you plan to bring.

There will not be a formal program, but we look forward to a time of socializing and community building!

Please RSVP on the CMC website to attend. [Click here for the flyer.](#)



Ribbon Cutting Celebrating New Viewing Platform Atop Mount Pisgah

The Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation hosted a ribbon cutting on Friday, April 26, in the parking area for the Mount Pisgah Trail at milepost 408 on the Blue Ridge Parkway. Visitors were invited to celebrate the reconstruction of the popular viewing platform and participate in a guided hike to the site. “As the warm weather brings more hikers back to Mount Pisgah, we were thrilled to officially celebrate the completion of this platform with spectacular views,” said Carolyn Ward, CEO of the Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation.

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

**NATIONAL
TRAILS
DAY**



Join us as we improve a section of the A.T. Afterparty at Big Pillow, prizes, and more!

JUNE 1ST
9 AM - 3 PM



HOT SPRINGS

APPALACHIAN TRAIL



Thank you Sponsors!



Sawyer

Saturday June 1st - National Trails Day

Join us for a day of trail work on the Appalachian Trail near Hot Springs. This event is designed for individuals who may be new to trail work, including those who work or go to school during the week. You will learn from experienced trail maintainers. All are welcome; no experience is necessary, and you do not need to be a member of the Carolina Mountain Club (CMC) to participate. Afterparty and raffle at Big Pillow Brewing. [Click here](#) to register.



JOIN THE HIKE HIKE FOR HEALING

Join a Hike!

by Kathy Kyle

The Carolina Mountain Club will celebrate inclusivity and healing through hiking with Hike for Healing, a two-day event on Thursday, June 20, and Friday, June 21.



Lee Fortune, also known as Boots On The Trail, is the founder and leader behind Hike for Healing. For the past two years, he's been taking on challenging hikes to raise awareness and spark conversations about racial healing. Last year, he conquered a grueling 46.8-mile trek from Kuwohi (Clingmans Dome) to Waterrock Knob in just 18 hours. This year, the ambitious journey takes him 62 miles from Mt. Pisgah to Mt. Mitchell (the Pitchell).

A CMC member and Charlotte resident, Lee's own multiracial family has served as a powerful bridge, teaching him firsthand the importance of healing racial divisions. You can support Lee and this initiative by joining one of the three CMC-led hikes offered on June 21st. Additionally, an informal send off will be held on Thursday, June 20, at the Pisgah Inn. Following the cheering and any snacks or food people bring or purchase at Pisgah Inn, Lee will kick off his hike by climbing Mt. Pisgah and continuing his non-stop journey to Mt. Mitchell.

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

A Way to Give to the Club

by Les Love

We know that some people would rather give donations to the club for specific items or projects rather than the General Fund or our new Endowment. There may be a way to accomplish that. Recently Joe identified the need for 50 white helmets with the CMC logo for \$1,210. He sent the bid sheet to George and several others asking if we had time to submit this for a grant or ask the council for fund approval, since it was not in the budget. One of our members asked if he

could pay for the helmets as a donation to the club. George accepted the offer, received the donation by Venmo, and the helmets were ordered the next day. This avoided our Grants Committee getting bogged down with a relatively small purchase and then having to wait for the funds, while giving the donor the satisfaction of donating something critical to the safety of our volunteers.

George could create a list of people who would like to make a donation in the \$250 to \$2,500 range for specific items and when the need arises, he would send a blind copied email to all on the list with a description of the items, saying that the first to respond gets to cover the cost with their donation. A win/win for the club and the donating member!

If you would like to participate in this, email George at cmclubtreasurer@gmail.com



Garlic Mustard Pull at Lemon Gap

by Barbara Morgan

The Natural Resources Team paired again with the ATC in the annual Garlic Mustard Pull at Lemon Gap. On April 23, Barbara Morgan, Mary Swain, Neill Hurst, and A.T. Section Maintainers for that section Bob Beach and Chris Werbylo joined Matt Drury of the ATC to hand pull as much of this invasive species as we could. It was year 7 or 8 of successive "pulls" and areas we'd worked intensively in the past were almost clear! By ranging farther, the six of us pulled a combined weight of 84 pounds! We carefully bagged it, and Matt took care of disposing of it in a safe manner (you don't dare compost this stuff, or it just spreads more)!

Thanks to all who helped, and especially Bob and Chris for being so interested in their A.T. section that they jumped in to help! Want to join future events? Email



The Legacy Continues: A Three-Generation Family's Dedication to Trail Stewardship

by Jan Onan

Bob Boyle has been a stalwart contributor to trail maintenance, dedicating over 2100 hours to his adopted sections and various crews such as the Asheville Friday, the Section Rovers, and the Art Loeb.

His commitment extended further when, two years ago, he welcomed his high school-aged grandson, Tyler, to join him. Tyler, eager to contribute, recently achieved the impressive milestone of 100 hours while working alongside the Section Rovers. Les Love proudly awarded Tyler the esteemed 100 Hour Hat, marking him as the first high school student within the CMC community to receive this honor. Tyler's diligence and burgeoning skill set make him a valued CMC maintainer.

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



Phyllis Woolen, Jana Plemmons, Katie Ray, and Judy Dykes

Completing the 100 Hike Challenge

By Katie Wood Ray

You get to know a lot about a person if you hike 672 miles with them, and you get to know all their favorite swear words if you climb almost 30 miles in elevation while you're doing it. Now, that's more than enough miles to get you to Chicago. It's more than enough miles to get you to Philadelphia, too. And to Little Rock, St. Louis or St. Pete. And it's just exactly enough miles to complete the "100 Favorite Trails of the Smokies and Carolina Blue Ridge" on the map published by the Carolina Mountain Club.

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.

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