

## August 2011 Volunteer Weekend Report

Many thanks to the 17 individuals that showed up to work this past week on the AT. We had a volunteer total of 65 work days. We had great weather and did accomplish most of the things we intended to work on.

I do hope you read the info below. I have tried to share the info that Jim and I have found out.

Monday:

Jim, Bill & Harry walked the section from 622 to 86. We found the USFS Boundary and saw where the trail crossed in and out of private land. We also came across several hikers from the private camp along the boundary who were hiking from MRNRA and leaving the trail at the private land section. We saw no trail there which was marked. The trail in this section does need water bars in several sections, especially the beginning at 622. We will see about doing some of this work in October since it is close to the trail. We did find out from TWO HATS (never remember his name) that he has seen reference on his USFS maps that there are easements on this section of trail. We will have WJ look into this. This section is a possible alternate work site for 2012 Konnarock if Nepa is not completed on time.  
Camped at Konnarock.

Tuesday:

Harry and Leo cut blow downs on the kegley section, Tilson Gap and near the puncheons at Arten Repass'. They also repaired a step at Tilson Gap. Jim, Bill & Joe Parrish reflagged the Dessert Dog Trail. In addition we flagged more of that section for the relocation of the trail. We took out 3 PUDS and laid the whole section of trail on contour. Hopefully the ologists will be able to complete the NEPA on time for 2012 work season. The new flagging added 1700 feet to the other 1400 feet. I believe it will take 3 years or 5 weeks to complete this relocation. We will be allowed to go in and lop this new trail as soon as the ologists finish there work.  
Camped at Walker Gap.

Wednesday:

Jim, Bill & Harry along with Buford Neal and his multiple friends interested in Preserving Chestnut Ridge were shuttled in two gators up to the pond at Chestnut. The spring for all practical purposes is dry and but the pond has plenty of water. We believe the trees and extensive growth above the pond are sapping the water from the spring. New locust and Hawthorne growth has taken off in the meadow since the June cutting. The new water source north of walker gap is just a drip. There is plenty of water in the cistern. Jim and believe putting a spigot of some type which has a quick release will relieve this problem. Discussion needs to be done. We would also need to put in an overflow pipe. Let me say again that there is water in the cistern - plenty. We examined the shelter and made an extensive list of repairs that need to be made from sanding,

painting, interior and exterior, board replacement, etc. We also saw several areas north of the shelter that need water bars until we do a relo on the northern section. The water bars in place need to be cleaned and reformatted.

We are now in the planning stages to do our annual Summerfest week on Chestnut Ridge. We plan to cut and poison the locust and Hawthornes, cut trees around the spring, do water bar work and work on the shelter. Summerfest will be 3rd Saturday in June and back up to Thursday. We are hoping to have 2 gators available and transport materials, food and other supplies up to the ridge. We hope to have a gator available to transport workers out to the meadows and hope that we get the grant for the cutting machine. We will need all the available man power that we can get. We will even take locals interested in saving the meadows.

Thursday:

Will Burke worked on the trail near Beaver Dam I. Harry, Bill, Sylvia and Jim traveled into Crawfish Valley, after having to destroy the USFS lock to get in. Long story! We relagged the Reed Creek relo for the ologists. It will be about 600 ft in length and will be done by the club in 2012.

We removed 1 tarp and found another elaborate camping site just across Reed Creeks which had fallen down and was a MESS. 4 tarps were interconnected and collasped, 3 sleeping bags, 4 new gas propane tanks, 1 propane heater. We filled two 4 gallon plastic buckets with trash. Elaborate campsite.

We also found and checked out two possible shelter sites. One about 600 yards South of Reed Creek and one North of Reed creek at the AT and Horse Trail intersection. One has water (North site) and the other (south site) too far from water. Water is scarce at Reed Creek. Camped in Crawfish Valley.

Friday:

Harry and Chris cut meadows on US-11 and lopped trail on both sides.

Bill went to USFS to get new lock for Crawfish Valley and went back into Valley to install it.

Leo and Will cleaned and repaired water bars S of US-II up to stile. (20)

Bill went in from Kegley Property North to clean out turnpike ditch and build 4 dips, 50 feet of lip removal and rebuild and clean out 10 water bars and check dams.

Sylvia, Jim and Steve went in to Davis PATH tent pad to check on the floor of the shelter. They found it was powder post beetle infested and deteriorating. Discussion to follow.

Will, Leo later returned to help Bill with his work.

Camped at Marcia's.

Saturday:

Volunteer crew consecrated on the High Water Trail. This section of trail has been adopted by new member Leo Nunnink and Andrew Sam. The volunteer crew did 8 water bars and check dams, 100 feet of drainage, 60 feet of coweeta dips, cut 8 new water bars for future use, dressed up all water bars/check dams needing extra work.

The Saturday morning and evening meals were gratefully appreciated by all. Many thanks to Walt, Charlene, Anne, and Marcia for the preparation that went into the planning and special thanks to Marcia for the use of her place and the potato

chowder of Friday evening.

All volunteer work groups had great fun, great fun and a great time at the Konnarock closing Party.

Atilla will have to confess that on several evening he has no idea where we camped.

Volunteer workers:

Two workers I have no last name for. John- Trudy's friend, and Trudy's last Name. 2 day each.

Atkins, Harry - 7, Boudman, Bill - 7, Bracknell, Chris -1, Brown, Jeff - 1, Davis, Charlene - 4,

Davis, Walt - 4, Houck, Jim - 8, Jones, Drew - 2, Merkle, John - 3, Nunnink, Leo - 7,

Ramsey, Anne - 4, Sam, Andrew -3, Swain, Sylvia - 4, Burke, Will - 3, Cope, Marcia-3

Bill Boudman

PATH

Trail Supervisor