



## Board Retreat Sets Club's Direction

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### Multi-Club Registration

*PATH and the Outing Club of Virginia Tech will host this year's Multi-Club meeting Friday, August 29–Monday, September 1. (See registration form and information on Page 6.)*

About 20 PATH board members attended a two-day retreat at the cottage of Don Childrey's parents on a lake near Yanceyville May 2–4. The group created a mission statement and addressed other issues that will give PATH more clearly defined directions.

For the mission statement, the group decided on the following wording: "Improve, maintain and manage the Appalachian Trail as a natural resource for the recreational, educational and

scientific benefit of the public."

The more specific goals of PATH include the following:

- Maintain PATH's AT system and other trails.
- Recruit and maintain a group of ready volunteers.
- Educate members of the public about PATH's role.

*Continued on Page 2*

## A Message from the President

Labor Day weekend is a special time for southern Appalachian Trail maintaining clubs. On Labor Day weekend, all the southern AT clubs get together for an event called Multi-Club. This is a weekend of hiking, renewing old friendships, making new friends and just having fun with the people who maintain the AT in the Southern Region.

The tradition started in 1932, with the first Multi-Club held in Connahaynee Lodge. In 1950, the individual clubs began to take turns hosting Multi-Club. PATH first hosted Multi-Club in 1972 at Grandfather Mountain, then, with the Virginia Tech Outing Club, at Camp Roland in 1979, and at Rural Retreat in 1988. This year, it's our turn again, and we will

be hosting Multi-Club with the Outing Club of Virginia Tech.

PATH and Outing Club members will be leading hikes. There will be excursions, and a cookout on Saturday evening, followed by entertainment, usually music or story-telling. Tina Dawson is arranging the entertainment for us this year. We invite everyone to come over to the Mt. Rogers Visitor's Center to see where the new shelter is being built. Mostly, we are going to have fun with other club members from the Southern Region.

And, of course, we need your help. Clint Kawanishi (919-967-4449), is in charge of hikes. He is seeking volunteers to lead hikes (see Clint's special plea on Page 6). He expects to field three hikes a day, of short, medium and long lengths. Betsy Truscott (910-605-3588) will be in charge of non-hiking activities including museum visits in Wytheville, a tour of the Shot Tower, cycling and walking along the New River Trail, and a visit to the Amish bakery in Burke's Garden.

Marsha Cope (910-760-0887) will be in charge of a children's hike, and she needs one other adult to help. Dave Emrey and Marsha Cope agreed to help with food preparation but

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### Bridge Repair Clouds Multi-Club Picture

At press time, the location of the Labor Day weekend Multi-Club meeting is still up in the air. The two leading sites are Stony Fork campground near Wytheville and Hurricane campground in the Mount Rogers Recreation Area.

Stony Fork, the original site for the meeting, has been temporarily closed because bridges within the campground need repair. Stony Fork could be used if the contractor is able to repair the four bridges in time. Construction materials have already been ordered.

PATH will notify Multi-Club attendees as soon as the matter is resolved.

## Club Direction Discussed

*Continued from Page 1*

- Cooperate with the Appalachian Trail Conference, management partners and other AT maintaining organizations in the management of the AT and associated lands.
- Raise funds.

Some of the more specific duties include monitoring rare and endangered species, maintaining good relations with neighbors along the AT, removing blowdowns, picking up garbage and building and maintaining structures, such as shelters and bridges.

To continue to keep the PATH name in front of the public, the group decided the best ways were for PATH members to speak at schools and at social groups, keep the "Holy Grail" folding display photos up to date, respond promptly to public inquiries.

The group decided to fill-in the "conversation pit" at the Davis Path Shelter with wooden boards and to put in steps at the front of the shelter. Pegs will be added for packs.

The group also took the first steps towards demarking our 49-mile stretch of the AT into 10 distinct segments, each of which would be maintained under the supervision of a designated crew leader and assistant drawn from the PATH roles. Each leader would be responsible for that section and leading work groups on that section each month. The proposal is that the crew leader and assistant would have control for the season, at which time a new crew would take over. Some PATH members have already been approached about becoming crew leaders or assistants.

## PATH Gets ATC Grant

PATH has received a grant from the Appalachian Trail Conference as part of the Grants-to-Clubs program. The grant included \$250 for 10 hard hats and 10 First-Aid kits.

L.L. Bean of Maine funded the program. The ATC expects the funds to be used by Dec. 31. PATH president Parthena Martin sent a thank you note to L.L. Bean for its support of AT maintenance efforts.

# Konnarock Work Continues in August

Konnarock is a summer trail crew sponsored by the ATC that does specialized work on the AT. The crew is composed of volunteers from all over the world and spends 12 weeks each summer working with clubs in the southern region of the AT. The mid-Atlantic and New England regions have similar crews. Over the years, Konnarock crews have helped us renovate Chestnut Knob Shelter, build the Knot Maul relocation and put in the stairs behind the O'Lystery picnic shelter.

This summer they are working on relocating the Trail in Crawfish Valley to avoid a heavily eroded area. Led by Dana Berthold and Charlotte Crittendon, the crew worked on our section June 12-16 and will be back August 7-11. Nine PATH members worked with Konnarock

in June. They were Ken Rose, Gordon Burgess, Bill Boudman, Betsy Truscott, Worrill Campbell, Clint Kawanishi, Brent Forbis, Brandon Saunders and Parthena Martin. We hope more will come in August.

One purpose of Konnarock is to help teach club members new skills, and working with the crew is a great way to learn specialized trail-building techniques. If you don't know anything about trail building, that's fine. You will be

taught. Bill and Parthena each got to help put in a rock water bar, something neither had ever done. Now, all nine PATH members are experts in building sidehill trail.

If you like to dig in the dirt, learn a lot, and have fun at the same time, I urge you to join us in August.

*Want to work on  
a trail relo?  
Here's your  
chance.*

## Contacts:

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P.O. Box 4423  
Greensboro, NC 27404-4423

PATH has an electronic mail calling circle for publicizing impromptu outings and making announcements. To join, send an enote to PATH's email coordinator Betsy Truscott (see contact list). If you have a message of general interest, Betsy will forward it to the email list. PATH also has a Web Home Page at <http://www.editorialservice.com/path>. The page links to other organizations and to current and past PATH newsletters.

## Search for the Perfect Backpack Is Like the Search for True Love

By Mark Clayton

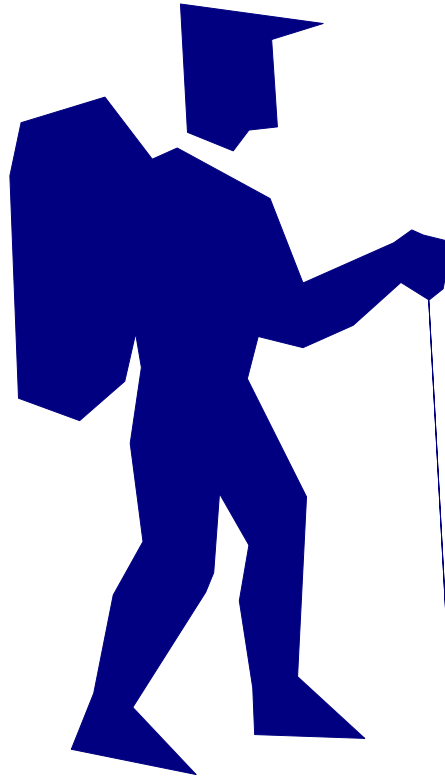
Where do I begin, to tell the story of how great a pack should be, a sweet pack story that is older than the sea, about a backpack made especially for me, where do I start?

Whether you've thought about it or not, there are many similarities between searching for true love and searching for the perfect backpack. Okay, hear me out on this. Searching for true love and searching for the perfect backpack are both exciting, exhilarating, exhausting, confusing and *even frustrating*. And when the perfect fit is found, where both spiritual and physical bliss is achieved, we fall in love or buy a backpack.

My search for the perfect pack began back in the '70s at K-Mart. After a \$20 investment, a lot of money I thought, I was on my way to years of humping heavy loads with my shoulders (no hipbelt) on an aluminum external frame pack. I was young, strong, obviously very naive, and I was having a great time. My next pack was a Coleman Peak I with a ramflex (flexible plastic) external frame. As my wallet grew larger and my hairline smaller, I moved into internal frame packs, of which I have owned a Wilderness Experience, a Gregory, two Ospreys and finally, my perfect love, a McHale Super Inex. As I said, searching for the perfect pack is a lot like searching for the perfect love; it takes time and money.

I'm not going to get into the specifics on internals versus externals, load capacities, or manufacturers because there are countless articles and reviews published in outdoor gear magazines. I'm simply going to tell you how I came to buy a McHale pack.

We all have things in life that we've wanted but couldn't afford, and we never let the dream die saying, "If I win the lottery, I'm gonna get one of those." Manufacturers are smart enough to make items for every budget, so most of us end up saying, "Okay I'll take one of those, but if I win the lottery. . ." A McHale pack was one of those items, custom made, world renowned among serious gear heads, the Rolls-Royce of backpacks



Twenty plus years and six backpacks later, my wife got a bonus at work and she bought me one. I had finally won the lottery!

To make a long story short, I called

McHale in Seattle and they sent me a video and literature on their packs. Two weeks later I called and placed my order with Dan McHale, president of the company. Three and a half weeks later, just in time to load it up for my Mt. Rainier trip, my black and teal, 7,000+ cube, body hugging, load bearing, Super Inex arrived. This pack is the most practical design I've owned to date. Beyond the incredible custom fit and innovative shoulder strap adjusters, it has a detachable top pocket/lumbar pack that will hold tons of gear for easy access or real dayhiking, a sleeping bag compartment with a usable zipper and room for a week's worth of clothes, a large exterior mitten/map pocket, a cavernous top section of the main pack body, tent pole/water bottle pockets, daisy chains, etc.

The greatest innovation in internal frame design to date lies in the Inex's "Bayonet" aluminum stays. The top 113 of these resilient load managing stays can be removed and with a quick adjustment of the shoulder straps and top pocket, the pack becomes a weekend pack or a summit pack for climbers.

Impeccable workmanship, detail, and design make this the most comfortable pack I've ever worn. If the comfort I experienced hiking up a mushy snow trail with a 75-pound load on Mt Rainier is any indication of my life with my McHale, we've only just begun.

## PATH Members to Construct Shelter at Mt. Rogers Center

Mike Dawson (our ATC regional representative), Ginny Williams and Paul Dore (from the Mt. Rogers National Recreation Area) met with PATH members in June to make plans for the shelter we will build at the Mt. Rogers Visitors Center.

The shelter will be built of logs and will be similar to the Thomas Knob Shelter near Mt. Rogers. It will hold 16 people and eventually will have a shower and privy.

Paul said the foundation can be poured in August, and we plan to begin construction over Labor Day weekend during Multi-Club. Plans call for club members

to work on the shelter each weekend thereafter until it is under roof. We hope to get the shelter itself built and roofed this year. The shower and privy will be added next year.

Please plan to lend a hand with the construction during weekends in September. No experience necessary.

So far, the shelter doesn't have a name (at the moment, "Pizza Hut" is a leading contender, since they DO deliver there!). If anyone has a good idea for a name, contact Karl Kunkel, our newsletter editor. He will collect them, and we will choose the best one this fall.

# An International Experience

So what good are the Internet and the PATH Web site, you say?

On April 26–27, Karen Worthington, Bill Medlin and Clint Kawanishi did a short AT hike at Grayson Highlands with Walter Troost, a Belgian theoretical physicist who specializes in “string theory.”

He was an invited scientist at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. An AT American thruhiker friend of his forbade Walter from returning home without hiking the Smoky Mountain Na-

tional Park. Though Walter was an avid weekend “walker” back in Belgium, he had little experience backpacking. So he searched the Internet for information and for hikers who lived near Chapel Hill.

He first contacted our president, Parthena Martin, by email after finding the PATH Web site on the Internet. A dinner with Parthena and myself shortly after his arrival convinced us that a short “shakedown” first backpack was in order.

Walter turned out to be a well organized, physically fit, fast learner with

good balance and a sense of humor. Carrying a borrowed backpack from Clint, a tent from Parthena, and persuaded to hitch things to his pack with belts instead of strings (he is a string theorist), he streaked upward over the rocks with Karen while the two injured fossils slowly wound their way up Wilburn Ridge. Walter was nice enough to wait for us at the top of each rock outcrop.

Though it was completely overcast and hazy, the views were impressive and, except for having the view from our “lunch rock” usurped by an etiquetteless and obnoxious horde of day-hikers from some large East Coast city, we had a wonderful time. There were large numbers of feral ponies about, horses and riders on the horse trails (the most I have ever seen), as well as large groups of day hikers and backpackers on the AT.

Consequently, we decided not to camp at the usual sites but instead, off trail below the rocks. While not as picturesque, the semblance of solitude provided by the site more than compensated for its deficiencies. Walter set up and camped as if he were alone so he could learn the ins and outs of backpacking. PATH members provided brief demonstrations of such things as hanging food bags and filtering water.

Shortly before bed time, the sky cleared, we saw Comet Hale-Bopp and hopes for a nice tomorrow danced in our dreams. We woke to the drip-drip from dense fog condensing on the trees above our tent. After an “in tent” breakfast, and packing up (although Bill Medlin was desirous of a nap) Clint took a short cut via the old AT back to Massie Gap. The hike back in the muffled silence of a dense fog was short and enjoyable even though the old trail was indistinct in spots.

An undesirable outcome of the hike was the sunburn suffered by Walter and, to a lesser degree, the rest of us on the first day. However, because of the Internet and the PATH Web site, we made a new hiker friend and Walter gained knowledge needed to hike the Smokies. It also gave him a compassionate understanding of what it feels like to be a redneck.

## A Pilgrimage to The Priest

By Clint Kawanishi

The burdened pilgrims were grateful for the cooling breeze and dry air. Dusty from the miles of unpaved roads, they had reached the trail at Salt Log Gap in the Appalachian Mountains after what in itself had been a demanding transit.

Apprehensive, tired and standing in the midday sun, expecting it to be hotter, more humid and exhausting, they set off for the day’s goal, the Seely-Woodworth shelter. This would be their humble lodging for the night, the source of life-sustaining water and where they would consume their meager sustenance (homemade spaghetti with parmesan).

“Hot” would describe the most memorable events of their trip, but it would not be the weather. “Hot” was the dried meat (Fire Lip smoked “west coast salmon” jerky from Pittsboro, NC) provided by their old guide, Clint Kawanishi. “Hot” also describes the method the guide used to rid pestilence from the face of his fellow pilgrim, James Young (light a Whisperlite stove when the affected has his face over it). “Hot” also describes the brassy music with a strong beat that came from the direction of the tent of pilgrims Tony Roberts and Karen Worthington, who claimed it mysteriously emanated from the woods.

The other two pilgrims, though they had reached the sacred slopes of the Priest, felt excluded from the holy rituals in pilgrim Karen’s tent (Taj Mahal III).

Throughout the trip, the pilgrims were blessed with goodness. There were

surprisingly few other sojourners, the weather never got unbearable, the nights were cool, and many mountain laurels were still in late bloom.

The failing memory of the old guide, however, was incapable of retrieving reliable data about previous passages through the area. There was no prior information about scenic overlooks like Wolf Rocks. It remembered only Spy Rock and the summit of the Priest, from whence the chilly pilgrims watched god’s fiery orb descend for the night.

Lacking details, the old guide suggested hiking “just another mile before lunch” and had no intimation of the rude, unexpected steep ascent just around the next bend. Overall, however, the treading was good, the terrain not overly demanding, and the woods at the higher elevations were undergrown with luxuriant carpets of fresh ferns which Tony coveted. The last morning’s hike was a 3,000 foot descent, mostly next to the cool Crabtree Falls cascade.

Even on the blessed Appalachian Trail, however, there are noxious things: the pestilent black flies; the wooly adelgid, an insect that is killing hundreds of Carolina hemlocks; and a thru-hiker whose ego did not permit the presence of others on the trail. A pilgrim assessed him succinctly when he commented “no wonder he’s hiking alone.”

After a blessed pilgrimage of good fellowship, the last meal, as is befitting of PATH members, was consumed at Pizza Hut.

## Trail Notes

■ **Gordon Burgess** received a complimentary letter in May from **John Tolbert** of Mt. Pleasant, Texas. Some excerpts: "I have a special fondness for the Burke's Garden area, so I had my wife drive me up to the intersection of VA 623 and the AT...It started raining about an hour from the car, but what a welcome surprise when I got to the shelter on the knob (Chestnut Knob). That place should be renamed the Chestnut Hilton! I spent the night there in '93 when I thru-hiked, and it was a dark, dirty, damp experience. Today it is so bright and clean; Wow!...Also, I was delighted to see how Chestnut Ridge looks now. The club must have spent many hours in recent years to get it in the shape it is today...Please convey my appreciation, as well as that of all AT hikers, to the other members of PATH for all their hard work on their section of the trail. And say, that relo south of Knot Maul Shelter isn't bad either! There are some unique spots on the AT, and your section is special to me."

■ **Bill Medlin** gave a talk on the AT at East Chapel Hill High School in May and received the following message from **Angela Callanan**, a student there: "...We've had a great response to your presentation! Even the students who went in believing that they were not interested in the topic came out excited! I wonder how many new Appalachian Trail hikers will come out of this day! Thanks so much for coming."

■ **Don Childrey** attended a Volunteer Motivation Workshop in April, sponsored by the Appalachian Trail Conference.

■ **Beverly Robinson** made her presence known at the Burke's Garden (Va.) "Varmint" Half Marathon foot race (13.1 miles) on June 7. She took 3rd place among all women runners with a time of 1:39. Her prize: a foot-high stuffed sheep with a pink ribbon. "Varmint" was a coyote that terrorized flocks of sheep in Burke's Garden in 1952 and outsmarted the farmers for several months. A portion of the AT



*Brent Forbis, shown here wielding a weed eater on a recent worktrip, attended a week-long trail-building workshop this spring where he learned specialized trail-building techniques.*

maintained by PATH overlooks the race course. Beverly's pet greyhound, Katie, was an attention-getting spectator. **Karl Kunkel** also completed the race. He didn't win anything.

■ *Newsweek* reported that the sport of backpacking would attract 62 million participants in the year 2050, up from 50.4 million in 1990. In terms of percentage growth, it will be the slowest growing activity. That trend could be a sigh of relief for an overused AT, but it may also translate into a smaller pool of trail maintainers from which to draw. The predicted fastest-growing activity will be bird-watching, with 127.8 million people.

■ The Tennessee-North Carolina portion of the AT got some national press in the June issue of *Outside* magazine, thanks to Greensboro author **Parke Puterbaugh**. He wrote a detailed

article on hiking the lesser used paths of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. He recommended avoiding main entrances and using the less crowded, little-used unpaved entrances. There, hikers will find 2,000 types of mushrooms, more species of salamanders—27—than anywhere on Earth, and 17 of the nation's "champion" trees, the largest of their species on record. About 70 miles of the AT runs through this area.

■ The American Hiking Society inducted the city of Raleigh into American Hiking's Trail Town USA Hall of Fame in 1996. Raleigh placed 10th in the Top 10 of the 30 chosen. Also included on the list was Damascus, Va., not far from PATH's stretch of the AT. Criteria were based on trail systems that promote non-motorized transportation, connect to other trail systems and add to the ongoing effort to create a nationwide system of trails and greenways.

■ The 11th annual Appalachian Trail Days Festival at Damascus (aka "Trail Town," was dedicated to **Benton MacKaye**, one of the founders of the Appalachian Trail Conference. The event, May 10–18, attracted several hundred AT supporters, backpackers and past and present thru-hikers. Saturday's annual Back Packers Parade featured a good crowd of Class of '96 thru-hikers and representatives of the Konnarock Trail Crew. Featured events included a 25-minute video *Sticking To It: The AT Odyssey*, a backpack lecture by **Patrick Smith** of MountainSmith Packs and **Wayne Gregory** of Gregory Packs and several lectures and slide shows by **Warren Doyle**, a multiple thru-hiker.

### Trail Neighbors Picnic

Once again PATH will hold its annual Trail Neighbors Picnic at O'Lystery in conjunction with the September work trip. The picnic is a way of saying thank you to property owners whose land borders our section of the trail.

Dinner will be cooked by Paul Clayton and Marsha Cope. If last year's feast was any indication, this is an event not to be missed.

# 1997 AT Multi-Club Meeting

August 29–September 1

- **Host:** Piedmont Appalachian Trail Hikers and the Outing Club of Virginia Tech
- **Event Registrars:** Harrison Marks, 2595 Griffith Rd., Winston-Salem, NC 27103 telephone 910-768-8698 e-mail: nebscram@aol.com  
Parthena Martin, 49A Poplar St., Chapel Hill, NC 27516 telephone 919-967-4449 e-mail: cnp@mindspring.com

- **Registration:** \$10.00 per adult, non-refundable (children under 16 free). Optional Saturday evening cookout (vegetarian available): \$6.50. Campsite: Double and single RV and tent sites are available. Sites accommodate several tents: \$5.00/person/night. Preregistration for meals by August 1 (no refunds after August 20th). Check-in: Friday 5-10 p.m. Saturday from 8 a.m. On-site registration available.

- **Schedule:** On-site registration: Friday 5–10 p.m., Saturday a.m. on Saturday cookout: 6–7 p.m., followed by entertainment. General Meeting: Sunday 7:30 p.m. in the big tent. Hikes: Saturday and Sunday. Schedule to be announced later.
- **Other Information:** Children’s hikes and activities will be offered. Other excursions include the New River Trail for biking or walking, a tour of the Shot Tower, trips to the museums in Wytheville, or a visit to the Amish bakery in Burke’s Garden.

**1997 AT Multi-Club Meeting  
Registration and Activity Release Form**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Club Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Names of Participants (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Children \_\_\_\_\_ Ages of Children \_\_\_\_\_

Registration: (kids under 16 free) \_\_\_\_\_ persons x \$10.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday cookout (optional): \_\_\_\_\_ persons x \$6.50 = \_\_\_\_\_

Number of vegetarians: \_\_\_\_\_

Tent or RV site: \_\_\_\_\_ persons x \_\_\_\_\_ nights x \$5.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL = \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to PATH. Send to registrars (Harrison Marks or Parthena Martin) by August 1 if you want to attend the cookout; by August 15 otherwise. NO REFUNDS AFTER AUGUST 20.

In consideration of permitting me to participate in PATH/Outing Club activities, and fully recognizing the dangers to which I may be exposed, I hereby release all claims against the USFS, PATH and the Outing Club of Virginia Tech, for any personal injury, death or property damage arising out of or in any way connected with such activities, including, without limitation, any acts or omissions caused in whole or in part by their negligence.

Adult Signatures \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## A Plea from Clint

Please help PATH be a good Multi-Club host by volunteering to lead a hike. People from throughout the Southeast use the Multi-Club get-together as a way to see different parts of the AT and as a way for the hosts to showcase their section of the trail.

We are seeking people to lead hikes on Saturday, Sunday and Monday. PATH and VTOC will each be offering a minimum of three hikes a day: a short, easy hike; a medium hike of 5–8 miles; and a day-long, strenuous hike. There may be a special conservation and ecology-oriented hike to the Clinch Mountain State Wildlife Management Area. For those not interested in the Monday morning meeting, we will offer a short or medium hike that morning, too.

As of press time, only one slot has been filled. Brent Forbis will lead a day-long hike. With enough volunteers, there could be more than the minimum number of hikes, including some such as a day-long hike to Chestnut Knob and another to the Mt. Rogers-Grayson Highlands area. Other possibilities include Beartown Wilderness, Garden Mountain and Crawfish Valley.

Let’s show the other clubs what a great area and section of the AT we have. Please help by volunteering. Contact Clint Kawanishi at 49A Poplar St., Chapel Hill, NC 27516. email at cnp@mindspring.com or fax at (919) 541-4017 or (919) 929-4804. Phone: (919) 967-4449.

## Buy Your Own Personal Pulaski

PATH is putting together an order of pulaskis, so that every member who would like to purchase his or her own personal trail-building tool may do so.

The pulaski is the ultimate trail-building implement, and no trail maintainer should be without one. (It's also the ultimate gardening tool, especially if your plot is on typical North Carolina clay.)

PATH's board had considered buying additional pulaskis for the club this year but instead decided to invest this year's limited tool budget in two new weed eaters. Several members indicated they'd be willing to purchase their own pulaskis and the Personal Pulaski Campaign was born.

The estimated cost of a pulaski is \$28.90, with an additional \$13.00 if you want a leather sheath to protect the blade.

To purchase a pulaski or to get more information, contact Bill Boudman by email at [billboudman@aol.com](mailto:billboudman@aol.com); by telephone at (919) 782-3117, or by mail at 4819 Deerwood Dr., Raleigh, NC 27612.

What will you do with your new pulaski? Well, we've identified a section of trail on the north side of Lynn Camp Mountain that's in serious need of refurbishment. During this fall's work trips, PATH members and their new pulaskis will be marching out to attack the problem head on.

### From the President

*Continued from Page 1*

will welcome any assistance. Call me, Parthena Martin, at 919-967-4449 to help with registration and the general logistics of making signs, getting a large group tent and setting up an area for group activities.

We will have a need for all types of assistance, so if you want to help but aren't sure where you might fit in, give me a call. I guarantee you we will find something for you—and we'll appreciate your help. Let's make this meeting an event we can be proud of and give our guests some good memories of PATH.

—Parthena Martin, PATH president

## 1997 Membership Form

Please clip out this form and mail it with your check to the address at the bottom of the page.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

New  Renewal

### 1997 Membership Dues:

Individual—\$15 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Family—\$17.50 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Student—\$10 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*Optional—ATC Dues \$18 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Donations \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total enclosed** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*PATH is a 501(c)(3) organization. Donations are tax-deductible.*

### Member information (optional)

Are you interested in :

Backpacking  Day hikes

Trail Maintenance  Other \_\_\_\_\_

How did you first learn about PATH \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Are you an Appalachian Trail Conference (ATC) member? \_\_\_\_\_

*\*ATC dues are normally \$25 per year. However, members of trail maintaining clubs, such as PATH, can join the ATC for \$18 per year. If you are paying ATC dues, please include a separate check made out to "ATC."*

Send this form with your payment to:

**PATH Treasurer**  
**2595 Griffith Road**  
**Winston-Salem, NC 27103**

## PATH's Schedule of Events

### August 1-8, 1997

**31st ATC Biennial Meeting**, hosted by the Main Appalachian Trail Club. Sunday River Ski Area, Bethel, Maine. Contact Parthena Martin.

### August 7-11, 1997

**Konnarock work crew** will be working on the Tilson Gap rehabilitation. PATH members are welcome to help. Call Gordon Burgess.

### August 16, 1997

**August Worktrip.** Meet at Stony Fork Campground by 8 a.m. Call Gordon Burgess, Ken Rose or Parthena Martin.

### August 30-31, Sept. 1

**Multi-Club Meeting.** (See information elsewhere in newsletter)

### September 20, 1997

**September Worktrip.** Meet at Stony Fork Campground by 8 a.m. Call Gordon Burgess, Ken Rose or Parthena Martin.

### October 18, 1997

**October Worktrip.** Meet at Stony Fork Campground by 8 a.m. Call Gordon Burgess, Ken Rose and Parthena Martin.

## Pack Frames, Photos Needed

By Gene Greer

Two years ago Steven Williams made a traveling display for PATH members to use when they spoke to groups. The display has been used a lot and has been a big hit. As I have been the keeper of what is now being called "The Holy Grail," I would like to rework the inside of the display with new pictures and after talking with several people would like to make it a three section display. On one side of the display I would like to put pictures of those that have thru-hiked or completed a section hike of the AT. So *please* goes out to all of you who have done the AT to send one picture that means a lot to you so it can be added to the display showing those who have hiked the AT.

The other section I would like to have is pictures of great trips that PATH members have taken together. What you did, who all went, location of the trip. So a *please* goes out to all of you that have done great trips. Send me a picture of the group that went or whatever you want to send that shows the fun you had.

The third section would be of pictures of work weekends. Pictures on the trail working, at Stony Fork, or anything related to the work we do are needed.

It was great for Steve to take his time and make the display for our use. I hope that everyone will send in pictures that mean a lot to them. If you can, please

send in 5" x 7" pictures or any size that you want. Please provide all the information about location, when the trip was, and who is in the picture. Send the pictures to me at 3801 Frazier Rd., Greensboro, NC 27407.

One last thing! We are looking for old external frame packs that you as a club member would like to give to the club. We would like to take the frames and make them carrier frames to be used to carry material on the trail for repair of shelters and other construction projects. If you have one that you can do without, please bring it to Stony Fork next time you come to a work weekend and give it to me or Bill Medlin. If you can't get it to Stony Fork, maybe you can get it to someone who is coming. We would like to get about 4 packs so that we can carry material easier.

### Responsibility for Safety

Certain risks are inherent in any Club activity. Each PATH member, guest or non-member hiker agrees to accept responsibility for his or her own safety and the safety of minors accompanying such person.

The Club cannot ensure the safety of any participant on hikes. Each person agrees to hold harmless and free from blame the hike leaders, and PATH Inc., its officers and members, for any accident, injury, or illness which might be sustained during participation in hikes or other Club activities.



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