

WEEKEND ACTIVITIES

Bill Hardam, Backpacking Chair (H: 302/654-6577)
Julius Meisel, Weekend Hiking Chair (H: 302/652-0844)

BACKPACKING

ATTENTION NEW BACKPACKERS: We'll hold an orientation session from 7:30 to 9:00 PM on Wednesday, March 21 for anyone interested in learning about backpacking – call Bill (see above) to indicate interest.

April 27-29, Appalachian Trail in MD. Leaders: Betsy McCord and Mark Roelofs (H: 410/275-8577; E: elizabeth.mccord2@gmail.com). This is an out and back trip from Pine Knob to the Cowal shelter totaling about 18 miles. It features 2 chances to take in the splendid views from Annapolis Rock and Black Rock Cliff. We'll drive down Friday evening and camp 0.5 miles from the trailhead on US-40 so we can get an early start Saturday. Contact the leaders for further details and to sign up.

May 5-6, Beginner Backpacker, Batona Trail, NJ. Leader: Glenn Shealy (C: 302/593-6144, E: glennshealy@gmail.com). The route in the famous Pine Barrens, covers varied land features and forest types while meeting a number of streams and ponds along the way. Many areas rich in history also lie along the trail, with names like Four mile, Lebanon, Baststo, and Martha to remind us of the towns which once thrived here. It is relatively flat so is a good trip for beginners or those needing a refresher. Contact the leaders for further details and to sign up.

Also, see above to sign up for an orientation to backpacking.

June 30-July 1, Appalachian Trail in NJ. Leader: Eric Dahl (C: 443/536-6813, E: eric_dahl@comcast.net). This will be 26 miles along the NY/NJ border from High Point Ranger Station to Wawayanda State Park Office. Day 1 will be 15 downhill miles through farming communities & nature preserves with small 500 ft. climbs the first & last mile. Day 2 will be 11 mostly level miles with areas of puncheon and one 800 ft. climb up Wawayanda Mountain. Contact the leader for further details and to sign up.

July 13-15, Allegheny Front Trail, North-central PA. Leader: Tom Overbaugh (H: 302/383-4498, E: toverbaugh@comcast.net). WTC last did this hike in 2005. It is a 42 mile-long loop trail in Moshannon State Forest in western Centre County that roughly circles Black Moshannon State Park. Except for the short distance within the state park boundaries, the entire length of the AFT is within the state forest. We'll bisect the loop to make a nice 2-day hike. Contact the leaders for further details and to sign up.

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August 10-12, Old Loggers Path, PA. Leaders: Jin Xu (C: 267/217-2151, E: jx2519@gmail.com; and George Wagner H: 410/398-6748, E: george.wagner829@yahoo.com).

We'll backpack the 28-mile Old Loggers Path in segments of about 4, 14, and 10. The OLP is a popular loop trail that offers numerous vistas. It is also famous for beautiful runs and swimming holes. The terrain is mostly moderate but there are several short steep climbs that may give your heart a good workout. There are also several stream crossings. One of them, crossing Pleasant Stream, may be especially difficult; we may need to cross it in knee-deep water. Please contact George or Jin for more details and sign up.

September 21-23, Little Devils Falls, Shenandoah NP, VA. Leaders: Carole Glazer (H: 302/322-5958, C: 302/668-5559, E: asparagus777@hotmail.com), & Karen Coning (H: 302/430-9298, C: 302/645-3235, E: kconing@msn.com). This will be a base camp adventure – we'll hike into a campsite and then do some day hikes including a visit to the falls with daypacks. Stay tuned for more details.

October 12-14, Terrace Mountain Trail, South-Central PA. Leader: Steve Palermo (H: 302/478-3070, E: jlpaler@comcast.net). The Terrace Mountain Trail traverses the entire eastern side of Raystown Lake, providing an opportunity for challenging day and overnight hikes through remote and sometimes rugged terrain. Wildlife and Scenic views abound for those wishing to follow a path less traveled. We'll do the southern 22 miles of the trail. Contact the leader for further details and to sign up.

November 1-4, Appalachian Trail in southern VA, Leader: John Morrison (H: 856/769-2595, C: 609/202-8035, E: johnmorrison236@comcast.net). We'll hike through the southern section of the Shenandoah NP, from the North (Swift Run Gap) to the South (Rockfish Gap), staying in or around AT shelters. The hike will be strenuous: 45 miles, with total uphill of 9400 feet over 4 days / 3 nights.

Preliminary plans are to drive down and position the shuttle car at the south end on the evening of Wednesday, October 31, and stay in a motel near the north end the night before the hike. Other hikers could drive down Thursday morning, as long as they are at the trailhead for 10AM start on Thursday morning. Contact the leader for further details and to sign up.

Nov 22-25, Thanksgiving Weekend, Appalachian Trail in VA, Skyland to Brown Gap.

Leaders: George Wagner (H: 410/398-6748, E: george.wagner829@yahoo.com; and Jin Xu E: jx2519@gmail.com). This is a four-day/three-night, 46 mi backpacking trip, over the long Thanksgiving weekend. Daily hiking mileages are 15, 13.5, 8 and 9.5. Note that this is a difficult section with one 1000' and several 500' climbs. Lack of foliage will give enhanced views from the ridge tops. Contact George or Jin for details and to sign up.