

# The Walker

Newsletter of the Old Dominion Appalachian Trail Club

Volume 22, Issue 5

September/October 2014

## *President's Message*

Greetings!!

I hope everyone had a great summer. Fall is just around the corner and I noticed there are some great activities being offered by the club. Numerous choices close to Richmond, out in the mountains or at the beach – something for everyone!! I'll put a plug in for my AT Family Day hike on September 27th. It would be great to have some parents/grandparents bring their youngsters out to enjoy a nice walk in the mountains.

The other big event well underway is our 45th Anniversary celebration. I am really looking forward to this event. The menu looks awesome. Sounds like we should have good attendance and some great entertainment. More information is included in the newsletter so be sure to mark your calendar for November 8 and get that registration form in soon!

Over the weekend of August 8-10 I had the opportunity to represent the club at the ATC Volunteer Leadership Meeting. It was held at the National Conservation Training Center in Shepherdstown WV – a really nice facility. There were representatives from all 31 AT maintaining clubs, creating a very interesting opportunity to discuss trail issues covering the entire length of the trail. It is always interesting to be welcomed and thanked for our volunteer service by Supt. Wendy Janssen of the Appalachian Trail Park Office, ATC Executive Director Ron Tipton, and other representatives of the cooperative partnership. However I must say some of the issues and concerns that were raised by those of us in the audience brought home how similar many clubs really are. Most all of the clubs are concerned about bringing in younger and more diverse members. An eye opener was Mount Rogers AT Club whose youngest maintainers are in their 70s! They can't seem to find the magic pitch to bring in younger (40 and 50 year old) members. While I think our average age for maintainers is a bit younger than 70 something, we have also been working hard to get more visibility in the Richmond area in hopes of attracting new members and getting the word out about the work we do to protect the iconic Appalachian Trail.

There were other interesting sessions that I won't elaborate on in my president message. However, I must share this upcoming event that may lead to "be careful what you wish for".

## ***President's Message (cont'd)***

Robert Redford and Nick Nolte will be in a movie to be released in the spring, based on the book "A Walk in the Woods". The expectation is the movie will generate a lot of new trail users who may end up the same as the individuals in the book. The Georgia and Nantahala Clubs are already being primed with strategies to deal with the onslaught. I'm thinking the potential to have one heck of a sale on brand new hiking gear will be a great money maker for these clubs! On a serious note, while this publicity will likely be a good thing for the ATC and bringing awareness of the trail, there is also the balance of ensuring the 'AT experience' is preserved.

I have gone on long enough! Hope to see you out on the trail either helping with the maintenance or on a hike, maybe even both!! Bring on that beautiful fall weather!!!

Theresa Duffey

### **Your club is looking for a few good members to join the dynamic ODATC Board!!**

Do you have an interest in giving back to your club? Perhaps you have an interest in learning more about the relationship of the club and how it fits into the overall cooperative management partnership for the Appalachian Trail. Maybe you have some great ideas that will help the club grow and become more visible in the Richmond area.

Nominations are being sought for the following ODATC Board positions: Vice President, Trail Maintenance, Outreach, Webmaster, and Newsletter. Each of these positions plays an integral role in the oversight of your trail club.

In general, each position is a 2 year term; board members are expected to attend a minimum of 2/3 rds of the board meetings which are held every other month. Each position has different responsibilities yet contributes to the overall decisions that guide and direct our club's functions. In today's technology driven world, it is important that board members have regular access to the internet as much of the communication is through email. To learn more about the responsibilities of these positions, please feel free to contact the current board member in your position of interest. You can also review the duties of each position by going to the website. You will need to log in as a member, go to the Member only tab, then to Governing documents, and click on ODATC Standing Rules which is the guidance document for the board. If you are interested in any of these positions, please contact Theresa Duffey ([odatc.president@gmail.com](mailto:odatc.president@gmail.com)) or Larry Kidd ([odatc.webmaster@gmail.com](mailto:odatc.webmaster@gmail.com)).

**ODATC Hike Rating Codes**

Hiking boots are strongly recommended for all hikes. Hikers must be properly equipped, aware of their limitations & hike within their ability. In the interest of safety, activity coordinators may refuse to allow participation by club members or their guests.

Terrain

- 1 = Very Strenuous
- 2 = Strenuous
- 3 = Moderate
- 4 = Easy

Distance

- A = More than 13 miles
- B = 9 to 13 miles
- C = 5 to 9 miles
- D = Under 5 miles

**CARPOOLING** Please honor the following suggested donation to your driver when carpooling to and from hikes: \$10 per rider for travel to and around the Charlottesville area (60-70 miles approx.) \$15+ per rider for travel beyond Charlottesville (over 75 miles).

## **Trips, Treks, and Talks** - Ted McGarry & Jim Hunt, Contributors

**September 10 (Wednesday) North Anna Battlefield Park hike/sit in the river. Rescheduled from July – Hanover (D/4)** Jim Hunt (hikerjimhunt@hotmail.com or 804-730-2364) Come join us on this 4 mile hike and sit in the North Anna River. The new trails in the North Anna Battlefield Park give us great access to the North Anna River. We will walk 2 miles to the river, sit in the river for an hour and walk back. Take I-95 north 18 miles to Doswell exit 98. Go west on Rte 30 for a half mile, turn right on US 1 and go 1.2 miles. Turn left on Verdon Road, Rte 684, go 2.2 miles and the park in on your right. Drive into the park and park in the main parking lot. Bring water, lunch, water shoes and a change of clothing. No pets or young kids please and if the morning Channel 12 weather temp for the day is 92 or higher the hike is canceled. Meet at 9:50 am.

### **September 13 (Saturday) Jones Run- Doyle River Falls - SNP (C/3)**

Bill Tennant ([Willyten10@aol.com](mailto:Willyten10@aol.com) or 282-0590) Let's ease into the new season with this old favorite. It's an 8.4 miler down Jones Run then up Doyle River. We will stop for lunch at one of the two nicest waterfalls in the Shenandoah National Park. It's 1800 feet of elevation change but it seems like a walk in the park. Can be shortened to 7.0 miles if you want a little easier walk. Contact Bill for meeting location and time.

### **September 14 (Sunday) Autumn Comes Softly – Charlottesville (D/4)**

Ted McGarry (218-1238). One in a series of easy Sunday afternoon trips to the Blue Ridge mountains, stopping at the Albemarle Cider Works (bring a cooler for the cold delicious), hiking in the Moormans River valley, followed by a social meal with an outdoor dining option. Coordinator's choice: **Sugar Hollow Reservoir** located at the foot of the Shenandoah National Park. Linear hike from the reservoir along the Moormans River (a Virginia Scenic River) on a dead end paved road with three river bridge crossings and return. The Richmond departure time is after lunch, so

allowing for travel time, plan for a 2:30 to 4:30 pm hike. Optional meal afterward in Crozet. I will not be returning with the carpool after dinner. I am going contra dancing. You must call before 9:30 pm Friday September 12 to go on this trip. Carpool from I-64 exit 173 Rockville Park and Ride.

### **September 16 (Tuesday night) ODATC General Membership Meeting**

Jenni Pendergrass will present Hiking on the Dingle Way. We will follow Jenni and several other ODATC members on their trek along the southwest coast of Ireland in May 2012. The meeting begins at 7PM, but members are encouraged to arrive at 6:30 for socializing and calisthenics. Snacks to share are always welcome and we'd also like you to bring a canned good to donate to the church's food bank. Meeting is at Trinity Lutheran Church, 2315 N. Parham Rd. at I-64 Exit 181 South.

### **September 17 (Wednesday) 'Central Park' - RVA D/4**

Suzanne Hallberg and Jim Metz ([suhallberg@yahoo.com](mailto:suhallberg@yahoo.com) or 285-8632)

This hike is the traditional start of the Wednesday hike season after the summer break. An out of state contributor on [www.tripadvisor.com](http://www.tripadvisor.com) called Maymont 'Richmond's Central Park'. It is rated by tourists as #2 of 91 destinations in Richmond, VMFA was first. Enjoy this 4 mile hike around two lakes in Byrd Park and throughout Maymont. Meet at the Spotswood Rd. parking lot (opposite Dogwood Dell). Optional lunch at a Carytown eatery. Meet at 9:50 am.

### **September 20 (Saturday) Work trip.**

Monthly work trip on the ODATC section of the AT. This is a all day event. Bring water, lunch and work gloves. Dress for weather. Click on [odatc.trailmaint@gmail.com](mailto:odatc.trailmaint@gmail.com) to send an email to Lori and Fran in order to register or to request additional information or call Lori (804-397-5306) or Fran (804-270-6908). Please respond by Sep. 17th.

### **September 20 ( Saturday) Reed's Gap to Humpback Rocks - AT (B/2)**

Jack Martin ([rjmartiniii@gmail.com](mailto:rjmartiniii@gmail.com) or 678-8083) This 12 mile hike covers a major portion of the club's maintained 19.1 miles on the AT. Bring water and lunch. Meet at the I-64 Exit 167 Oilville Park & Ride at 8:30 am. If planning to go, contact Jack in advance since shuttling involved between Reed's and Humpback.

### **September 24 (Wednesday) University of Richmond, its Surrounds and a Social – RVA (C/4)**

Bill Tennant ([Willyten10@aol.com](mailto:Willyten10@aol.com) or 282-0590) or Meet and park around the circle in front of Bill's house at 710 West Drive Circle. DO NOT PARK ON THE NEIGHBORS' LAWNS. From the West End's Forest Ave. turn on Lindsay Dr. at the Tuckahoe Elementary School to the first right. Enjoy a 5-6 mile walk around the trails and lake at the University of Richmond. Also see Civil War defenses, a City of Richmond park, the highest elevation in Richmond City, Country Club of Virginia and surrounding neighborhoods. BRING A LUNCH AS SOFT DRINKS AND BEER WILL BE PROVIDED AT BILL'S HOME AFTER THE HIKE Meet at 9:50 am.

**September 24 (Wednesday) SMV Lunch Break Science RVA** Nathan Burrell, James River Park Superintendent - *Parks, Trails and Tourism- Connecting the Dots*. Science Museum of Virginia 2500 W. Broad St. at Noon.

### **September 27 (Saturday) Annual Family Hike, Albright Loop - AT (D-3)**

Theresa Duffey ([taduffey2054@comcast.net](mailto:taduffey2054@comcast.net) or 550-0955) Enjoy a family friendly hike along a section of trail maintained by ODATC. The hike is approximately 3.5 miles leaving the Humpback Rocks parking area, circling around Dobie Mountain and returning to the parking area via the AT. We will take a short side trail over to Glass Hollow Overlook to enjoy views of Rockfish Valley.

The hike has minimal elevation gain/loss but does have some rocky areas so sturdy hiking/walking shoes advised. Bring lunch or snack and water. For those wishing to do some additional and more strenuous hiking, the trail to the peak of Humpback Rocks is also accessed from the Humpback Rocks parking area where the loop hike will begin and end. Contact Theresa for meeting place and time.

**September 27 (Saturday) Nicholson Hollow / Catlett Mountain - SNP (B/2)**

David Grimes at [dvgrimes.54@gmail.com](mailto:dvgrimes.54@gmail.com). This hike starts at the Old Rag parking area so we will meet early to accommodate the longer drive. The Hike has two stream crossings that may require over the boot wading with another ford before the trail starts to climb along Hannah Run. The trail passes several cabin ruins, abandoned apple orchards and rock walls associated with the Hazel Country settler community. The trail's steepest pitch is a 500 foot climb in 0.2 miles and is rough and rocky so wear appropriate foot gear on this hike. The hike is 9.9 miles - strenuous - Elev. change 2000 ft. This hike rates a B/2 on ODATC's scale due to length and difficulty - not quite an insanity hike but you should be in good shape to do this one never the less. In keeping with the Leave No Trace principles the hike is limited to 10. Please contact Dave to signup.

**October 1 (Wednesday) Richmond National Battlefield Park – Varina (C-4)**

Ted McGarry ([tedmcgarry@juno.com](mailto:tedmcgarry@juno.com) or 285-1341). Two hours plus hike on a lightly used portion of Battlefield Park Road to Osborne Landing Park (bathrooms) and return. Meet at the Fort Harrison Visitor Center parking lot. Optional lunch at Portabellas afterward. Written directions by email available from Ted. Meet at 9:50 am.

**October 3 to October 5 (Friday to Sunday weekend) False Cape State Park -Virginia Beach**

**David Grimes at [dvgrimes.54@gmail.com](mailto:dvgrimes.54@gmail.com).** Come spend a wonderful weekend at False Cape State Park in the lodge. The trip is limited to 20 people - the cost will be under \$100 per person for the two nights lodging and all the environmental education events - including the 3 hour kayak trip into Back Bay. The center has a full kitchen and bunk style sleeping quarters (men/women). Contact me.

**October 4 (Saturday) Rocky Mountain-Brown Mountain – SNP (B/2)**

Bill Tennant ([Willyten10@aol.com](mailto:Willyten10@aol.com) or 282-0590) This is hike #21 in the PATC's "Circuit Hikes in Shenandoah National Park". We walk along the ridges of both Brown and Rocky mountains with great views, then descend to a nice lunch spot on the water at Big Run. We cross Big Run a few times, then climb back up to Skyline Drive. At 2100 feet of elevation change and 10.1 miles, it's not a beginner's hike, but a manageable hike for those who want to get some exercise and enjoy the views. Can't tell in advance about the water level of Big Run so you might want to bring creek shoes and be prepared to wade up to ankle depth if necessary. Contact Bill for meeting location and time.

**October 8 (Wednesday) Fluvanna Heritage Trail and Pleasant Grove Park - Fluvanna County (C/3)**

Bill Tennant ([Willyten10@aol.com](mailto:Willyten10@aol.com) or 282-0590). Come join us on this easy 7 mile hike along the Rivanna River bottomland and Piedmont hillside forest. We'll hike along the River in the morning. Bring a lunch and we will eat at the pole barns, visit the homestead and cemetery in the afternoon and be back in Richmond about 3 or 4 pm. Meet at the Oilville Park and Ride I- 64 Exit 167 (beyond Route 288). We'll leave promptly at 9:00 am for a one hour carpool to the Park or meet us at 10:00 am at the Park entrance on Route 53 about 1/2 mile west of US 15 in Palmyra.

**October 11 (Saturday) South River Falls – SNP (B/3)**

Jack Martin ([rjmartiniii@gmail.com](mailto:rjmartiniii@gmail.com) or 678-8083) This 10 mile circuit hike has 1,800 ft. elevation change and is described in PATC's "Circuit Hikes in Shenandoah National Park". Features are 3<sup>rd</sup>

largest waterfall in SNP, an old cemetery and Pocosin mission ruins. Bring water and lunch. Meet at I-64 Exit 167 Oilville Park & Ride at 8:30 am

**October 15 (Wednesday) Rockwood Park – Chesterfield (C/4) 3401 Courthouse Road, North Chesterfield, VA 23236**

Joanne Berdall and Ellie Tuck ([jberdall@hotmail.com](mailto:jberdall@hotmail.com) or Ellie's cell – 370-2603). Rockwood Park is Chesterfield County's oldest park. Located near the intersection of Courthouse Road and Hull Street Road, this park has an extensive system of both hard and soft surface nature trails. We will hike through 5 miles of these shaded trails. Restrooms and picnic tables are available for anyone wishing to bring a picnic lunch following the hike. Numerous restaurants are also within half a mile of this park. We will meet in the parking lot across from the park office. (This parking lot is near the tennis court restrooms, but is not the small tennis court parking lot.) Meet at 9:50 am.

**October 18 (Saturday) Work trip**

Monthly work trip on the ODATC section of the AT. This is a all day event. Bring water, lunch and work gloves. Dress for weather. Click on [odatc.trailmaint@gmail.com](mailto:odatc.trailmaint@gmail.com) to send an email to Lori and Fran in order to register or to request additional information or call Lori (804-397-5306) or Fran (804-270-6908). Please respond by Oct. 15th.

**October 18 (Saturday) Virginia Blue Ridge Railway Trail – Nelson County south of Charlottesville (B/4)**

Jim Hunt (730-2364) This hike is on this rails-to-trail adaptive reuse of the former railroad bed about 2 hours west of Richmond in the Blue Ridge mountains of Nelson County. The Trail has a 100 foot total elevation change and the scenic Piney and Tye River valley views are best before foliage appears. This is an out and back hike for a total of 10.6 miles or a minimum of 4 hours. Additional non-repeat mileage is available. Bring water and lunch for the trail. A porta potty is available at the trailhead. Carpool from I-64 Exit 173 Rockville Park and Ride. [www.trailink.com/trail/virginia-blue-ridge-railway-trail.aspx](http://www.trailink.com/trail/virginia-blue-ridge-railway-trail.aspx)

**October 18 (Saturday) Three Ridges Mau Har loop – AT (B/2)**

David Olli ([dolli@smv.org](mailto:dolli@smv.org) or 864-1461) One of my favorite long-loop hikes includes 13-miles of vigorous elevation change, couple of stream crossings, some slippery boulder spots but a grand view at a lunch stop rock outcrop, victorious feeling you've conquered the mountain, and a post-hike stop at Carter Mountain Orchard just down the road from the Route 56 Tye River trail head stocked with various types of fresh picked apples. Not for the beginner or "I think I'm in hiking shape" so check with Dave before signing on. Group size limited to 12, no young children or pets, please.

**October 22 (Wednesday) Crozier Hike and Social – Goochland (C/3)**

Jack Martin ([rjmartiniii@gmail.com](mailto:rjmartiniii@gmail.com) or 678-8083). Hike the woods of Goochland and stay for lunch afterwards (drinks, hamburgers, hot dogs provided). Bring a side dish and RSVP to Jack if you plan to attend. Meet at the I-64 Exit 167 Oilville Park & Ride. Early meeting time at **9:30 am**.

**October 25 (Saturday) Camp Hoover (Rapidan Camp) Loop -SNP (B/3)**

Larry Kidd ([lkiddjr@comcast.net](mailto:lkiddjr@comcast.net) or 784-3617). A moderate 7.6 mile loop hike with 1200 feet elevation change in Shenandoah National Park. Starting from the parking area at Milam Gap head south on the AT 2.7 miles then descend on the Laurel Prong Trail 3.2 miles to the famous Hoover Camp and return by the Mill Prong Trail and the AT 1.7 miles. This is the website Hiking Upwards Camp Hoover Hike. Bring a lunch to eat at Camp Hoover followed by a ranger led tour of the President's cabin. Contact Larry for meeting time and place.

**October 29 (Wednesday) Larus Park - RVA (D/4)**

Larry Kidd ([lkiddjr@comcast.net](mailto:lkiddjr@comcast.net) or 784-3617). While owned by the city since 1978, Lewis G. Larus Park was not formally developed until 2006. Larus park is 106 acres of wooded solitude surrounded by urban hustle and bustle with about 5 miles of trails. It's bounded by Huguenot Road, Chippenham Parkway and a regional shopping center yet manages to remain virtually unknown to most Richmonders. It really is the Richmond city park system's hidden gem. We will meet in the back of the parking lot away from the Martin's Food Store entrance in the Stony Point Shopping Center, on Huguenot Road near its intersection with Stony Point Road and hike about 4.5 miles in Larus Park with an optional lunch in one of the nearby Bon Air restaurants. Meet at 9:50 am.

**October 30 (Thursday) Torry Ridge – South of Waynesboro (B/2)**

Jack Martin ([rjmartinii@gmail.com](mailto:rjmartinii@gmail.com) or 678-8083). Start at White Rock Gap off the Blue Ridge Parkway, pass a waterfall, hike along mountain crests, through the Sherando Lake campground (see *Hiking Upward* for complete description). Bring lunch and water. Meet at I-64 Exit 167 Oilville Park & Ride at 8:30 am.

**Upcoming Activities****November 1 to November 2 (Saturday to Sunday weekend) Halloween Hoot (B/3)**

Contact Mike Shelor [trailguymike@aol.com](mailto:trailguymike@aol.com)

**November 8, 2014** (Saturday 5-8 pm) ODATC 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party at Deep Run Park, Ridgefield Ballroom, Henrico County

**November 18 (Tuesday) ODATC General Membership Meeting**

ODATC members Jane and Lee Hesler are Master Naturalists. They will give a presentation on this program and how it is making an impact on our local environment and natural conservation efforts here in Virginia.

**Upcoming Programs – Sue Kropp, Contributor**

**September 16, 2014**, Jenni Pendergrass will present *Hiking on the Dingle Way*. We will follow Jenni and several other ODATC members on their trek along the southwest coast of Ireland in May 2012.

**November 18, 2014**, ODATC members Jane and Lee Hesler are Master Naturalists. They will give a presentation on this program and how it is making an impact on our local environment and natural conservation efforts here in Virginia.

**January 20, 2015**, Woody Cumbo, a trained Horticulturist, spent many years teaching and exploring the Great Smoky Mountains of North Carolina. He will enlighten us on the many species of trees found there and what to look for when hiking this beautiful part of the country.

All meetings are held in Bruneing Hall at *Trinity Lutheran Church*  
located at 2315 North Parham Rd., Richmond, Va. 23229.

The meetings officially begin at 7PM, but members are encouraged to arrive 30 minutes early for socializing. Snacks to share are always welcome. Please bring non-perishable food items to add to their food bank.

For more information contact Sue Kropp at [odatc.programs@gmail.com](mailto:odatc.programs@gmail.com).

## **TWO NEW OUTFITTERS IN RICHMOND** - Sue Kropp, Contributor

WALKABOUT OUTFITTERS, at 3015 West Cary Street, opened on May 19. It is the fourth store for this company in Virginia and the first one in Richmond. Go and check out the latest gear and clothing. Located across the street from the Byrd Theatre. Look them up at: [www.walkaboutoutfitter.com](http://www.walkaboutoutfitter.com).

GREENLIFE ADVENTURE SPORTS is located at 9691 West Broad Street. Originating in Norfolk, Greenlife is expanding to the Richmond area. Greenlife will be offering seminars, equipment rental and, of course, the latest in new gear. Be sure to catch their Grand Opening on August 23 from 5 p.m to 9 pm. There will be prizes! Here is the big news: GREENLIFE IS OFFERING ODATC MEMBERS a 10% DISCOUNT ON ALL PURCHASES. Look them up at: [www.greenlifeadventuresports.com](http://www.greenlifeadventuresports.com).

Take some time to explore these two new outfitters. REMEMBER TO SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL BUSINESSES.

## **Welcome to New Members**

*ODATC would like to recognize and welcome the following new members. Current club members are encouraged to welcome and get to know them better as they join us on scheduled hikes listed above.*

Robert Krause

Nena Combs-Kirkland



ODATC has seen many changes over the last 45 years. These have occurred due to the dedication and efforts of members who have championed these changes. Although so many have made a significant impact on the success of ODATC over the years, we will be able to highlight only a few of those significant contributions in this article.

In the mid 1980's, Wintergreen announced plans to develop the entire side of Humpback Mountain. Jack Albright knew that the AT needed to be relocated away from the day use trail up Humpback Rocks and that the only feasible route was through the proposed development. Jack loudly and emphatically approached the AT professionals saying "Something has to be done!" The ATC and NPS quickly put together a proposal to purchase a right of way from Wintergreen. At this point there had been no work done on actually laying out a relocation except that Jack, Brian Wakeman, Pete Tansill, and maybe a few others had a rough plan. But to the surprise of the AT community when the Park Service approached Wintergreen to obtain the right of way, the response was, 'if you are going to take that wide a right of way then you might as well take the whole side of the mountain.' So the Park Service said thank you very much and bought the entire side of the mountain. This is why the footpath there is not just a narrow right of way. Lynne Overman, one of two of the first women ODATC members, was president during the time of the acquisition and was very instrumental in insuring the success of this project. In the mid-90's, Jim Schroering, Charlie

Banks, Doug Nelson, Howard Davis, Kathy and Dave Gillespie laid out and flagged the relocation, and along with other members worked to make the relocation a reality.

Other trail rerouting efforts followed over the next 20 years. To minimize foot traffic over Humpback Rocks and provide separation from day hiker and thru-hiker impact, a relocation effort was underway from 1997 through 2000. Under the direction of Fran Leckie, the Trail Maintenance Chair for 16 years, and the hard work of many club members, including Karen Koontz, Dave Wilcox, Janice Olson-Zavik, Jim Schroering, Mike Shelor, and the Konnorock crews, the AT was rerouted around the back of Humpback Mountain, joining up with the Howardsville Turnpike at the Humpback Rocks Parking Area. This route gave the thru-hikers some sense of seclusion in the woods at a highly populated visiting area, while giving the day hikers a short, yet challenging hiking experience in the woods.

Shortly following the completion of the Humpback Rocks relocation, another relocation effort was planned and executed. This relocation continued the trail from the Howardsville Turnpike intersection to Dobie Mountain heading north. Redirecting the AT footpath eliminated the hill climb heading north from the Humpback Rocks parking area. It was about a mile of flat trail overseeing the valley to the east and a beautiful overlook at Glass Hollow. The abandoned part of the trail was then made into a blue blaze trail for day hikers heading north. It was decided to dedicate this blue blaze trail to Jack Albright. Bob Kyle tirelessly prepared all the applications and grants required to fund this project. Our devoted trail maintenance crew, such as Greg Hambacker, Fran Leckie, Dave Wilcox and many others, put in many hours of work to complete the trail. The Jack Albright Trail was worked on from 2002 to 2003 and dedicated in 2005. Jim Hunt, the president at the time, was a driving force in the dedication celebration held at the trailhead and the Humpback Rocks Visitor Center.

The late 80's brought a renewed interest by ATC and Mike Dawson, Central and SW Virginia Representative, to locate a shelter somewhere on the Old Dominion section of the AT. Given the freedom to design our shelter, Jack Williams took on the daunting task of the designing and planning. However, funding was still an issue. Sadly, the death of a trail lover unknown to us became the impetus and eventual source of funds for the shelter. Mike Dawson informed us that the family of Paul C. Wolfe, a gentleman who had enjoyed hiking the AT in the southern Appalachians, wanted to donate money for the construction of a shelter as a memorial. Their desire fit our needs perfectly. With plans being complete, and the shelter location being determined, 1991 was deemed the year of the shelter construction. During the summer of 1991, club members and friends coordinated skills and talents to build one the most impressive shelters on the AT. Since lumber was at a premium, the shelter came first and then the privy. Did you ever wonder why the privy has only half of a door? We ran out of lumber!! The shelter was dedicated in November 1991. The Wolfe Family travelled up from Florida to join the many trail people who had fostered and funded the building of the "Paul C. Wolfe Memorial Shelter". Mrs. Wolfe and her family were very pleased with the club's efforts and saw the shelter as a very fitting memorial to their father and husband. After the dedication was over and while folks were talking around the shelter, we were humbled to experience Mrs. Wolfe spread her husband's ashes around the circumference of the shelter. Many hands made this effort possible. Folks who did the planning, folks who cooked awesome meals at Sherando, and all who built the shelter or privy, not the least of which was then president Roger Clifton. All involved coordinated their skills to make something all of us in the ODATC can be proud of.

These are just a few of the major accomplishments of our dedicated ODATC members. To name all the folks that put in so many hours and hard work into this club would need more space than this newsletter can allow. But everyone working on the trail, or planning meetings, or leading hikes and excursions, has made an impact on the success of ODATC and the club is stronger and better because of them.

So November 8 is coming up soon. Be sure to make your reservation for ODATC's 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary party before October 15. Mail in your reservation using the reservation form in the Walker or reserve online at: <http://www.olddominiontrailclub.onefireplace.org/event-1719834> .

## 2014 ODATC Board of Directors

(Area Code 804)

President	Theresa Duffey	550-0955	<a href="mailto:odatc.president@gmail.com">odatc.president@gmail.com</a>
Vice President	David Prestia	527-2001	<a href="mailto:odatc.vicepresident@gmail.com">odatc.vicepresident@gmail.com</a>
Secretary	Leonard Atkins	275-1208	<a href="mailto:odatc.secretary@gmail.com">odatc.secretary@gmail.com</a>
Treasurer	Dennis Schafer	314-2434	<a href="mailto:odatc.treasurer@gmail.com">odatc.treasurer@gmail.com</a>
Programs	Sue Kropp	276-0070	<a href="mailto:odatc.programs@gmail.com">odatc.programs@gmail.com</a>
Land Mgmt.	Karl Huber	355-4619	<a href="mailto:odatc.landmgmt@gmail.com">odatc.landmgmt@gmail.com</a>
Membership	John Spindler	746-4717	<a href="mailto:odatc.membership@gmail.com">odatc.membership@gmail.com</a>
Trail Maint.	Lori Ando	397-5306	<a href="mailto:odatc.trailmaint@gmail.com">odatc.trailmaint@gmail.com</a>
Activities	Jim Hunt (weekend events)	730-2364	<a href="mailto:odatc.activities@gmail.com">odatc.activities@gmail.com</a>
	Ted McGarry (weekday events)	218-1238	<a href="mailto:odatc.activities@gmail.com">odatc.activities@gmail.com</a>
Newsletter	Susan Kidd (acting)	784-3617	<a href="mailto:odatc.newsletter@gmail.com">odatc.newsletter@gmail.com</a>
Outreach	David Grimes	833-8974	<a href="mailto:odatc.outreach@gmail.com">odatc.outreach@gmail.com</a>
Webmaster	Larry Kidd	784-3617	<a href="mailto:odatc.webmaster@gmail.com">odatc.webmaster@gmail.com</a>

Board meetings are typically held the first Tuesday of January, March, May, July, September, and November. Meeting dates are occasionally changed so please contact the president for times and location. All meetings are open to the membership.

**ACROSS THE MILES, ACROSS THE YEARS  
ODATC 45<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

**When:** Saturday, November 8, 2014

**Where:** Deep Run Recreation Center at Deep Run Park, Ridgefield Ballroom  
9910 Ridgefield Parkway, Henrico, VA 23233

Daytime Activities: Three hikes will be scheduled: a 3 and 5 miles hike in the park and a 10 mile hike in a location to be determined. Check the ODATC website and the Sep-Oct “Walker” for planned activities. Contact the activity leader directly for details, times and sign-up. All daytime activities will end at 5:00 P.M.

5:00 PM – Social Time

5:30 PM – Dinner Menu: Pork (barbeque and sliced), barbequed chicken, salads, coffee, tea, lemonade, dessert. Vegetarian option: Tofu on Portobello mushroom.

**Alcohol is not allowed on Park property.**

7:00 PM – Program

**Entertainment:** Old Crusty Minstrels

**Cost:** \$15 per person; children under 12 free

Mail the dinner reservation form with payment check (Made payable to ODATC) to:

Susan Turner  
7107 Spring Trace Turn  
Midlothian, VA 23112-6469

Attire: Casual

**Reservations are required and should be received by October 15.**

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**Dinner Reservation Form  
ODATC 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration**

Name (Please Print) \_\_\_\_\_

Adults: \_\_\_\_\_ Children: \_\_\_\_\_ Ages of Children: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Number of Adult Attendees: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$15.00 Amount Due: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Vegetarian Option: Y N How Many? \_\_\_\_\_ Vegan Option: Y N How Many? \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## *Lest we forget...*

### **The ODATC Mission**

- The construction and maintenance of foot trails for hikers, including the trail between Reeds Gap and Rockfish Gap.
- The provision of excursions on such trails or other areas
- Offering educational activities related to the need for preserving the great outdoors.

### **ODATC and ATC**

ODATC is a maintenance club and a member of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy (ATC). Annual dues are \$15 for individuals and \$20 for families. Lifetime memberships are available for \$250. Renewals are due annually based upon the month you joined. Renewals and applications for membership can be processed online. If you prefer the USPS, forms for renewal and application may be printed from the website. If you are interested in becoming a member of the ATC you can call (304) 535-6331, ext. 119, e-mail them at [membership@appalachiantrail.org](mailto:membership@appalachiantrail.org) or use this link to their website: <http://www.appalachiantrail.org/donate/join-renew>.

## **THE WALKER**

*The Walker* is published bi-monthly  
with the submission deadlines by the 15<sup>th</sup>  
of the pre-publication month.

Club member stories and photos are welcome!

Please send your material to [odatc.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:odatc.newsletter@gmail.com).