



Emily's Turning 80! & You're Invited

Our long time ODATC member, Emily Kimball, The Aging Adventurer, is turning 80 in August. Her three children are organizing an outdoor celebration at Shelter #1 at Bryan Park, 4308 Hermitage Road on Saturday, **August 13**, from 1:00 to 5:00. Snacks will be provided and plenty of cold sodas to help you beat the heat. She welcomes you to drop in and say hi. This will be an active event with horse shoes, badminton, soccer balls to kick, Frisbees to throw, maybe a volleyball and net. Shelter #1 is adjacent to a nice playground so bring your kids or grandkids and enjoy the afternoon. No presents please. Emily's daughter Susan is collecting memories of Emily for a scrapbook about her life. If you could e-mail a few memories about Emily (by July 11) she would greatly appreciate it: susan@susanyoungphoto.com.

Wilderness First Aid Certification

A wilderness first aid certification course that addresses the needs of the casual hiker, rural living or an urban disaster will be offered at various locations on different dates as listed below. For more information go to www.solowfa.com or contact Matt Rosefsky, Wilderness EMT & Instructor in partnership with Blue Ridge Mountain Sports & MEDIC SOLO Wilderness & Emergency Medicine (434-760-HIKE (4453).

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August 27-28: Hampton
September 10-11: Charlottesville
September 17-18: Richmond
October 22-23: Blacksburg



Hike Coordinators Needed

Our club is fortunate to have a variety of hikers: short distance, long distance, local, national and international! It's all fun! What we need is more hike leaders to step forward to organize some of our hikes and activities. Whether it's something new or something old, it would be great to see new faces step forward to lead a group. You could lead a favorite hike, bike ride, paddle trip, camping spot, or walk in a local park. If you are interested, please contact Jenni Pendergrass: 264-1633 or japendergrass@co.hanover.va.us.



Promotional Display for ODATC

As ODATC participates in various festivals, conferences and activities, we take our large tri-fold promotional display board. This colorful display has weathered the years and needs to be updated. It includes information about ODATC's history as well as components of our clubs' activities. The layout of attractive pictures, captions and headings is key! If you have a talent, skill or a great picture and would like to help with this endeavor, please contact Theresa Duffey at taduffey2054@comcast.net.

Nominations and Elections ✓

All board positions, except Trail Maintenance and Webmaster, are due for new nominations which will be presented to the membership in November. If you would like to fill one of the board positions, please contact Mark Dimmick (mmdimmick@hotmail.com) who is organizing the nominating committee. Newly elected board members will begin their term in January.

ODATC MISSION

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

P R E S I D E N T ' S L E T T E R

Dear Members,

This summer will be a busy one for the club. Virginia Journeys 2011 has finally arrived. Numerous club members will be at Emory and Henry College from July 1 – July 8 volunteering and participating in the ATC Biennial Conference. These conferences are a wonderful opportunity for individuals from the various AT clubs and ATC members to hike different areas, and to visit and network with other outdoor enthusiasts. I am very grateful to Sue Kropp for stepping forward to oversee the club's role at this conference. The night I was elected club president in November 2009, she approached me offering to be the club's representative on the steering committee. Sue has assembled an excellent crew of sub-committee chairs: Barbara Stewart, who is handling the registration desk; Howard Davis, who is overseeing volunteers at the Information tables; and Jenni Pendergrass, who coordinated the exhibitor registration and will be involved in getting the exhibitor area set up at the college. Mac Taylor has been serving as an advisor to the conference steering committee. The last big effort locally is scheduled for June 18 and is a stuffing party which entails preparing over 900 goody bags for the conference attendees. After that, the crowd will head to Emory on June 30 to begin the real work as the attendees begin to arrive on July 1.

During the summer, many club members have trips planned to more exotic places than the mountains of Virginia, thus resulting in a few less club activities than one might see in the spring and fall. However, this is peak maintainer season! The vegetation along the trail is no doubt growing like crazy. Hopefully, these sporadic storms aren't bringing down any trees across our trail section. Work trips are scheduled through the summer as well as a week of the Konnarock volunteer crew from July 21-25. Be sure to check out Lori Ando's work trip notices on the web and in the newsletter. We can always use more help keeping the trail in tip-top shape.

We are still looking for a capable individual to step forward and serve as club secretary. Lori has continued to handle that role along with her duties as trail maintenance chair; however her time has become very limited as trail maintenance duties increase. As an interim step, the secretarial duties will be shared among other Board members. This November, several board positions will be up for election. In fact, all but the website chair and maintenance chair will be open. A nominating committee chair has not been selected at this time. However, if you have an interest in one of the Board positions, please feel free to contact me while the committee is being identified. The club board will always have a need for new members with bright creative ideas for moving the club forward. This could be your way to give back to the club!

Enjoy the summer. Get out, hike, do a little trail maintenance. Stay cool!

Theresa

Bylaws Available in September

The current Board has been working on revising the club's bylaws. Changes have been made in numerous sections and will be available to the membership by September. Please be sure to look for these in the near future.

Newsletter Editor Assistant Wanted

Do you have a way with words, talented with organizing information or helpful in putting it all together and mailing or updating to the website? I will help you learn! Contact me to help produce our very informative newsletter: Janet Bailey (odatcwalker@gmail.com)

A C T I V I T I E S

This list of activities was current at the time *The Walker* was published. The **full description** of all events may be found at www.odatc.net. Check the website for additional events such as films, lectures, workshops, etc. that may be of interest. Also, frequently refer to the **Events** page on the website for changes to events or to see new activities posted after *The Walker* publication deadline. At any time, events may be closed or canceled while others may be updated with important information. Please remember the suggested guidelines for carpool donations: (Charlottesville area - \$10 and beyond 75 miles - \$15).

July 17 (Sunday) ODATC Social – Dogwood Dell Remembers Page Wilson (Byrd Park)

Jenni Pendergrass (264-1633 or jennipendergrass@aol.com) Come enjoy a special tribute to Page Wilson, a longtime Richmond musician and radio host of Out of the Blue Radio Review on public radio. Guest artists include Terry Garland and Lil Ronnie, Reckless Abandon and Janet Martin Band. The concert starts at 6:00 but plan to arrive at 5:00 with your dinner, snacks, chairs and bug spray! Look for club members in our customary spot down front.

July 19 ODATC Board Meeting (N/A)

Contact our Club President, Theresa Duffey, for additional information.

July 23 (Saturday) Rivanna River Paddle (N/A)

John Festa johnfesta@comcast.net will coordinate a 3-4 hour beginner's paddle on the scenic Rivanna River between Crofton and Palmyra with a lunch stop. Crofton is about one hour west of Richmond. You must provide your own boat and equipment including PFD's. Email is best in contacting John for information but, if you must, call 804-201-7685.

July 21 -25 (Thur – Mon) Konnarock Work Trip (N/A)

Lori Ando (804-397-5306 or llo043022@gmail.com) Join other club members and some neat folks from other states for some fun and hard work completing a trail relocation near Dripping Rock. Free tent camping each night at Sherando Lake (swimming, showers, toilets, pavilion for cooking and socializing). A free group meal on Saturday night is also included. Come for one to five days. Car pools from Richmond are usually available every day if you need a ride.

July 29 (Friday) ODATC Social – *Hairspray* at Dogwood Dell (Byrd Park)

Randy Wendell (794-7833) Come out and join other club members for an evening of entertainment. The play starts at 8:30 but plan to arrive at 7:30 with your dinner, snacks, chairs and bug spray! Look for club members in our customary spot down front.

July 30 (Saturday) Appalachian Trail in SNP, Bootens Gap to South River Falls Trail (B/3)

Hank Harman (804-347-3744 or hharman8@verizon.net) This 8.5 mile hike in Shenandoah National Park can also include the Bearfence Mountain rock scramble. Hank has PATC Pocosin Cabin on this section reserved for July 28-31. Call Hank for more details.

July 30 – 31 (Saturday – Sunday) Patterson Ridge Backpack Trip (SNP) (C/3)

Jenni Pendergrass (264-1633 or jennipendergrass@aol.com). We'll start the hike with an ice cream stop after several miles at Loft Mountain Wayside and then descend Patterson Ridge Trail to camp at a great creek side site, for a total of about 5 easy miles. We'll have time available for more hiking or enjoying the creek with its numerous swimming holes. Sunday we'll be hiking about 4.5 miles with 1500 ft elevation gain and then a short road walk back to our cars. Great trip for beating the Richmond heat.

August 13 (Saturday) Birthday Bash for Emily Kimball

Help ODATC member Emily Kimball celebrate her 80th birthday on Saturday, August 13th at Bryan Park Shelter #1 from 1-5. Her family is having a party and we're invited! Refreshments and lots of outdoor activities like horse shoes, soccer balls, badmitten, maybe volley ball, Frisbees, etc. RSVP to Emily at ETkimball@aol.com

A C T I V I T I E S**August 24 (Wednesday) ODATC Social – On the Deck at Legend Brewery**

Jenni Pendergrass (264-1633 or jennipendergrass@aol.com) Come find out how other club members spent their summer vacations and where they're going next. We'll plan to meet on the deck beginning at 5:00 pm. Legend's is at 321 W. 7th St. Call or email if you plan to come.

August 25-28 (Thurs – Sun) Backpacking Across Maryland (C/3)

Aseeyah (AK) ((804)382-6186 or solitude1957@hotmail.com) If you've been as far as Harper's Ferry and would like to continue the hike north on the AT, join me for 4 days backpacking across Maryland. We will start at the Weverton Road parking lot just north of the state line. Averaging 10 miles a day we will end at Pen Mar Park. If the group has time we could stop at the ATC Headquarters. Call or email for details.

August 27 (Saturday) James River Paddle (N/R)

Martha James (804-883-6252 or marthajames@yahoo.com) Club members are invited to join me on a Coastal Canoeists paddling trip. We'll be paddling the Seven Islands section of the James River from Hardware to New Canton. This is a four to five hour paddle of class I-II water. Contact Martha for more details and to let me know who will be coming.

F U T U R E A C T I V I T I E S**September 2 – 5 (Friday evening – Monday) Tuscarora Trail: Gore, VA to Hancock, MD. (A/1)**

Wenger (Animal) 757-253-0056 (H) markwenger@cox.net We will leave from Williamsburg at 4:00PM Friday and pick up anyone in Richmond at the Wal-Mart parking lot off I-95 in Ashland exit 92 on the way. We will eat a quick supper on the road and drive I-95 north to 17 then north to I-66 west to I-81 north to exit 310 north on 37 to 50 west to Gore and find a place to camp. On Saturday we will shuttle the vehicles or arrange a shuttle and begin the hike at Gore trying to cover at least 20 miles that day. Sunday and Monday will be 10 miles and 20 miles respectively. We will drive home that Monday evening. I am trying to section hike this trail and this is the next section for me. It is 50 miles in three days with camping and water few and far between. However, if you are up for adventure this is the hike for you.

September 23 - 25 (Friday evening – Sunday) Rafting the Gauley River (Moderate/Strenuous)

Mark J Wenger (Animal) 757-253-0056 (H) markwenger@cox.net We will leave from Williamsburg at 12 noon on Friday and pick up anyone in Richmond at exit 173 commuter lot on I-64 on the way. We will take I-64 west to Beckley, West Virginia then 19 north to Oak Hill, West Virginia. We will be camping Friday and Saturday night at ACE Adventures we will also be booking our rafting trip through them. There are several trips available but most of us book the marathon which is 23 miles, 110 rapids and both the upper and lower Gauley all in one day. I will be making the reservation June 1st at which time you can make your payment. Go to their web site for more details. The trip is not cheap but this is one of the top white water rivers in the world so you got to be there.

October 7-9 (Friday – Sunday) False Cape State Park

The weekend is reserved, BUT, **we need someone to coordinate the trip** this year. Jane and Lee Hessler have led this trip for several years but are looking for that special person to take that responsibility. If we can't find someone to lead, the trip will have to be canceled.

October 21 – 23 (Friday evening – Sunday)

Mark J Wenger (Animal) 757-253-0056 (H) markwenger@cox.net Weekend backpacking trip to be determined.

November 4 – 6 (Friday evening – Sunday)

Mark J Wenger (Animal) 757-253-0056 (H) markwenger@cox.net Backpacking trip or Pumkin Chunkin, let me know.

Trail Maintenance



April Showers bring May....April was a wet and wild time on our section of the trail. The April work trip started out with a rain delay due to heavy storms making their way through Virginia. Although the majority of the volunteers opted to stay closer to home, we had two adventuresome souls who dared the elements and went up the trail to remove downed trees. Rumor has it, they got very wet. The weather cooperated the next day and a smaller crew ventured up the trail and witnessed the results of all the rain. Water was flowing down the trail in places where typically there is very little. Needless to say, that day was spent cleaning out water bars, and, relocating water off the trail. Thanks to Greg, Claudia, Karen, Fran, Jim and Bob for their flexibility to offer help.

May still brought some nasty weather. As some of you may have heard, a tree landed on the privy. The tree was successfully removed, but for now the privy has a "sun roof". There is an entry in the log from someone who claimed to be in the privy when the tree fell. The day of the May work trip was amazingly beautiful. Crews were scattered the whole length of our section removing trees, swing blading weeds, clipping back bushes, blazing, cleaning water bars and creating check steps to control the water on the trail. Whew, a very busy day!! All the April and May showers not only brought flowers to the trail, but weeds and other growth as well; it was a good opportunity to start trimming them back. A big thank you is extended to Ed, Richard, Karen, Chris, Dave, Will, Eric, Jim, Robert, Fran, Theresa and Regina for a very long day of work.

By the way, if you don't know Regina, she is our Ridge Runner and does an excellent job of patrolling not only our section, but Tidewater's and a part of Natural Bridge. She is wonderful at reporting trail conditions and helping out hikers. Remember to say "hi" when you see her on the trail.

Even though a lot of work was accomplished in April and May, there is still a lot to look forward to. The **Konnarock** Crew will once again be in our area to relocate trail near Dripping Rock **July 21 – 25**. Konnarock is an ATC crew of mostly volunteers who tackle projects involving trail construction and rock work between the Trail's Southern terminus, Springer Mountain, Georgia and Shenandoah National Park. They help the clubs with bigger maintenance projects such as our Dripping Rock relocation, an effort to move the trail farther away from the houses in Wintergreen. **Come and join the fun** and meet this wonderful group of people. Camping will be available at Sherando for those who want to spend the night. If you were at Humpback Rocks June 9 - 13, you may have noticed a Konnarock Crew working on the rocky section near the top of the blue blaze trail. Check out the improvements they've made!

We've received a lot of compliments on the wonderful condition of our section of the trail, which is due to the hard work and dedication of not only the monthly work crews, who head up to the trail the third Saturday of every month, but the section maintainers as well. Volunteers are always welcome, and, very much needed. We are looking for additional section maintainers, so, if you're interested, please contact Lori or Fran. To all who have volunteered thank you, thank you, and thank you! Your work is greatly appreciated by all who walk the trail.

ODATC Hike Rating Codes

Terrain	Distance
1 = Very Strenuous	A = More than 13 miles
2 = Strenuous	B = 9 to 13 miles
3 = Moderate	C = 5 to 9 miles
4 = Easy	D = Under 5 miles

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.



Please honor the following suggested donations to your driver when carpooling to and from hikes:

\$10 per rider for travel to and around the Charlottesville area (60-75 miles approx)

\$15+ per rider for travel beyond Charlottesville (over 75 miles)

Discounts

Blue Ridge Mountain Sports, Appomattox River Company, Rockfish Gap Outfitters and Wilderness Adventure are big supporters of ODATC.

Blue Ridge Mountain Sports has a new location at 12020 West Broad St., Henrico, VA 23233 (in front of Hilton West of Short Pump Towne Center.) in addition to their locations at Chesterfield Towne Ctr. and 10164 Broad St.

Rockfish Gap Outfitters is on Route 250 in Waynesboro. They offer assistance with questions about hiking equipment.

Appomattox River Company extends a discount on all merchandise except boats and has locations in Farmville and Yorktown. Call 800-442-4837 for details or browse their website at www.paddleva.com.

Wilderness Adventure, located in the heart of Staunton, Virginia, now offering our members a 10% discount on most merchandise. Please visit the store the next time you are in Staunton. You will find Wilderness Adventure near the train station on 50 Middlebrook Avenue, or call 540-885-3200 for more information.

Membership & Email Address

Be sure to check our website www.odatc.net and update your profile, especially if you have changed your email address! We want to be able to contact you regarding special events or current news!

Also, if you need to renew your membership, you can do it online! If you need any help, please contact our webmaster!

Position Open on Board of Directors

We are looking for a new secretary! If you are interested, please contact a board member. This position can be filled immediately. Primary responsibility is taking minutes at all board meetings.

Tee Shirts

We have a variety of Tee Shirts available for purchase: the blue shirts have the round logo; the grey shirts have the green embroidered ODATC logo; the olive shirts have white embroidered ODATC logo & are tailored for women!

blue S/S \$14.00 Gray S/S \$16.00

blue L/S \$16.00 Olive S/S \$18.00

Contact Greg (sendift2greg@verizon.net) for more information.

2011 ODATC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(area code 804)

President	Theresa Duffey	550-0955 taduffey2054@comcast.net
Vice-President	Mark Dimmick	400-3108 mmdimmick@hotmail.com
Secretary	Open (Lori Ando)	397-5306 llo043022@gmail.com
Treasurer	Greg Hambacker	323-0513 sendift2greg@verizon.net
Programs	Claudia Hambacker	323-0513 gregandclaudia@verizon.net
Land Management	Karl Huber	355-4619 karlhuber@verizon.net
Membership	Jess Barton	843-813-8095 jnbarton@gmail.com
Trail Maintenance	Lori Ando	397-5306 llo043022@gmail.com
Activities	Jenni Pendergrass	264-1633 japendergrass@co.hanover.va.us
Newsletter	Janet Bailey	432-8191 odatcwalker@gmail.com
Webmaster	Kimberly Lawrence	922-3731 me.kimberly@yahoo.com
Past President	David Olli	864-1461 dolli@smv.org

ODATC and ATC

ODATC is a maintenance club and a member of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy (ATC). Annual ODATC dues are \$15 for individuals & \$20 for families. Lifetime membership is \$250. Renewals are due in January; forms can be found online. **The Walker** is published bi-monthly with submission deadlines by the 15th of the publication month.

Club Meetings

Club meetings are held on the 3rd **Tuesdays** of September, November, January, March and May. The next meeting is **September 20th**, beginning at **7:00 p.m.** at Trinity Lutheran Church, **2315 N. Parham Rd., Richmond, VA 23229**. Bring a friend!



P.O. Box 25283 • Richmond, VA 23260-5283

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