



CVATC NEWS

Spring 2021 • Issue 71

www.cvatclub.org

CUMBERLAND VALLEY APPALACHIAN TRAIL CLUB

cvatclub@gmail.com

PRESIDENT
Kevin Shannon

VICE PRESIDENT
Bill McCormick

TREASURER
Jesse Klick

SECRETARY
Megan Barbour

DIRECTORS
Class of 2021
Mike Bowman
John "Skip" Klein
Christine Lauriello

Class of 2022
Colleen "Beth" Beavers
Paul Brechbiel
Joe Frassetta

TRAILMASTER
Craig Dunn

CHIEF OF MAINTAINERS
Joe Frassetta

**BOUNDARY
COORDINATOR**
Mike Bowman

TRAIL WORKDAYS 2021

In order to comply with requirements issued by the National Park Service and the Appalachian Trail Conservancy, group A.T. work trips for 2021 will be by prior arrangement on an as-needed basis until further notice.

Message from the President

When I sat down to write this message, my last as CVATC's president, I found myself going back and reading all of the newsletter articles I wrote over the past four years. I will probably take a walk in the snow later today, but I started the day off with a stroll down "Memory Lane". It struck me how each of the past four years seemed to have a distinct theme. In 2017, it was the dying ash trees and crazy amount of blowdowns our sawyers had to deal with to keep the Trail open. In 2018, it was the incessant rain and resulting mud. We had work days postponed due to rain and snow. Meetings, emails, and letters regarding our efforts to save the Scott Farm consumed much of 2019. And, of course, 2020 came with a global pandemic that caused the National Park Service to suspend all A.T. volunteer activities for three months, with strict "return to Trail" guidelines afterward.

*THE LAST FOUR YEARS HAVE HAD CHALLENGES,
BUT CVATC IS IN GOOD ORDER AND GROWING*

Looking at the past four years more holistically, thanks to all of you our membership numbers, club donations, and volunteer hours increased significantly. Of course, 2020 was down in volunteer hours out of necessity, but the number of volunteers who showed up for our work trips in 2019 blew my mind. And several of you who recently joined the club have asked to be put on "the list" to be notified of our next work trip. Hopefully at some point later this year the current limits on the number of volunteers will be relaxed, and we will be able to resume inviting all of our members to join us on the third Saturday of each month (March–November). We also look forward to when we can welcome back groups like the Dickinson College men's lacrosse team, Day Hikers of Central PA, Deloitte, and Appalachian Running Company, all who came out to lend a hand on our 17 miles of the A.T. during my tenure as club president.

Although I am still eligible to serve as a club director, I think 12 years on the Board

is enough and that we need "new blood" in our leadership. I will continue to maintain my section, come out for club work days, and lend a hand when asked. CVATC's leadership group is strong and growing, membership is at an all-time high, and our finances are in good order. I consider it a privilege to have had the opportunity to serve CVATC as president. Thank you all for your support over these past four years.

Happy trails.

~Kevin Shannon

Annual Membership Meeting and Elections

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, CVATC will conduct the annual membership meeting by email ballot. For those whom we do not have a good email address, we will send out this notice by postal mail.

More information about the election will be in the notice that members receive.

The following nominees have been submitted to serve for a two-year term, beginning April 1, 2021:

- **PRESIDENT:** Joe Frassetta
- **VICE PRESIDENT:** Vicky Kelley
- **SECRETARY:** Megan Barbour
- **DIRECTOR:** Mike Bowman
- **DIRECTOR:** Bob Haines
- **DIRECTOR:** Christine Lauriello



Photo credit: Alycia Paulus

Trailmaster's Report

As we resume our Club's trail work program in March, volunteers must continue to follow the COVID-19 safety procedures developed last year. Each new A.T. volunteer needs to review the COVID-19 protocols that can be found on the Appalachian Trail Conservancy (ATC) website.

To find the safety procedures, go to ATC's homepage and hover over "GET INVOLVED", then under "Volunteer" select "Safety and Training". On that page see "Volunteer Protocols During COVID-19". After reviewing the protocols, volunteers are asked to complete a required online acknowledgement.

In addition to the COVID-19 acknowledgement, each volunteer must complete an Individual Volunteer Service Agreement Form (OF301a) in order to be covered by the Federal Volunteer in Parks (VIP) program for injury and liability protection. Paper copies of the OF301a form are available at club work trip events or can be requested by emailing me at ccdunn11@verizon.net.

If volunteers would like to perform individual, independent trail projects rather than participate in the monthly group trips, please contact me at the previously listed email address or call 717-761-7723 for an assignment.

Finally, as members hike portions of our Club's 17-mile A.T. section during the early spring "mud season" and notice particularly troublesome mud holes and trail damage, please report them to me. Hope to see you on the Trail this year.

~Craig Dunn



CVATC is sad to report the passing of Richard L. "Dick" Barrick. Dick was a member of CVATC for many years and an active volunteer. He served as the Club's 2nd vice president (1993-1998 and 2002-2006) and as a director (1998-2001). Dick was also the Club's Maintainer Coordinator for many years. In that position he managed the volunteers who

maintain the Club's 17 miles of the world famous Appalachian Trail.

After Dick gave up the Maintainer Coordinator position in 2006, he was recognized by Appalachian Trail Conservancy's Mid-Atlantic Regional Partnership Committee as its 2007 Volunteer of the Year. The Club sends its condolences to Dick's surviving wife Charlotte and his daughters Nancy Stout and Beth Handzel.

❧ RIP, Dick Barrick ❧

2020 CVATC

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION AWARDS

PATCH

Tim Jekel • Bob Sickley • Maria Malinoski-Sheff
Judy McIlvaine • Mark Eshelman • Dave Mooney
Marci Mowery • Al Thomas • Cindy Dunn

CAP

Andy Thomas • Jim Foster • Gini Maus

VEST

Mike Bowman • Thomas Scully • Kevin Shannon

★ PRESIDENTIAL SERVICE AWARD ★

Craig Dunn

AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL VOLUNTEER PASS RECIPIENTS

Don Badorf	Gini Maus
Harvey Baney	Bill McCormick
Jack Beitzel	Vicky Nastav
Frank Bohn	Harold Pomraning
Mike Bowman	Tom Scully
Paul Brechbiel	Bob Secrist
Craig Dunn	Kevin Shannon
Jim Foster	Rob Shaw
Joe Frassetta	Bob Sheaffer
Bob Goodenow	Andy Thomas
Dennis Hurley	Leonard Tritt
Dave Imgrund	Jane Tuckey
Skip Klein	Melanie Wertz
Christine Lauriello	Carol Witzeman

—ACTIVITY CALENDAR—

For more information and updates, check CVATC's "Calendar" page at www.cvatclub.org/calendar.html

You can also follow the Club on Facebook.



MARCH

- 11** CVATC board meeting, 6:30 p.m. via Zoom. Contact the club at cvatclub@gmail.com for log in information to join the meeting.

CVATC Efforts to Save the Scott Farm



The Scott Farm Trail Work Center, located along the A.T. in Middlesex Township, has provided extremely important support to the local Trail community for nearly 30 years. The farm structures had served, until recently, as the base for ATC's Mid-Atlantic fall trail crew and as a training center for sawyer certification and summer Ridge Runners patrolling the Trail. The workshop, garage, and storage shed have also been a very important resource for CVATC for the past several decades. Our club continues to store trail tools, mowers, and supplies at the farm, and most of our monthly group work trips meet there. The Scott Farm house and barn are over 100 years old and are on the Cumberland County Historical Society's watch list of historic properties.

Two years ago, at the spring Mid-Atlantic Regional A.T. Partnership Committee meeting, CVATC representatives met with a National Park Service A.T. staff person and discussed NPS plans to demolish the Scott Farm facilities and restore the site to a natural appearance. NPS has tens of thousands of structures nationwide and is

seeking to reduce its operating costs and liabilities by eliminating what it regards as non-essential structures. The Scott Farm, along with some other NPS-owned structures, has experienced substantial deferred maintenance for many years. However, for CVATC and the Mountain Club of Maryland, our A.T. maintaining neighbor to the north and south of our 17-mile valley section, the Scott Farm has been and continues to be very functional and extremely useful.

CVATC members immediately began exploring ways to preserve the Scott Farm facilities. We learned that NPS is not permitted to sell surplus properties but can exchange them for desirable properties of like value and public benefit. Our club soon discovered that the Central Pennsylvania Conservancy (CPC) was in the process of negotiating the acquisition of land and residual easement interests in property relevant to the A.T. on Peters Mountain in Dauphin County. This fortuitous opportunity led to a joint understanding between CPC, CVATC, and NPS to acquire and exchange a portion of the Peters Mountain property for the Scott Farm.



After a successful fundraising campaign, CPC settled on the mountain property in August of last year. Currently, a survey of the tract surrounding the Scott Farm buildings, which CVATC leaders defined for the exchange, is nearing completion. The next steps are to seek subdivision approval from Middlesex Township, deed preparation, define use and ownership agreements between CPC and several Trail and environmental groups, and finally, complete internal NPS procedures.



With steady progress, we hope to complete the exchange by the end of this year. In the meantime, NPS has continued to allow CVATC and other A.T. maintaining organizations to continue using the workshop and storage facilities. CVATC has assumed the lead role in overseeing the property and paying bills for electric service and fuel oil to minimally heat the house during the winter. Additional club volunteers to help maintain and patrol the grounds plus contributions to help pay the utility bills are needed. Vicky Kelley is the chair of the club's Scott Farm committee.

We look forward to preserving the Scott Farm for many more years of service to the Trail and the local conservation community and invite your participation. Stay tuned as our work to save the Scott Farm progresses.



Photo courtesy of Alycia Paulus

Yes, this really is a view from (actually, above) the Appalachian Trail in the Cumberland Valley—the Trail skirts the left edge of the snow-covered field on the south side of Lisburn Road in South Middleton Township. From here, the Trail will reach Center Point Knob in the upper left corner in six miles.

ONLINE MEMBERSHIP/DONATION PAYMENT OPTION

You now have the option to join or renew your CVATC membership online on the club's website at:

www.cvatclub.org/membershiprenewal.html

You may also make an online donation to CVATC on the club's website at:

www.cvatclub.org/donate.html

★THE 2021-22 MEMBERSHIP YEAR BEGINS APRIL 1. PLEASE JOIN OR RENEW TO SUPPORT THE CLUB.★

CVATC MEMBERSHIP FORM

☐ New Membership

Date _____

☐ Renewal Membership

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

City _____

E-mail _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Can you volunteer time with the club? Yes ☐ No ☐

Individual ☐ \$15.00

Benefactor ☐ \$75.00

Family ☐ \$25.00

Lifetime ☐ \$350.00

Supporting ☐ \$40.00

Donation \$ _____ Club sticker(s) _____ @\$2.50 each

Make checks payable to
CVATC and mail to:
CVATC
PO Box 395
Boiling Springs, PA
17007-0395