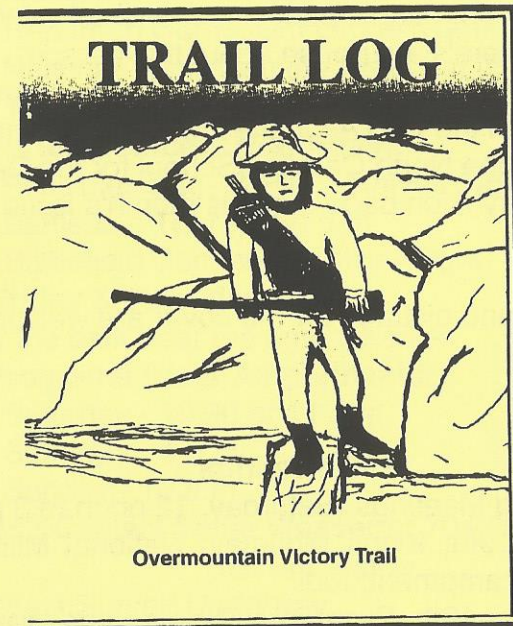


## Trail Log

The Newsletter of the Overmountain Victory Trail Association  
August 1995



Kings Mountain: A Flash of Brilliance,  
Not a Flash in the Pan  
The Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail

Published six times a year at the beginning of the months of February, April, June, August, September, and November.

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### On the Cover

This issue shows a participant or a reenactor on the trail.

Oh, there's a surprise about this person.

The artwork is the front cover of Michael Jason Helms' award-winning effort in the OVTA-Charles McDowell Scholarship contest at the North Carolina School for the Deaf.

The story is on page 7 in this month's issue.

Drawings and pictures for the cover are welcome!

### 1995 Meetings

1995 OVTA Board Meetings (Saturday, 12 noon to 3 p.m.):

- ♦ August 19th, Kings Mountain National Military Park, SC - Encampment, too!
- ♦ November 18th, Sycamore Shoals State Historic Area, Elizabethton, TN

1995 OVTA **Annual Meeting** (1 p.m. to 4 p.m.):

- ♦ Sunday, October 1, Dysartsville Community Club, NC

### Notice of Board of Directors' Meeting

**When:** Saturday, August 19, 1995, 12 to 3 p.m.

**Where:** Kings Mountain National Military Park, SC,  
Headquarters Building

**Who:** All officers, board members, regular members, and the general public

### Agenda:

- ♦ Nominations for Elections (**William Brown III**)
- ♦ Possible Bylaw Amendments
- ♦ T-Shirts (**R.G. Absher, jr.**)
- ♦ OVTA Financial Planning (**Harry Hurst**)
- ♦ Volunteer Reporting Process (**John Gray**)
- ♦ Report on Trail Impact Study (**Roger Moore**)
- ♦ Remarks on Park (**Supt. Mike Loveless**)
- ♦ Multipurpose Trail (**Buck Waters**)
- ♦ Report on Curriculum Guide (**Hank Weaver**)
- ♦ National Trails Institute Proposal (**Bob Sweeny**)
- ♦ 1995 Reenactment Planning (**Ruth Christian**)

### Programs for Members (Saturday):

- ♦ Possibles Bags & Patch Knives (**Joe Story**)- 2:30
- ♦ Battlefield Tour - 6:30 p.m.
- ♦ Battlefield Commemorative - Dark

### Camp (Friday & Saturday Nights):

At the park near the amphitheater

### Public Programs (Near Amphitheater):

- ♦ Saturday - 10:30 or 11 a.m.
- ♦ Saturday - 4 p.m.
- ♦ Sunday - 10 a.m

**Problems?** Contact **Sallie Weaver** at 704-284-2659.

### Stories Inside

- Trail Impact Survey Underway
- T-Shirts On Sale
- First OVTA-Charles McDowell Scholarship Awarded
- South Carolina Gets Properties Near KMNMP
- Successful National Trails & Appalachian Trail Days

### Other June Board Decisions

- Nominating Committee Chosen
- Committee on Reenactment Accuracy Chosen



### Survey Underway

**Roger Moore**, of North Carolina State, reports that The Office of Management & Budget approved the trail study just before the June board meeting. He and his staff worked the last week in June to ready the questionnaires so that the survey could begin as scheduled on July first. Only two phases remain:

- ♦ Conduct the surveys at sites along the trail
- ♦ Analyze the data and prepare his final report

The surveys will be taken into the early winter. Participants will be given a one-page questionnaire and asked if they would fill out a longer form. Dr. Moore or a representative from N.C. State will also be on the reenactment. Reenactors will be asked to keep a diary so that the economic impact of the reenactment can be judged.

### Appalachian Trail Days

At the meeting of the board of directors, June 24, 1995 Trail Marshal **Blair Keller, jr.** reported on the Appalachian Trail Days activities held in May at Damascus, Virginia. He set up the NPS exhibit on the national historic trail. Thanks to **Herb Roberts** at Sycamore Shoals State Historic Area for loan of the exhibit.

Blair reported strong interest in the trail and the reenactment. Members present also marched in the annual parade through town. The parade ended just in time, as a big storm swept through town.

### 1995 Early Start

**Blair Keller** also reported an early start on this year's activities. He has appeared before about 800 school children and Cub Scouts this spring.

### National Trails Day

1992 Grand Marshal **R.G. Absher, jr.** reported on the successful operation of this year's Wilkes-Surry bike ride for National Trails Day.

### Third Bike Ride

Some 15 riders pedalled from W.Kerr Scott Reservoir to Fort Defiance, the home of William Lenoir. 1993 Grand Marshal

**Hank Weaver** got things underway at the reservoir with a talk on how the Revolution was - like today's civil wars - a contest between ideas of taxation and civic responsibility. Whippoorwill Academy - where the June board meeting was held - provided a rest stop for the riders. **Edith Carter's** niece acted as hostess, for Edith's husband was hospitalized for open-heart bypass surgery. 1977 Grand Marshal **William Stronach** hosted the concluding ceremonies at Fort Defiance.

About 11 groups made the ride possible, including Old Wilkes, Caldwell Historical Society, and the Wilkes County Sheriff Department. The American Sign Company in Wilkesboro had the t-shirts ready just in time for the ride.

### Future Rides

**Hank Weaver** had one idea to broaden the participation next year. He suggested either a shorter ride or a walk of the trail segment in the reservoir. Either would allow children and those not up to the longer ride to join in. **R.G. Absher** reported that they plan to advertise the ride among bike shops in a 100-mile radius next year.

### Tennessee Walk

1995 Grand Marshal **Ruth Christian** reported on National Trails Day activities in Tennessee. Nine people assembled at Sycamore Shoals. After stopping at the Fort Watauga and Gap Creek School Monuments, they drove to Roan Mountain State Park to walk up to Yellow Mountain Gap. They then returned down the mountain to the park visitors' center. Participants included **Howard Hayes**, his daughter, and his granddaughter. Director (Tennessee) **Lynn Fox** - who is resigning to serve as paid director of the Governor John Sevier Society - arranged the walk.

### Scenic Byways

Former Director (South Carolina) **Mae Murph** reported to the board on the regional Scenic Byways meeting held in Columbia, South Carolina. This program provides for local, state, and national designation of highway routes which offer unique scenic and cultural points of interest. The subject was of interest, since the commemorative motor



route of the national historic trail might receive additional recognition and financial support if also designated as a scenic byway.

**Hank Weaver** pointed out that N.C. 268 - the commemorative motor route between Elkin and Lenoir on the national historic trail - is already designated as a North Carolina Scenic Byway. **Mae Murph** also pointed out that scenic byway designation could occur a segment at a time, allowing designation over time.

#### **Cherokee County's Multipurpose Trail**

In the same line of thought, National Park Service Representative **Rich Sussman** reviewed Cherokee County's progress with the multipurpose trail between Cowpens National Battlefield and Kings Mountain National Military Park. **Buck Waters** of Inman, South Carolina, is now preparing the ISTEIA - Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act - grant application. The county's committee will study the route in July to finalize plans. Rich Sussman invited Mr. Waters to brief the board at the August meeting.

#### **New Third-Class Permit**

**Mae Murph** - also in charge of mailings - pointed out that the June newsletter was the first mailed under our new nonprofit organization bulk mailing permit. This dropped our postage from 50¢ to 13¢. This dropped the bill from \$156 to \$39. The one problem is that delivery was slower than anticipated. Please let Mae know if you have problems receiving your newsletter. Newsletters are mailed around the first of the month of issue. You should receive yours by the 15th of the month.

#### **T-Shirts on Sale**

The board meeting in June looked like the t-shirt vendors' stalls on the Mall you may have seen on TV! **R.G. Absher, jr.** had boxes of the new shirts available for purchase. We purchased a total of 288 shirts, half large and half extra-large. The shirt printer is retaining the silk screens so that reprints can be arranged easily.

#### **Green and Off White**

The two styles feature the same artwork. One shirt is dark green with white lettering. The other is an off-white with a brownish cast with brown lettering to match the national historic trail logo. The two colors naturally came about. The green represents the green pine sprigs some believe the patriots wore in their hats at King's Mountain. On the other hand, Draper reports a participant as saying they put paper in their hats. We cannot agree, so each member can pick the shirt to match his or her hat! Most at the meeting seemed to take a pair.

#### **T-Shirt Design & Art**

Special thanks to **Dick Underwood** of Old Wilkes and **Joanne Baity**, of Old Wilkes and OVTA, who developed the design and prepared the artwork.

#### **Quantity Sales**

In addition to sales to members, Old Wilkes and the Seveir home, Marble Springs (Governor John Sevier Society), have agreed to sell the shirts. Sycamore Shoals and Rocky Mount are considering sales. The board discussed possible discounts for organizations which sell for us. They voted to sell shirts to resellers for \$8 a shirt. Sales by OVTA are at \$10 per shirt. Our cost was about \$5 per shirt.

#### **The Gray, Cap Lock, Shirts**

Members can purchase these shirts, while supplies last, for \$8.50. Contact **R.G. Absher, jr.** Yes, the design on these shirts is very attractive, but a cap lock rifle is clearly visible instead of the correct flintlock!

#### **1995 Nominating Committee**

At June's meeting, the 1995 nominating committee was chosen:

- ♦ Region 1 - **Frank Christian**
- ♦ Region 2 - **William Brown III - Chairman**
- ♦ Region 3 - **R.G. Absher, jr.**
- ♦ Region 4 - **Conrad Schliske**
- ♦ Region 5 - **Mae Murph**

Region 2 Director **William Brown** was chosen by the committee as chairman.



## 1995 Elections

The terms of these offices and board seats expire this year and are up for election at this year's annual meeting, October 1, at Dysartsville:

President: Bob Sweeny, Manassas Park, VA  
Secretary: Sallie Miller Weaver, Boone, NC  
Region 1 (Virginia) Director: Blair Keller, jr.  
Region 2 (North Carolina) Director: Allen Ray  
Region 3 (North Carolina) Director: Vacant  
Region 4 (North Carolina) Director: Nancy Ferguson,  
Region 5 (South Carolina) Director: Scott Withrow,  
At-Large Director: Hank Weaver, Boone, NC  
At-Large Director: Evelyn Carswell, Forest City, NC  
Term Up for Reelection Due to Lynn Carter's Resignation:  
Region 1 (Tennessee) Director: Vacant

President Bob Sweeny mentioned two anomalies in this year's voting. Member **Don Pauley** noticed that only one director was listed as serving for region 3 (Wilkes-Surry). Apparently, a seat was incorrectly designated at some earlier election. In all probability, a director was elected at large rather than for region 3.

Both Tennessee (region 1) seats now expire in the same year. When the regional set-up was adopted, the two terms were staggered. A resignation or incorrect designation of at-large seat probably was the cause. By electing the replacement for Lynn Carter this year, the staggering can be resumed.

### The Election Process

The nominating committee's job is to ensure that candidates are available for all offices. They will report to the board at the August meeting. The board will accept the committee's nominees or other nominees for presentation to the membership at the annual meeting. Please note: These nominations do not prevent members at the annual meeting from making nominations. Nominations are taken from the floor at the August board meeting and again at the annual meeting.

## Your Nominations

If you have suggestions for nominations, contact Chairman **William Brown** at 704-437-1573. The bylaws require agreement to serve by the nominee prior to election, so the committee will contact nominees directly.

### Financial Planning

Committee member **Ruth Christian** reported to the board for absent chairman **Harry Hurst** that their studies are not complete.

### 1995 OVTA-Charles McDowell Scholarship

1995 Grand Marshal **Ruth Christian** reported on her presentation of the OVTA-Charles McDowell Scholarship at the North Carolina School for the Deaf at Morganton. She and her husband, **Frank**, attended the school's 100th graduation on June 1st. Fifteen students graduated. Ruth said the experience was very moving, comparing it to the graduation of her own children and grandchildren.

### The Prize Effort

Valedictorian **Michael Jason Helms** received the scholarship for developing a diary of the trip to Kings Mountain by a fictional deaf boy. The **Trail Log** he wrote includes room for this year's marchers to add comments. He also developed the artwork on the front and back covers. We also received the electronic files for continued use.

**Hank Weaver** pointed out that this year's Miss America, **Heather Whitestone**, is also deaf.

### 8th Grade Efforts

Bob Sweeny reported for 1983 Grand Marshal and Scholarship Committee Chairman **Orville Clayton** that he is still working with the school to develop a program for eighth graders. Contact Orville if you have any ideas. He plans to visit the school during the reenactment to get the program started.

### Curriculum Guide

**Hank Weaver** reported on the work on the curriculum guide. On May 19, Hank met with **Dr. Anita Davis**, who is writing



the guide. Just before that, he received 1981 Grand Marshal **Conrad Schliske's** material, reported on last time in the newsletter, and which Hank turned over to Dr. Davis.

### **The Very First**

At the June board meeting, Hank presented 1981 Grand Marshal **Conrad Schliske** with a certificate recognizing his submission as the very first by a member. Hank then went on to ask the members not to let Conrad's be the last member submission.

### **Don't Stop Work on Your Material**

Hank reiterated the need for members to help out. Members do not have to worry about putting their material into final form, for the committee will prepare the final, computerized version. Of course, anyone who has a computer and would like to help out, please get in touch with Hank at Sallie Weaver's address or number on the back cover.

### **Topics You Might Consider**

The basic history of the march is easy. The committee needs additional information and interesting ways to present the basic information. Hank has a long list of possible topics, so contact him if you can help out. Of course, you can also come up with a topic on your own!

### **Putting it on Paper**

You don't need a computer or word processor. Just write it all down. Handwritten material is usable, but print or write carefully. Typewritten is even better. We'll get the typing/word processing done. If you submit questions, be sure to include the answers, if you can.

### **Helping Put Stuff on Paper**

If you have a computer and want to help with word processing, let **Hank Weaver** know. We'll need to do lots of word processing. You don't need a fancy printer, but let Hank know what software and hardware you've got.

### **The Schedule**

The schedule calls for finishing the draft by June next year. Copies will then be available for review by OVTA, the National Park Service, the parks at Cowpens and Kings Mountain, and the teachers we have contacted.

### **National Park Service Brochure**

**Rich Sussman** from the Atlanta office of NPS reported that they needed to reprint the four-color trail brochure developed in 1990 and 1991 with OVTA. **R.G. Absher, jr.**, who keeps the OVTA stock at W.Kerr Scott Reservoir, concurred, since only three cases of 1800 brochures are in the OVTA stock. Rich indicated that NPS will go through the Government Printing Office and will provide large quantities to OVTA for distribution. Copies are expected to be available in early 1996.

### **NPS Brochure Corrections**

**Rich Sussman** asks all members to look at the brochure and let him or **Sallie Weaver** know of any corrections necessary. He can be reached in Atlanta at **404-331-5465** during business hours. He'll have an update at the annual meeting at Dysartsville, Sunday, October 1st.

### **1995 Reenactment Planning**

1995 Grand Marshal **Ruth Christian** reported her mother's death has slowed her preparations. But county marshals should have heard from her by early August.

### **Wilkes-Surry Planning**

**R.G. Absher, jr.** asked about timing of the Wilkes-Surry program for the schools. Tentative plans call for beginning Friday, September 29, at 10:30 a.m. to allow some marchers to travel over from the main route for the day. Several stations are planned so that groups of students can hear several different programs. A main program involving the reenactors is planned at 10:30 at the court house. **Hank Weaver** suggested checking with the police to see if the street can be closed during the program to keep down adjacent noise.

### **Abingdon Planning**

1995 Trail Marshal **Blair Keller, jr.** pointed out that the march assembles on a Saturday this year. As a result, the Washington County school programs will take place on Friday, September 22. He asked for volunteers to come early that day to help out. He will try to have students bussed in to Dunn's Meadow, so that the reenactors will not have to travel to schools.



### Tribute to Annie Winkler

**Hank Weaver** recounted a story from the tribute for **Annie Winkler** held at Fort Defiance, June 3rd. He was talking to some people from Caldwell County who did not know her. After a while, one remarked that there were many good citizens like her. "No," said Hank, "Unfortunately, there were not many like Annie Winkler."

### Constructive Criticism

New Region 2 Director **William Brown III** brought before the board his concerns about one aspect of OVTA living history. He wrote after the April meeting that he was concerned that the portrayal of the marchers was not as accurate as it could be. While praising the unique efforts of OVTA and the reenactment, he asked the organization to consider doing more research. He wanted to ensure that the visual impact of the reenactors was as strong as the educational impact. President Bob Sweeny replied that he thought OVTA members were on their own to do research. None of that research, however, was published and available to later members.

### An OVTA Militia

Will Brown suggested the formation of a separate militia unit within OVTA to support the various programs. Members would research and accurately portray a militia unit as opposed to just settlers. The militia unit would be available for programs during the reenactment and at other times during the year.

### Why the Questions

The board discussed the problems of research into colonial life and dress. At-large Director **Evelyn Carswell** indicated she thought too much of the material available was not accurate. 1995 Grand Marshal **Ruth Christian** agreed, saying that the most readily available sources, *Sketch Book 1776* and *Distaff 1776* are not accurate. She recommended *Rural Pennsylvania Clothing*, which is now back in print. This material is based on actual clothing from the colonial period found in museums and family collections. 1981 Grand Marshal **Conrad Schliske** agreed, saying *Rural Pennsylvania Clothing* was his preferred source.

### The Basic Variability

1995 Trail Marshal **Blair Keller, jr.** reminded everyone that no code of dress was probably applied, since the men were volunteers and wore their regular clothing. **Will Brown** agreed, saying the American Long Rifle Association deals with this by having each member pick a real person or a fictional persona who is researched and portrayed. **Hank Weaver** continued Blair's theme by remarking that dress and customs vary based on family origin. Region 4 Director **Nancy Ferguson** agreed, adding that life style and dress would vary tremendously based on social status. She suggested that a planter would dress quite differently from a farmer.

### Advisory Committee

At the suggestion of **Hank Weaver**, a committee to study issues of historical accuracy was formed with these members:

- ♦ **William Brown III** (Chairman)
- ♦ 1995 Grand Marshal **Ruth Christian**
- ♦ 1981 Grand Marshal **Conrad Schliske**
- ♦ **Joe Story**

The committee has two objectives:

- ♦ Publish information
- ♦ Make some clothes available on the reenactment for the use of new members

Chairman **William Brown** suggested they might try to develop a library or at least a bibliography of material on the trail, the people, clothing, etc. 1992 Grand Marshal **R.G. Absher, jr.** suggested they might set up a computerized data base.

**Nancy Ferguson** agreed but cautioned the committee to use primary sources. She specifically mentioned a danger with Draper. His accounts taken from the children and grandchildren of participants often conflict with the accounts of the participants on their pension applications. She also asked that the material be developed county by county.



**Blair Keller** cautioned that we had to take an overall look, too. He remarked that the stories told in 1980 as the march moved down the trail sounded like different stories rather than the same story told in different counties.

**R.G. Absher, jr.** felt that a group that was available for programs throughout the year was valuable. **William Brown** agreed and said he saw the group setting up a camp, doing demonstrations, and adding to the current activities. **Hank Weaver** thought that was a good idea, since OVTA regularly receives requests for programs and parades. He did want everyone to understand that participation was always voluntary and not mandatory.

#### **June's Program for Members**

The June board meeting ended with an interesting talk by Secretary **Sallie Miller Weaver** on growing and using gourds. While animal horns are often talked about and shown, she explained that the gourd is just as versatile and can be turned into useful items with simple techniques. Growing the gourds is the first step, a step she encouraged, bringing gourd seeds with her for the members.

Her talk indicated the process is a simple one: Grow the gourds, let the mature gourds dry, open and remove the seeds, prepare the utensil required, save the seeds, plant the seeds the next year. The dried gourd is tough and holds water, so you can make canteens, cups, dippers, spoons, and ladels - one style shaped like a softdrink bottle is called a bottle gourd. The item can be decorated with paints or fabric coverings. Stoppers and lids can be made from gourds or wood. Her examples showed that the results can be true art, a joy to make and use.

#### **Special Thanks**

Following **Sallie Miller Weaver's** talk, members looked over the Whippoorwill Village. The meeting was held outdoors in delightful weather as thunderstorms passed by in the mountains on either side. Director **Edith Ferguson Carter** and Vice President **R.G. Absher, jr.** started things off with a full lunch, hardly what anyone expected as the advertised

snacks. One member described the lunch as "Benjamin Cleveland snacks!" A special thanks to both and a very special thanks to **Edith Carter** and her husband for their hospitality. Edith reported her husband sneaked some fried chicken as a change from his "heart healthy" diet, calling it the first real food since his operation.

#### **June's Program for the Public**

For the public, the June board meeting ended with 1995 Grand Marshal **Ruth Christian**, 1992 Grand Marshal **R.G. Absher**, 1995 Entry Taker **Frank Christian**, Region 2 Director **Will Brown**, and 1987 Grand Marshal **Bob Sweeny** presenting a program for a family at Whippoorwill Academy. The rain threatened as they finished.

All headed to a new restaurant near W.Kerr Scott Reservoir and named Mountaineer for the trail passing by out front on NC 268. A brief rain passed just in time for the same group to appear before 23 hardy people at the Bandits Roost amphitheater at the reservoir. **R.G. Absher** began things with lots of music. The usual talks on Kings Mountain and colonial life followed. The firing demonstration was ragged, reflecting the humid air left over from the rain. Bob Sweeny closed the program with a song about one of Ben Cleveland's men bound for Kings Mountain. The group spent the night at the campground with cool, clearing skies and no hint of rain until they were headed home in the morning. A very special thanks to the reservoir for their hospitality.

#### **KMNMP Protection Almost Complete**

Early in July South Carolina announced that all three tracts of land threatening the national and state parks are now owned by the state and will become part of the Kings Mountain State Park. Using funds from the Mellon Foundation, the three properties were purchased from the owners by the Conservation Fund. Of particular concern was the Peeler property that looked down on the battlefield ridge in Kings Mountain National Military Park. Superintendent **Mike Loveless** reports that efforts are underway to close to the public the historic Shelbyville-



Yorkville Road which enters KMNMP from the Peeler property and another little-used road passing from the national park into the state park. Both rights-of-way will be maintained for fire use only.

### **Proposals for Bylaw Amendments**

Before each August board meeting members are asked if any bylaws need amending. The bylaws require a two-step process to change the bylaws. First, a proposed change must be approved by the board of directors. If approved by the board, the change must also be approved by the members at the annual meeting. If you have a proposed change, please submit your change to Secretary **Sallie Miller Weaver** before the August 19th board meeting. Please note that no amendment may be submitted at the annual meeting.

### **Proposed Trail Commemorative Stamps**

**Chet Fromm**, a director of the North Country Trail Association, wrote recently to OVTA asking members' support for a series of commemorative stamps for the national scenic and historic trails.

I'm pushing to have the U.S. Postal Service issue a set of stamps. Stamps depicting and honoring all of America's National Scenic and Historic Trails. I've written to the postal service, magazines, trail organizations, and others, to encourage the issuing of such a set. A set would broaden public awareness of the trails. The Postal Service also publishes a history with each stamp set. Public pressure gave us the Elvis stamp. One design idea, use each trail logo, overlaid on the states they pass through. What's your idea? Now is time to write. State the trail set first day issue be on National Trails Day. Maybe next year, it could happen! Trail organizations should send petitions; individuals; postcards and letters. Send all correspondence to:

**Citizens Advisory Committee  
U.S. Postal Service, Room 5500  
475 L'Enfant Plaza  
Washington, DC 20260**

If you write, please supply a copy to **Sallie Miller Weaver** for our records and forwarding to Chet Fromm. Remember the interest that Director Nancy Ferguson reported for an OVNHT commemorative coin?

### **Appalachian Trail Portrait**

President Bob Sweeny was asked recently if OVTA would like to participate in a unique effort to take pictures of the Appalachian Trail all on one day. Since the historic route and reenactment cross the AT at Yellow Mountain Gap, he agreed. He originally asked if pictures taken September 27 when the reenactment goes through are acceptable, but the date chosen is September 2nd. If any members are available that Saturday to go in period dress and pose, please contact Bob.

### **Members' Program at Kings Mountain**

Program Chair **Conrad Schliske** has lined up an interesting program for this month's meeting at Kings Mountain National Military Park. Region 3 Director **Joe Story** will talk on possible bags and patch knives. Board members, as in recent years, are invited for lunch courtesy the park. Something new is added to the encampment this year. At the request of member, and John Sevier descendant, **Bart Conchin**, members will tour the battlefield after supper to share with each other their insights and observations. So study up, bring your ideas, bring your questions. After dark, members will conduct their commemorative program on the mountain.

### **Public Programs at August Board Meeting**

Members are asked to wear period dress and bring their flintlocks to Kings Mountain for the board meeting. We will present programs for the public in the morning before the meeting, after the meeting at 4 p.m., and Sunday morning. This is your one chance during the year to meet and talk with the public at Kings Mountain. Since it's a Saturday, a good turnout is likely.



### Camping

Friday and Saturday night camping will be available at Kings Mountain National Military Park. If you plan to camp Friday night, contact Chief Ranger **Chris Revels** at 803-936-7921 in advance to make sure you can get in if you arrive after closing.

### OVTA Volunteers at Kings Mountain

**Kings Mountain National Military Park** needs volunteers to man the desk in the visitors' center. OVTA members with their interest in and understanding of Kings Mountain are especially welcome. While the park is not close to all the members, anyone who could volunteer on a regular basis, even if just once a month, would help the park. Not sure your schedule would fit into the park's need? Interested? Want to have a chance to have some fun and do some good? Contact Chief Ranger **Chris Revels** at 803-936-7921.

### Tweetsie Video

Members who hike the old railroad grade (Bear Cage Road) between Sycamore Shoals and Roan Mountain each year might be interested in a new video coming out this fall about the ET&WNC. Based on color movies taken by **Jack Alexander** and **Vince Ryan** in the 1940's, two videos cover passenger and freight trains during the war and the final days before abandonment in 1950. The two volumes, ***The Tennessee Narrow Gauge: The War Years*** and ***The Tennessee Narrow Gauge: The Final Years***, are available now for members of the ET&WNC Historical Society and after November 1st from A&R Productions. The announced price for November is \$48.40, including shipping.

### Linear Parks Conference

The Appalachian Consortium is sponsoring a conference this September called ***Linear Parks: Partnerships and Sustainability***. The anniversary of the Blue Ridge Parkway is a focus of the event, but all sorts of topics on trail corridors are on the agenda. The dates are Saturday, September 9 through Tuesday, September 12, at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Virginia. **Hank Weaver** can supply more information.

### Getting in Touch With Your Officers

#### President

Bob Sweeny  
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703-834-4582 (Day)  
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#### 1995 Grand Marshal

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615-932-3389

#### Newsletter Subscriptions, Address Changes, etc.

Mae Murph  
991 Humphries Rd  
Cowpens, SC 29330-9308  
803-461-8455

#### Future Activities

Drama, **The Wataugans**, 1995 Season, Sycamore Shoals:

Thursday, Friday, Saturday, July 13, 14, 15, 1995

Thursday, Friday, Saturday, July 20, 21, 22, 1995

Thursday, Friday, Saturday, July 27, 28, 29, 1995

Conference on Linear Parks, September 9 to 12, 1995,

Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA,

Information (Appalachian Consortium): 704-262-2064

Appalachian Trail Portraits, September 2, 1995

**21st Annual Reenactment**, Saturday, September 23, to  
Saturday, October 7, 1995



OVT A Newsletter  
991 Humphries Road,  
Cowpens, SC 29330-9308

Permit No. 15  
Cowpens, SC

**Address Correction Requested**

**Nonprofit Bulk Third-Class Rate**