

Footnotes

Newsletter for the Foothills Trail Conference . www.foothillstrail.org

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC FEATURES JOCASSEE GORGES

The Jocassee Gorges was recently named one of “50 of the World’s Last Great Places—Destinations of a Lifetime” in a special edition of National Geographic magazine. “National Geographic’s special recognition of Jocassee Gorges is quite an honor,” said Mark Hall, Jocassee Gorges land manager for the S.C. Department of Natural Resources. “We have one of the great wild places on our planet. It’s an exciting place to be, with the peregrine falcons appearing, more bald eagles showing up, Audubon designating Jocassee as an internationally Important Bird Area, and now we’re working to place an observation tower on the highest mountain in the state. Who knows what’s next?!” One of the best vantage points to see Jocassee Gorges is Sassafras Mountain in northern Pickens County, where a fund-raising campaign is underway to build an observation tower on the highest point in South Carolina. For more information on the Sassafras campaign, visit www.dnr.sc.gov.



The four-page spread in National Geographic’s special issue, titled “Jocassee Gorges: an intense concentration of waterfalls,” features photos of Upper Whitewater Falls and Oconee bells. “Thanks to the second highest rainfall in the continental United States,” the article begins, “the Jocassee Gorges area of North and South Carolina supports rare plants and one of the highest concentration of waterfalls in the eastern United States. The area

was given added protection by the purchase of 40,000 acres by both states and several nongovernmental organizations, which connected some 200,000 acres and guarantees that plant and animal species would not be isolated. Living here are black bears, bobcats, wild turkeys, and the highest number of salamanders found anywhere in the world. Included among some 60 species of rare plants are 90 percent of the world’s Oconee bells, whose nearest relatives are in China and Japan.” The National Geographic special edition can be ordered online at <https://secure.customersvc.com/maitrd/ngs/50WorldsGreatPlaces/giftin.html>.

CELEBRATED AUTHOR HIGHLIGHTS 2012 ANNUAL MEETING

The annual fall gathering of Foothills Trail Conference members took place at Oconee State Park during the weekend of Nov 2 – 4, 2012, and featured talks by local women hikers and a well-known author. The 125 attendees were able to choose from a selection of hikes that took them from Whitewater Falls to Rabun Bald in Georgia, and also included a tour of the new Gorges State Park Visitor Center. While others enjoyed fun hikes, a large cadre of volunteers performed a lot of much-needed work on a section of the Trail below Sloan Bridge during the long-standing maintenance hike. The selection of delicious food was as good as ever, and no one left the meeting hungry!! Many thanks are due to Board member Jerry Harvey and his wife Mary who helped with every aspect of the meeting, volunteering to help with registration, to cooking in the kitchen, to selling FTC merchandise! Thanks so much!



FRIDAY HIKES

The meeting kicked off with two hikes on Friday morning. Board member Cathy Reas Foster led members along the Chattooga River from Burrell's Ford to Ellicott Rock, stopping along the way to view the picturesque Spoonauger Falls. This 12- mile hike ensured that the members would be ready for supper! Two crossings of Tamassee Creek were necessary as Board member and Master Naturalist, Dan Whitten, led his group to the very beautiful Lee Falls, tucked away in a narrow cove north of Oconee State Park.

FRIDAY NIGHT SOCIAL

Friday evening, after a host of members helped set up tables, exhibits, and the FTC store, was spent talking and visiting with other members and making new friends at the social hour. The highlight of the Friday festivities was a unique presentation by the "Woods Women", who had recently completed section-hiking the entire Foothills Trail together. Each member of the group gave an account of the hikes from their own perspective, and they were all very entertaining! It was obviously a great experience for all of them! They are now proud recipients of the Peregrine Award!



SATURDAY ACTIVITIES

Saturday's breakfast was prepared by Executive Director, Heyward Douglass, his wife Carolyn, Board member Jerry Harvey, his wife Mary, and members Ken and Sandra Pruitt. As usual, various members also pitched in to help. The sumptuous breakfast helped get members going on a full day of interesting hikes.

Hikes: The list of hikes assembled by Greg Lucas, Board member and DNR public relations coordinator, were varied in nature, and level of strenuousness. Dan Whitten, Board member and Master Naturalist, took a stalwart group from Upper Whitewater Falls, all the way to the Lower Falls, and back to Bad Creek. FTC member

John Ray took a group from Beegum Gap to the tower on Rabun Bald on the Bartram Trail in Georgia. He is the author of the hiking guides to the Bartram Trail. The Family Nature Walk around a portion of the park was led by Dr. Rocky Nation, a professor at Southern Wesleyan University and an FTC member. Fall colors from Whitewater Falls to Sloan Bridge were the highlight of the hike led by FTC member and Master Naturalist, Steve Marlow. Yellow Branch Falls, a beautiful, 50-ft cascade near Stumphouse tunnel, was the destination of a group led by Forest Service river ranger, Plinio Beres. A guided tour of the new Gorges State Park Visitor Center, with its gorgeous views of the Jocassee Gorges area, was conducted by Kevin Bischof, Assistant Ranger at the park.

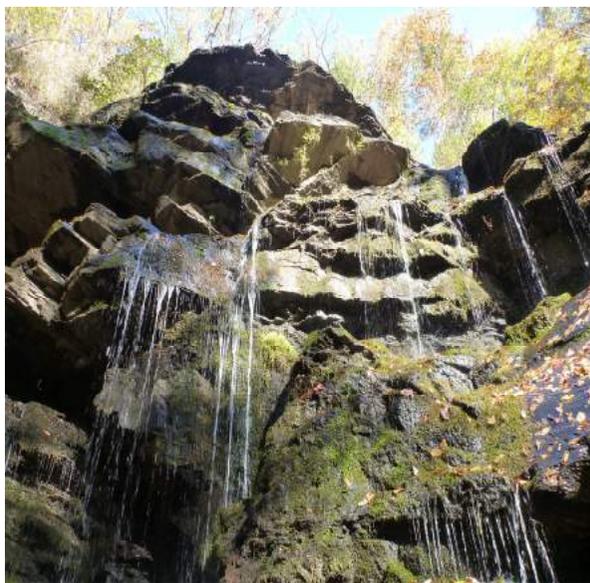
(Annual Meeting Continued: Hikes)

A maintenance hike is always a key feature of the FTC Annual Meeting and this year a tremendous amount of work was accomplished on the section from Sloan Bridge to Fish Hatchery Road. Trail Captain Bruce Cannon, who regularly maintains this section, and Les Storm, FTC maintenance coordinator, led two groups to remove overgrowth and blowdowns from along the Trail. A hearty vote of thanks to all who participated in the hard work that was done!

Saturday Evening Program: Nothing beats a nice hike in the mountains or hard work on the Trail like gathering to talk and interact with friends and fellow FTC members. The social hour was added to by the presence of Dan Harding, an architecture professor at Clemson University, who is highly involved in efforts to make improvements on Sassafras Mountain. He informally discussed what has been done to date and the exciting plans for a new tower at the summit! Before supper was served, members of Boy Scout Troop 226 in Seneca conducted a flag ceremony and led the Pledge of Allegiance under the watchful eye of FTC member Colleen Patterson, their adult leader. Add a delicious BBQ meal by Hunting Camp BBQ and your evening is nearly complete!

This year the speaker for the meeting was known to quite a few of the members because of his book about the Appalachian Trail, "Just Passin' Thru". As owner of the venerable Mountain Crossings store in north Georgia, Winton Porter has seen his share of hikers just beginning their journey on the AT, and he shared his stories and personal anecdotes about some of the characters he was "privileged" to meet as they passed thru his establishment. A beautiful hiking stick, prepared by FTC member Leon Scroggs, was presented to him after his talk. Winton not only signed copies of his book following his program, he stayed and had breakfast on Sunday morning!

John Park, Chairman of the FTC, conducted the business meeting, which imparts information to the membership about what has occurred during the past year. As part of the meeting, he announced the results of the Board elections and introduced new Board members, Dan Whitten, and Bobbie Wilhite. Other members of the Board came forward to report on the finances of the Conference, as well as outings, maintenance, membership and shuttles. Heyward Douglass, FTC Executive Director, introduced 5 of his AT hiking buddies, who had traveled from various parts of the country to attend the meeting and thru-hike the Foothills Trail!



Yellow Branch Falls

Door prizes, as usual, were eagerly anticipated by the membership, and John Park and Cathy Foster handed out the items with the help of Scouts of Troop 226. Many of the door prizes were donated by local outfitters Sunrift Adventures, REI, Outdoor Adventures, and Appalachian Outfitters. The Backpacker in Columbia also donated a significant gift certificate. Many thanks to all of them for their contributions! The Conference also supplied some of the gifts.

SUNDAY ACTIVITIES

After a hearty breakfast, the 38th FTC Annual Meeting was finalized with two hikes to well-known local destinations. Board member Jerry Harvey led a hike to Long Creek Falls, which spills into the Chattooga River. These falls are a frequent stop for paddlers on Section Four of the Chattooga. New Board member Bobbie Wilhite, one of the "Woods Women", led a group to Tamassée Knob, just within the borders of Oconee State Park.

WHITEWATER FALLS MAINTENANCE OUTING

FTC Maintenance Coordinator, Les Storm, could hardly believe his eyes when he arrived at the Whitewater Falls parking lot on January 12, 2013, and saw 15 FTC volunteers waiting to get to work on the Trail! When he saw that many workers, he knew that a lot of work was going to be done. And he was right!

After a discussion about safety considerations, the group of 15 was divided into three teams and set out to get various tasks accomplished on different parts of the Trail. One of the main tasks of all the teams was to close off the shortcuts that, unfortunately, develop over time as inconsiderate hikers cut across parts of the Trail, ignoring the damage that occurs to the trailbed and also the environment. One of the favorite Conference outings is the Wildflower Walk in April, and the shortcuts invariably result in sensitive hillside areas being trampled or eroded over time, thus detracting from, or ruining, the wildflower habitat. Most of the shortcuts were taken care of by piling enormous amounts of fallen limbs and logs into the rutted areas. The debris will hopefully discourage further use of these areas, but, some spots may require fencing in the future.

Heavy use and erosion around steps has resulted in several places requiring a larger-than-normal step-down to get past them. Volunteers reworked these by muscling suitable large boulders into place, thus raising the bottom of the step, and making a safer, and more comfortable step-down. Two sets of wooden steps are also improved by adding gravel and soil to the gaps, making a more level tread.

After a short, but relaxing, lunch at the river's edge, the group did what they could to build up the approach to the end of the Whitewater bridge, which has always required a "giant leap for mankind" in order to get UP to the bridge! Several of the "hosses" in the group manhandled LARGE boulders into position to allow a hiker to get up to the bridge more easily. All of the work that was done during the day could not have been accomplished had so many volunteers not turned out. Many, many thanks are due to each one that contributed their time and sweat equity to the improvement of the Trail!



Participants in group photo :

Dave Alverson, Simon Schreier, Don Compton, Les Storm, Peter Mockridge, Rick Garrison, Bob Magee, Dan Bryant, Jody Taylor, Will Taylor, Elanor Mockridge, Nick Corley, Jerry Harvey, Cathy Reas Foster, and Donna Becker



‘LIKE’ THE FTC ON FACEBOOK

Be sure to check out the Conference’s page on Facebook for the latest in activities, updates, notices, and plenty of photos of interesting and beautiful places on the Foothills Trail. If you are not sure of how to connect to a FACEBOOK page, there is a link to the page on the FTC website homepage. Just scroll down a little ways and the Facebook logo is on the left. Click on it and it will connect you to the page.

Thanks to Board member Jerry Harvey for getting the page back up to speed and helping to post interesting material on it. He even taught the Executive Director how to spell Facebook!

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

As this issue of *Footnotes* marks the beginning of 2013, I thought I’d point out some of the great things occurring with the Foothills Trail Conference. Last year, the Conference Board took time to review the mission and purpose of the Conference and what we felt were the issues concerning the Foothills Trail, it’s maintenance, our relationships with land and stakeholders, our membership, and our presence in the community. In addition, we looked at Conference finances and made an effort to fine tune the budget. The outcome of these efforts was to determine that the Conference is on sound financial footing. This is in large part to a strong and supportive membership base as well as vibrant sales of our map and guide brought on by increased awareness of the great trail we support. We also identified some key initiatives we would like to see worked on in the next few years, and determined that there was a need for a staff person to move the Conference forward on these efforts. As you know, the outcome of this decision was to bring Heyward Douglass on as the Executive Director of the FTC. In addition to the administrative duties of the Conference, Heyward has been out and about in the Trail community meeting with stakeholders, businesses, and hikers - promoting the trail and soliciting support. Some of the initiatives the Board has targeted for work are: Better utilize the web presence of the Conference to promote and communicate events and activities; Involve our membership more in activities and projects (please let us know what you would like to do to help); Promote the Trail in the community at businesses, chambers of commerce, and visitor/tourism groups; Establish a regular dialog with the stakeholders and landowners of the trail in order to coordinate efforts on trail maintenance and use; and Continue to look for opportunities for financial support for the Conference and it’s activities. I hope that you, our members and supporters, see this as an exciting time for the Conference and I hope you will continue supporting the Conference with your time and monies as we endeavor to keep the Foothills Trail the best hiking trail in the Southeast.

FOOTHILLS TRAIL CONFERENCE

Participants must be members of the Foothills Trail Conference. Notifications will be sent through the FTC's online registration system. Please sign up to receive outing notification by providing your e-mail address to the Foothills Trail Conference mailing list on our Web site www.foothillstrail.org. The number of registrants per hike is at the discretion of the hike leader and will be limited. Registration is available on a first-come, first-served basis. You will be asked to fill out an Acknowledgement of Risk form prior to your hike. The Foothills Trail Conference does not permit dogs on group hikes.

Saturday, Jan. 12 - Secret Falls Hike. Join Master Naturalist and Foothills Trail Conference board member Dan Whitten on a trek to see several waterfalls located OFF the Winding Stairs Trail. This is a strenuous winter hike of about 4 miles round trip, with most of the first 1.5 miles on the Winding Stairs Trail beginning at the Cherry Hill Recreation Area. You will see six waterfalls, including Upper and Lower Miuka Falls on the West Fork of Townes Creek. The last four will be on Crane Creek and begins with a 300-yard drop off the trail to the 60-foot Secret Falls. Upstream in a steep gorge are three more significant falls. Then a climb back up to the ridge will afford views of Tamassee Knob and surrounding hills before ending up at Cherry Hill. The hike is limited to eight participants. Meet 9 a.m. at Winding Stairs Trail on SC 107 near Cherry Hill Campground, about 7 miles north of Oconee State Park. Bring lunch, snacks, water and appropriate clothing and footwear. Hike is limited to 10 participants.

Saturday, Feb. 16 - Sassafras to Table Rock. Join Heyward Douglass, Foothills Trail Conference executive director, for a classic hike of about 9 miles from the state's highest point to South Carolina's iconic mountain state park. Check out the new observation deck near the top of Sassafras Mountain, the state's highest peak at 3,553 feet. On the way to Table Rock Park hikers will be treated to place names such as Drawbar Cliffs and the Lighthouse and spectacular views at Bald Knob. Meet at 9:30 am in the Sassafras Mountain parking lot at the end of F. Van Clayton Road, which leaves US 178 from Rocky Bottom. Bring binoculars, camera, snacks / lunch, water, and appropriate clothing and footwear. The hike, which is considered strenuous due to the length, will conclude by 4:00 pm.

Saturday, March 9 - Lower Bearwallow Falls Adventure. This adventure will start at 9:00 am from the Grassy Ridge Parking Area at Gorges State Park near Sapphire, NC. Beginning with a 5-mile 4x4 ride to the heart of Gorges State Park, this trek will be followed by a short, but extremely strenuous, hike to Lower Bearwallow Falls. Time permitting we will also stop and see Ted's Falls. Limited to 12 participants, this is a rain or shine event! Everyone will want to remember their camera, snacks, water, and gear appropriate for weather conditions. For more information contact Gorges State Park Superintendant Steve Pagano at (828)966-9099.

CE 2013 HIKES AND OUTINGS!!

Saturday, April 20 - Whitewater Falls Wildflower Walk. Led by Steve Hill, former Clemson University herbarium curator and currently a botanist with the Illinois Natural History Survey, this annual rite of spring will get your spring season started off right with a lovely display of wildflowers. Hill is also the plant identification expert for the S.C. Native Plant Society. This will be about a 3-mile walk to the Bad Creek Hydro Project parking lot, mostly easy and much of it along the Whitewater River, although if hikers need to return to the Whitewater Falls parking area, remember that it is a steep climb back to the top! Meet at 10 a.m. at the Upper Whitewater Falls parking lot on NC 281. (U.S. Forest Service parking fee required.) Bring lunch, snacks, water and appropriate clothing and footwear.

Saturday, May 11 - Panthertown Valley. Join Clemson Extension natural resources agent and FTC board member Cathy Foster for a spring hike in Panthertown Valley. The hike is 11 miles, strenuous, and traverses across beautiful mountaintop views, two stream crossings, and unique waterfalls, not to mention an amazing patch of pink lady slippers! Meet at Upper Whitewater Falls parking lot at 8:30 a.m. to carpool to trailhead. Bring extra water, water shoes for stream crossings, hiking poles, and appropriate clothing and footwear

Saturday, June 1 - Wild and Scenic Chattooga River National Trails Day Join Foothills Trail Conference member Richard Cain on an easy family walk to see two scenic cascades, Spoonauger Falls and King Creek Falls, and along the Chattooga River on the Foothills Trail. Meet at 10 a.m. at the Burrells Ford campground parking lot. Bring lunch, snacks, water and appropriate clothing and footwear, and don't forget your camera.

Saturday, September 7 - Pinnacle Lakeside Trail. At 9:00 am Table Rock State Park Naturalist Scott Stegenga will lead an easy 1.9 mile walk along the Pinnacle Lakeside Trail, a new footpath at the park that includes spectacular views of the iconic mountain and some previously seldom-seen park property. Go through the west entrance of Table Rock State Park, meet at the parking lot for the Lakeside Picnic Shelter, located above the playground, before the main parking lot at Table Rock. Note: A \$2 per person admission fee is in place at Table Rock unless you have a Palmetto Passport. Bring lunch, snacks, water and appropriate clothing and footwear.

Saturday, October 5 - Ellicott's Rock. Join Plenio Beres of the U.S. Forest Service in a hike to the historic Ellicott's Rock on the Chattooga River. Meet at 10:00 am at the Burrell's Ford Campground parking area. This hike, which is limited to 12 participants, will be approximately 8 miles in length and will primarily follow the Wild and Scenic Chattooga River from the Burrell's Ford bridge to Ellicott's Rock. Bring lunch, snacks, water, and appropriate clothing and footwear. The moderate hike should conclude by 3:00 pm.

For more information, write info@foothillstrail.org or visit www.foothillstrail.org.

EXPANDED PARKING LOT AT OCONEE STATE PARK

If you have not been to Oconee State Park lately, then you may have missed seeing the expanded parking lot at the trailhead for the Foothills Trail. Hikers who have driven to the park over the last several years have often had difficulty getting a spot to park in the small parking area, especially on nice weekends, when people wanted to hike on the trails within the park as well as on the Foothills Trail. It could be really crowded, and when drivers parked their cars along the road, park personnel and other visitors had difficulty getting by safely. It was not a satisfactory situation.

Park Manager Joanna White discussed the situation with the FTC Board, and the park went ahead with a plan to expand the area from a capacity of perhaps 6 vehicles to as many as 22 – 24. During the time of the Annual Meeting construction had already begun on the new area, and due to this, hikers had to park in the lots near the park office for a while.



As part of the expansion, the hikers information kiosk has been moved to the trailhead entrance, trees have been removed, grading and leveling have taken place, and gravel spread across the area. Just recently the trunks of trees that were removed have been laid down to form borders for the lot and to divide the parking area into sections. When the heavy equipment work is finished, members of the Foothills Trail Conference may be asked to help with finish work and landscaping around the new area.

2013 MEMBER PICNICS - MARK YOUR CALENDARS

This year's Spring Picnic will be held at Table Rock State Park at the White Oak shelter area on Saturday, April 27.

Last year the FTC held a picnic at the new facilities at Gorges State Park. It was such a success we thought we'd do it again! The date set for this Fall Picnic is Saturday, September 14.

Both events are pot-luck picnics with participants bringing salads, fruits, vegetables, and desserts. The FTC provides burgers, hot dogs and drinks. Other details for these events will be sent out with a Constant Contact message as the dates get closer.

FOOTHILLS TRAIL USE REPORT - TABLE ROCK

Average # hikers registered at Table Rock State Park on all trails per year – 19,996

Number of hikers registered for Foothills Trail at Table Rock State Park –7783

Average # hikers on Foothills Trail per year – 410

Number of FT hikers starting at Table Rock and exiting at another point – 3176

% of FT hikers starting at Table Rock and exiting at another point – 41%

% of registered hikers at Table Rock that register for the FT – 2%

Foothills Trail monthly averages; 1994-2012 (highest to lowest)

1. March	55	7. July	33
2. April	47	8. August	23
3. October	46	9. September	23
4. May	42	10. December	23
5. November	38	11. January	22
6. June	36	12. February	18

Highest number of FT hikers for each month and the year recorded

January	55 / 2010	July	73/ 1994
February	52 / 2011	August	55 / 2009
March	152 / 2011	September	43 / 2012
April	103 / 2011	October	81 / 2009
May	83 / 2010	November	71 / 2012
June	65 / 2012	December	54 / 2011

2012 FT Hiker data

Registered hikers at Table Rock State Park – 34,497 (record high)

Registered FT hikers – 716 (record high)

Hikers starting at Table Rock but exiting at another point – 332

% of FT hikers starting at Table Rock and exiting at another point – 46%

% of registered hikers at Table Rock that registered for FT – 2%

2011 FT Hiker data

Registered hikers at Table Rock State Park – 28,595

Registered FT hikers –694 (record high)

Hikers starting at Table Rock and exiting at another point – 256

% of FT hikers starting at Table Rock and exiting at another point –37%

% of registered hikers at Table Rock that registered for FT – 2%

(Compiled by Scott Stegenga at Table Rock State Park)

CLEMSON STUDENTS BUILD NEW SASSAFRAS MOUNTAIN OBSERVATION PLATFORM

A team of Clemson University graduate students in architecture and landscape architecture recently designed, constructed and installed a new overlook platform at Sassafras Mountain in northern Pickens County. The collective motivation was to provide a universally designed viewing platform accessible to all who visit the highest point in South Carolina, Pickens County and the Foothills Trail, according to Dan Harding, associate professor of architecture and director of the Community Research and Design Center at Clemson University. “The concept hinged on an idea

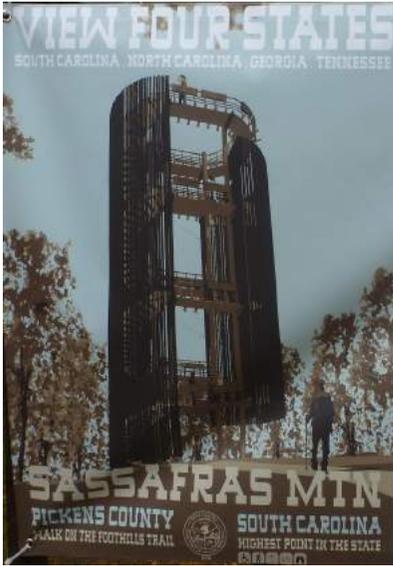


that used a primary wood structure with a light, sky-blue-painted steel railing designed to leave visitors feeling as if they are floating over a wonderful rock out-cropping while remaining safely contained by the railing, which disappears into the expanding horizon,” Harding said. Built entirely on the campus of Clemson University, employing best practices associated with sustainable construction and resource management, the pre-fabricated overlook platform and the project components were transported and mobilized to the job site by the design team, with assistance from the S.C. Department of Natural Resources (DNR). At the Sassafras parking area, about 80 feet in elevation below the top of Sassafras Mountain, the parts were efficiently re-assembled over several days. Currently, work is still being performed to sculpt the existing trail to improve the connection and access to the overlook. The student design team, from Clemson



University’s School of Architecture and Department of Landscape Architecture, includes Nick Barrett, Thomas Campbell, Priyanka Jagdale and Thomas Punzo. Project professors are Harding and Paul Russell, assistant professor of landscape architecture. Funding was provided by DNR. A fundraising campaign to build an observation tower atop Sassafras Mountain, the highest point in South Carolina, is currently underway. For more information on the Sassafras campaign, visit www.dnr.sc.gov or www.harryhamptonfund.org/sassafras.html.

SASSAFRAS MOUNTAIN TOWER HAPPENINGS



Looking for a great gift that means something? Give a loved one an engraved brick at the base of a planned observation tower atop Sassafras Mountain, the highest point in South Carolina! To purchase a brick or for more information on the brick pavers atop Sassafras Mountain, visit www.harryhamptonfund.org/sassafras.html. This is the website for Harry Hampton Memorial Wildlife Fund, a unique non-profit conservation organization helping to raise funds for the Sassafras Mountain observation tower. A link to Sassafras Mountain fund raising can also be found on the DNR website at www.dnr.sc.gov. South Carolinians have a unique opportunity to place their name or the name of a loved one on a brick paver atop Sassafras while also helping raise funds for the observation tower. The S.C. Department of Natural Resources, Harry Hampton Fund, Pickens County, Clemson University and other partners are working together to generate private donations to construct an observation tower on top of South Carolina's highest mountain peak, Sassafras Mountain, that will enable visitors to see more than 50 miles in all directions. Bricks

may be designated in honor or memory of a child, friend, or loved one. This is an exceptional, once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for special recognition on the highest point in South Carolina. Act NOW to take advantage of this opportunity to “make your mark” atop Sassafras Mountain.

There are three brick choices atop Sassafras: 1) \$100 - 4 x 8 inch brick; three lines with 23 characters per line (including spaces); 2) \$500 - 8 x 8 inch brick; up to six lines with 23 characters per line (including spaces); and 3) \$1,000 - 16 x 16 inch brick; up to six lines with 23 characters per line (including spaces) Bricks will be permanently set in the foundation around the observation tower.

For those who want to make a contribution to the observation tower, but do not wish to buy a brick, a Sassafras Contribution button is also on the website, where donations of any amount can be made. “The beauty of Sassafras Mountain is a part of every South Carolinians’ heritage, and we want everyone to have a chance to help build this observation tower, from schoolchildren to business executives,” said Alvin A. Taylor, director of the S.C. Department of Natural Resources (DNR).



In addition to being the highest point in South Carolina at 3,553 feet, Sassafras Mountain also sits on the state line with North Carolina, is along the Continental Divide, and is one of the important features of the Foothills Trail (www.foothillstrail.org), a 77-mile footpath between Table Rock and Oconee state parks. Other amenities would feature a new barrier-free trail, and public-use facilities such as restrooms.

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RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

This may be your last *Footnotes* if your membership is not current. If there is a 2011 by your name on your mailing label, your membership has lapsed. We'd love to have you back! You can renew at our web site or by mail. Thanks.

