



# United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
APPALACHIAN TRAIL PROJECT OFFICE  
HARPERS FERRY CENTER  
HARPERS FERRY, WEST VIRGINIA 25425

IN REPLY REFER TO:

November 21, 1980

Mr. Reese F. Lukei Jr.  
Tidewater Appalachian Trail Club &  
American Hiking Society  
1046 Azalea Court  
Virginia Beach, VA 23452

Dear Reese:

It was good to meet you at the American Hiking Society "Hike-in". It was an exciting meeting, especially the film and tape from the participants on the Hikeanation. If you recall we had talked about what the Appalachian Trail Conference and the Virginia Trail Clubs might do to assist the 50 Hikeanation participants when they arrive in Damascus, Virginia, for their hike across the Commonwealth on the Appalachian Trail. It is exciting that these people, after months of hiking from San Francisco, will arrive on the AT in their journey to Washington. In the spirit of cooperation with the National interests of all hikers, as symbolized by this event, it would be great to host some manner of assistance to the American Hiking Society, by some if not all of the effected Trail Clubs and the ATC. This could chime well with their eventual arrival in Washington and the ceremonies that will be held at that time.

I have a few suggestions which I will share with ATC folks in Harpers Ferry:

1. A welcome, dinner or lodging for the group in either or both Damascus or Pearisburg. They have a difficult job to do, going thru Virginia possibly as early as March. The tactical difficulties of doing this trek might be an exciting aspect of club involvement. They could serve as guides, help plan lodging, and assist the group expecially if the weather is bad.
2. The publicity, especially as they get closer to the capital, should be an exciting and valuable aspect of the ATC effort.
3. It would be a great chance to show the Hiking Society the uncommon ability of the ATC volunteers to marshall its mountain troops for the work. As a young organization with little experience in organizing motivated self-governed Trail Clubs, a lot could be transferred to the national trail movement.

With your membership in both organizations, you would be a great person to get this going. I am prepared to assist as well. I understand you have talked with Mike Dawson about this and several folks here are interested in helping (Dave Startzell and Carol Lee). My only concern would be that we are careful not to overload ourselves or the Trail. It is a busy year coming up with Collowee, 81, and all the Trail work itself.



Through copy of this letter to AHS, they are informed that we will assist in some manner and that we should know the logistics of total numbers and arrival times. Other people in Virginia Parks and the National Park Service should be informed as well.

Sincerely,



Robert Proudman  
Trail Management Specialist

cc: Evans, Dawson, Startzell, Lee

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
APPALACHIAN TRAIL PROJECT OFFICE  
HARPERS FERRY CENTER  
HARPERS FERRY, WEST VIRGINIA 25425

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Mr. Reese F. Lukei Jr.  
Tidewater Appalachian Trail Club  
American Hiking Society  
1046 Azalea Court  
Virginia Beach, VA 23452



## TIDEWATER APPALACHIAN TRAIL CLUB, INC

~~P.O. BOX 62044, VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA 23462~~  
P.O. Box 8246, Norfolk, Virginia 23503

MEMBER:  
*Appalachian Trail Conference  
Virginia Trails Association*

COPY

November 24, 1980

Mr. Robert Proudman  
Trail Management Specialist  
Appalachian Trail Project Office  
Harpers Ferry Center  
Harpers Ferry, West Virginia 25425

Dear Bob:

Here is a copy of a letter I have sent to all the Virginia AT clubs except the Potomac ATC. Perhaps you can advise me as to who I should contact.

Happy Thanksgiving,

Reese F. Lukei, Jr.



## TIDEWATER APPALACHIAN TRAIL CLUB, INC

~~P.O. BOX 62044, VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA 23462~~  
P.O. Box 8246, Norfolk, Virginia 23503

*MEMBER:  
Appalachian Trail Conference  
Virginia Trails Association*

November 24, 1980

Dear

As you may be aware, there are 50 sturdy and steadfast hikers making their way across our great nation. They left San Francisco in April and are now in Oklahoma. They will end their hike in Washington D.C. Their journey is being sponsored jointly by the American Hiking Society and the Department of the Interior.

The group will be arriving in Damascus, Virginia in late February or early March. Their journey through Virginia will be on the Appalachian Trail.

Bob Proudman of the Appalachian Trail Project Office and myself have offered to coordinate the efforts of the various AT maintaining clubs in Virginia in providing support and assistance to the hikers. We have a great opportunity to show our uncommon ability as volunteers by serving as guides, helping plan lodging and assisting the group especially if the weather is bad.

The group has been met by the mayor of nearly every town they have passed through. The response of people in general has been very encouraging. Dave Startzell, acting Executive Director of the ATC, has expressed his interest in this exciting venture. Mike Dawson, southwestern Virginia ATC representative, has also offered his guidance in coordinating our efforts to aid these hikers.

I will be contacting you again shortly with an outline of the type of services and assistance the hikers will need. If there is someone else who should be contacted in addition to yourself, please send me their name and address.

Have a happy Thanksgiving -

Happy Hiking,

Reese F. Lukei, Jr.  
1046 Azalea Court  
Virginia Beach, Virginia 23452

Enclosure

xc: Mr. Mike Dawson  
Mr. David Startzell

## memorandum

DATE:

11/26/80

REPLY TO  
ATTN OF:

B. Proudman

SUBJECT:

Mike-a-Nation

TO:

Reese Lukei Jr.

your letter looks great. In PATC, President Bill Hutchinson or Trail Supervisor Bob Davis are both very helpful. Their respective Addresses : 19121 N. Pike Creek Place, Gaithersburg, MD 20760; and 6408 Kenhowe Dr, Bethesda, Md 20034. I'd also contact or copy AHS in your letters. I'll be in touch - call anytime if you want. (304) 535-2346

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Bob P 11/26



## TIDEWATER APPALACHIAN TRAIL CLUB, INC

~~P. O. BOX 62044, VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA 23462~~  
P.O. Box 8246, Norfolk, Virginia 23503

MEMBER:  
*Appalachian Trail Conference*  
*Virginia Trails Association*

November 24, 1980

COPY

Mr. Jim Kern  
American Hiking Society  
18600 S.W. 157th Avenue  
Miami, Florida 33187

Dear Jim:

As you can see from the attached letter, we Virginians are beginning to get our act together to assist "our" hikers.

A list from you or Monty as to the type of help they will need would be appreciated. We pretty well know, but they may have special needs that we will want to be aware of in advance.

I hope the Coleman sponsored Thanksgiving dinner for the hikers was successful.

Happy Hiking,

Reese F. Lukei, Jr.

Attachment



## TIDEWATER APPALACHIAN TRAIL CLUB, INC

P.O. BOX 62044, VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA 23462  
P.O. Box 8246, Norfolk, Virginia 23503

MEMBER:  
*Appalachian Trail Conference*  
*Virginia Trails Association*

November 24, 1980

COPY

Mt. Rogers Appalachian Trail Club  
Mrs. Harriet Locke  
1332 Valley Drive  
Bristol, Tennessee 37620

Dear Mrs. Locke:

As you may be aware, there are 50 sturdy and steadfast hikers making their way across our great nation. They left San Francisco in April and are now in Oklahoma. They will end their hike in Washington D.C. Their journey is being sponsored jointly by the American Hiking Society and the Department of the Interior.

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I will be contacting you again shortly with an outline of the type of services and assistance the hikers will need. If there is someone else who should be contacted in addition to yourself, please send me their name and address.

Have a happy Thanksgiving -

Happy Hiking,

Reese F. Lukei, Jr.  
1046 Azalea Court  
Virginia Beach, Virginia 23452

Enclosure

xc: Mr. Mike Dawson  
Mr. David Startzell

**A. LEE RAWLINGS & COMPANY, P.C.**

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VIRGINIA SOCIETY OF  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

11/24/80

**COPY**

Mr. David Stutzell

ATC

Harpers Ferry, W.V.

Dear Dave -

The enclosed letter has been sent to all Virginia AT maintaining clubs except PATC. Bob Proudman is to furnish the name of a contact person at PATC.

Your support of this project is really appreciated.

The hikeamation group will need a copy of the new Southwest + Central Virginia guidebook as soon as it is available. I worked on the committee and understand it is at the typesetter and should be out in February.

Looking forward to Culloose '81

Happy Thanksgiving

Reese



## TIDEWATER APPALACHIAN TRAIL CLUB, INC

**COPY**

P. O. BOX 62044, VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA 23462  
P.O. Box 8246, Norfolk, Virginia 23503

*MEMBER:  
Appalachian Trail Conference  
Virginia Trails Association*

December 15, 1980

Potomac Appalachian Trail Club  
Mr. Bob Davis  
6408 Kenhowe Drive  
Bethesda, Maryland 20034

Dear Bob:

As you may be aware, there are 50 sturdy and steadfast hikers making their way across our great nation. They left San Francisco in April and are now in Oklahoma. They will end their hike in Washington D.C. Their journey is being sponsored jointly by the American Hiking Society and the Department of the Interior.

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Reese F. Lukei, Jr.  
1046 Azalea Court  
Virginia Beach, Virginia 23452

Enclosure

xc: Mr. Mike Dawson  
Mr. David Startzell

1046 Azalea Court  
Virginia Beach, Virginia  
November 25, 1980

Mr. Craig Evans  
American Hiking Society  
1701 Eighteenth St. NW  
Washington, D.C. 20009

Dear Craig:

The enclosed letter has been sent to all Virginia Appalachian Trail maintaining clubs. I have sent a copy to Jim Kern.

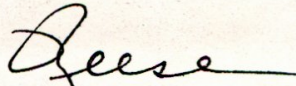
I have arranged a meeting with Congressman G. William Whitehurst on December 12th at his Virginia Beach office. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss our local hiking club and its activities, and to express our appreciation for his efforts on behalf of all hikers.

I don't know what is being planned for the arrival of the Hike-a-Nation group in Washington. If you want Whitehurst to be a part of the celebration, I will be happy to do what I can to assist in requesting his presence.

If you have any other topics you wish discussed I will try to work them into our limited time with him.

Your prompt response will be appreciated. I will be out of town for most of the next two weeks.

Happy Thanksgiving



Reese F. Lukei, Jr.



## TIDEWATER APPALACHIAN TRAIL CLUB, INC

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P.O. BOX 62044, VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA 23462  
P.O. Box 8246, Norfolk, Virginia 23503

MEMBER:  
Appalachian Trail Conference  
Virginia Trails Association

December 15, 1980

Potomac Appalachian Trail Club  
Mr. Bill Hutchinson  
19121 N. Pike Creek  
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20760

Dear Bill:

As you may be aware, there are 50 sturdy and steadfast hikers making their way across our great nation. They left San Francisco in April and are now in Oklahoma. They will end their hike in Washington D.C. Their journey is being sponsored jointly by the American Hiking Society and the Department of the Interior.

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