

On the weekend of May 23-24, the following crew members (representing all of the CMC Maintenance Crews) participated in this educational experience: Jerry Aldridge, Cynthia Blood, Jake Blood, John Busse, Tim Carrigan, Dan Dearybury, Jeff Dektor, Bill Falender, Hugh Hensleigh, Les Love, Steve Patch, Michael Ramos, Skip Sheldon, Wayne Steinmetz, Tom Weaver, Jim West, and John Whitehouse. (Special Thanks to Tom Weaver for coordinating the event, and to Pete Peterson for housing the 3 Jolly Rover crew members.)

The fairly intense two days of training involved hands on training in proper tool use and safety; stone splitting and shaping, and the proper methodology for installation of stone steps. The consideration for this type of extensive manual labor is to build (or improve or replace) trails or staircases that are in rocky locations that receive heavy use from a large variety of users. The approach trail to Skinny Dip Falls was used for the training ground. (Check out the new staircase as a result of this workshop!)

The consensus of participants was that the professional workshop provided new skill sets that can readily be applied in various aspects of their trail maintenance duties. The workshop also provided an opportunity for trail crew members to meet and work with other crew members. Discussion is already underway to provide more continuing education opportunities to CMC members who are active trail crew members.