

# June 25-28, 2009

TailWind Tandem Club weekend with TailWind host members John **Tal**ani and Susanna **Si**sk (Team **TASK**) are putting together another Blue Ridge Parkway (BRPW) trip. We will offer a full day hiking trip on Thurs. June 25 for those that have an interest, with Fri., Sat. & Sun. rides along the BRPW. Open to any tandem teams.



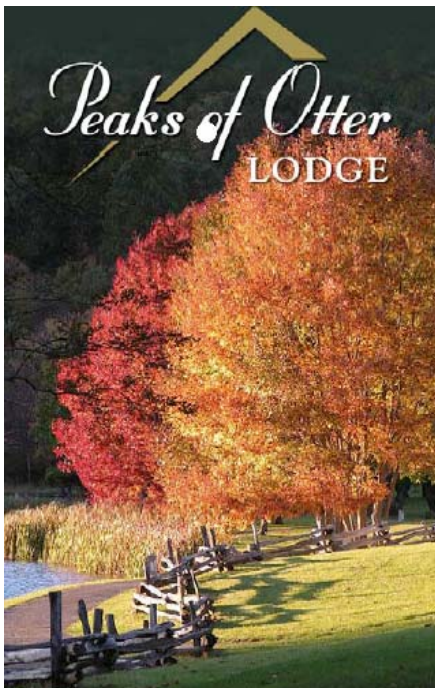
Our host accommodation this year will be Peaks of Otter, Bedford, VA at milepost 86.

## DRAFT AGENDA:

Thur. Jun. 25 10:00 a.m. hiking (meet at Inn)  
Fri. Jun. 26 10:00 a.m. ride start (this will allow those driving a.m. to arrive in time);  
lunch on the road; Dinner: TBD  
Sat. Jun. 27 9:00 a.m. ride; Lunch on the road; Dinner: TBD  
Sun. Jun. 28 8:00 a.m. ride (checkout is at 11:00 am; no exceptions)

*Nestled between two of the three mountains that make up the Peaks of Otter is the Peaks of Otter Lodge and Restaurant, located at Milepost 86 on the Blue Ridge Parkway near Bedford, Virginia. The Lodge, completed in 1964, is the flagship concessions strung along the Virginia portion of the Parkway.*

When **BOOKING** your room ask for the **TAILWIND TANDEM** block of rooms being held. You have until May 25 before the rooms are released. Email **ASAP** Debbie or Lisa to hold your room [peaksotter@aol.com](mailto:peaksotter@aol.com) or call 800-542-5927 or (540) 586-1081 with your credit card information.

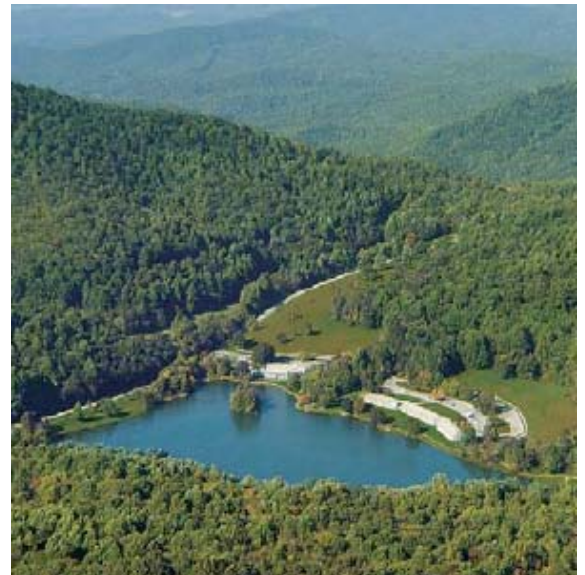


Outside rooms on the bottom level have been requested so we can bring lawn chairs and enjoy sitting together outside of our rooms.

2 – kings  
8 - doubles

Be the **first** to reserve your choice of the rooms reserved for **TailWind**.

The restaurant at Peaks of Otter features three meals which include breakfast, lunch, dinner. We shouldn't go away hungry.



To read articles of the past five years of Blue Ridge trips go to:  
<http://www.tailwindtandemclub.com/interest.htm>

RSVP so we know if you plan to join us.  
(Goodie Bags to all attending as long as you RSVP by Jun 5 to Suzie)

**FREE T-SHIRTS** to the first ten teams.



## HOSTS:

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# Other activities for us while at Peaks of Otter

## Hiking at the Peaks of Otter:

There are three opinions on how the Peaks of Otter got their name. The name may come from the Cherokee Indian word, "ottari," which means "high places." The Peaks may have been named after the Otter River, which has its headwaters in the area. Finally, Scottish settlers may have named the Peaks after Ben Otter, a mountain in their homeland that resembles Sharp Top. The Peaks of Otter include three mountains; Sharp Top has an elevation of 3,865 feet above sea level, Flat Top is slightly taller at 4,001 feet, and Harkening Hill has an elevation of 3,375 feet.

There are many different Peaks of Otter trails that range from easy (the one-mile loop around picturesque Abbott Lake) to strenuous (the one and one-half miles trek to the summit of Sharp Top), but no matter what the effort required, the reward justifies the endeavor.

From the Blue Ridge Parkway, hikers can gain access to the Appalachian Trail at Bearwallow Gap, five miles south of the Peaks of Otter on State Road 43. Access is also available at the Cornelius Creek Shelter five miles north of the Peaks at Milepost 80.5.

## Winery:

*Johnson Farm and Peaks of Otter Winery* ~ visitors may also enjoy a hike to Johnson's Farm. The Johnson family lived at and worked this rustic farm between 1852 and the 1930s. Costumed interpreters work the farm and offer discussions and programs daily. With 25 varieties of wine you are sure to find something to your taste.

*Home to five wineries*~ Visit all five wineries and receive a free wine glass at the Bedford Welcome Center. [www.visitbedford.com](http://www.visitbedford.com) or [www.bedfordwinetrail.com](http://www.bedfordwinetrail.com)

## Historic Sites:

*Civil War Trails*~ A new VA Civil War Trail highlighting the 1864 VA Raid of Union General David Hunter opened in the 141<sup>st</sup> Anniv. of the raid. Markers with approx. 400 sites at key Civil war locations.

*Historic Cemeteries*~ Longwood Cemetery features the Monument of Valor that marks the final resting place for Civil War veterans.

*National D-Day Memorial* ~ One of the most awe-inspiring memorials ever created. A centerpiece of this 88 acre site is the massive Overlord arch rising 44' 6" above Victory Plaza. Overlooking the City of Bedford, that on Jun. 6, 1944 gave 19 of its sons on the beach at Normandy to preserve freedom for the world's future generations. ([www.dday.org](http://www.dday.org)).

*Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest* ~ President Jefferson's personal retreat – the "solitude of a hermit". [www.poplarforest.org](http://www.poplarforest.org).

*Booker T. Washington National Monument* ~ In 1856 a child was born into slavery, simply named "Booker". [www.nps.gov/bowa](http://www.nps.gov/bowa)

*Wharton Gardens* ~ Three historical structures, consists of perennial and shrub, brick walks and terraces. Located near the Bedford Library.

*Avenel Plantation* ~ Circa 1838 house, focal point of a 200-acre plantation; distinguished visitors including General Robert E. Lee, Edgar Allen Poe.

*Elks National Home* ~ Overlooking Bedford, stands the only retirement facility for the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. [www.elkshome.org](http://www.elkshome.org)

*Bedford County Courthouse* ~ Built with a unique design in 1930; symbols of local corn crops, tobacco, official crest of fourth Duke of Bedford.

*Meeting House* ~ Greek Revival structure built in 1838 for the first Methodists in Liberty; became a place of worship for former slaves and a day school for their children.

*Bedford City/County Museum* ~ Exhibiting traces of history of the region, from early Native American culture, through the Civil War and into the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. [www.bedfordvamusium.org](http://www.bedfordvamusium.org)

*James River Foot Bridge* ~ Spans the entire width of the James River.

*Holy Land, USA* ~ In the foothills outside of Bedford, this sanctuary is a 250-acre representation of the Bible lands of Israel. From Bethlehem to Calvary to the garden tomb, follow the steps of Jesus and experience the events of His life and ministry.

## Eatery and Shops:

*Shops at Lawyers Row* ~ 201 S. Street: Cup-A-Joes Coffee House, The Etc. Gift Shop, Vinos del Zorro,

*Antique Mall*~ Over 10,000 sq. feet of antiques, primitives, collectibles, glassware, etc.

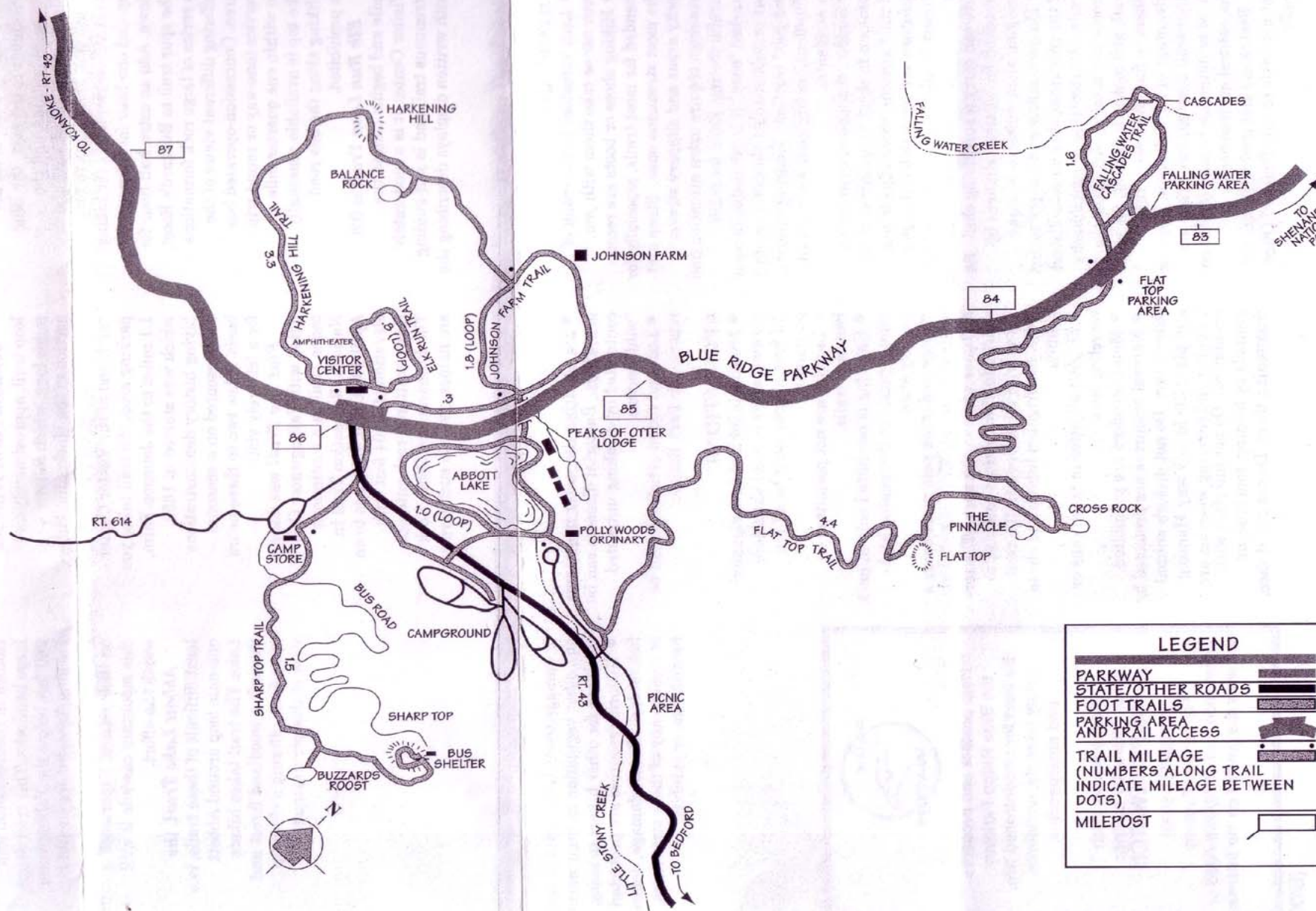
*"The Gilded Era"* ~ Everything for the vintage Heart

*The Electric Company* ~ Visit the renovated Elec. Company and see the most unusual mix of shops in Virginia; art, crafters, collectibles, gift shops, café, pet boutique.

*Emerson Creek Pottery* ~ Making pottery for 30 yrs. Made on site; hand painted by artisans in the studio. [www.emersoncreekpottery.com](http://www.emersoncreekpottery.com)

*The Liberty Station* ~ Est, 1895. This historic depot is the last of several stations built in the area. The food is delicious and a must stop in to see. [www.oldlibertystation.com](http://www.oldlibertystation.com)

# Peaks of Otter Trails



| LEGEND |   |
|--------|---|
|        | PARKWAY   |
|        | STATE/OTHER ROADS   |
|        | FOOT TRAILS   |
|        | PARKING AREA AND TRAIL ACCESS                                     |
|        | TRAIL MILEAGE (NUMBERS ALONG TRAIL INDICATE MILEAGE BETWEEN DOTS) |
|        | MILEPOST  |