

## Hiking Options via Shuttle

Shuttle is required for all hiking opportunities below.  
Event parking is on private property and only accessible for today (April 22nd)

### **Option #1: Saddleback Mountain Trail**

Moderate, 3.3 miles. Est. Time: 2 hours

Hike 0.1 miles along South River Maintenance Hut Road. Right onto A.T. and follow for 300 yards. Trail splits—stay to the left, following the Saddleback Mountain Trail for the next 1.75 miles. Turn right onto A.T. for 1.0 miles back to beginning. Optional A.T. extension out to Skyline Drive adds 3 miles out and back. Family cemeteries, home sites, mountain views.

### **Option #2: South River Falls Loop**

Difficult, 3.7 miles, 1,600 ft elevation gain.  
Est. time: 4 hours

Hike 0.1 miles along South River Maintenance Hut Road. Left onto A.T. and follow for 0.75 miles. Right onto Upper South River Road and follow for 0.8 miles. Right onto Lower South River Road and follow for 0.4 miles. Right onto South River Falls Trail and follow for 1.3 miles. Re-trace steps back to shuttle. See home site, waterfall.

**Take care while hiking to avoid disturbing any historic or archeological sites. They are located within Shenandoah National Park and are protected under the law.**

## Sites of Interest

*See map insert for locations of these sites*

1. Begin both Saddleback Mountain and South River Falls Loop Trails at the South River Maintenance Hut Road here.
2. Site of Luther Dean's stave mill; Matilda Catherine Breeden "Aunt Cassie" rented a house here, where she cooked for mill workers; Site of earlier home of Bazil P. Shifflett, grandson of Thomas and Suzanna Wyant Shifflett in the late 1800s.
3. Two homes once stood here, the earliest one likely the home of Thomas and Susanna Wyant Shifflett. Later, their grandchildren, Lucretia and Newton Shifflett obtained the property. Newton's son, Houston, lived here from 1904 to 1919.
4. Known today as the Saddleback Mountain Trail, this was a much earlier path locally called the "Shifflett Road," as it connected various Shifflett families that lived on the mountain.
5. Collier-Watsun-Shifflett Cemetery. Approx. 1/3 of an acre with at least 34 burials. Two inscribed grave markers, mostly fieldstone markers.
6. Property part of original Shifflett landholdings. Early home of Rufus and Lillie Shifflett; later home of Charlie Collier and his wife, Bertha Dean. Abandoned road leads back to Simeon and Millie Shifflett Collier's homesite.
7. Homesite of John J. Shifflett, son of John and Nancy Haney Shifflett, and his wife, Bettie Collier. Home rented by Ervin Hensley and family, following Bettie's death in 1929.



Rufus Shifflett, circa 1910. Courtesy of Kenny Samuels

8. Site of 1930s call-in station. Extension of the A.T. was once known as the Knighting Road, its original route continuing north over the mountain. The Knighting Road was also used after the creation of Shenandoah National Park, to install a telephone cable system. A "call-in" system in the Park's early days, ran the entire length of the park from headquarters to developed areas, CCC camps, fire towers and other areas of the park.
9. Fence Posts on west side of the trail
10. Fern Hill/Haney Cemetery. Community cemetery of at least 50 burials, shared by members of the Shifflett, Lam, Knighten, Haney and other families. Some burials brought in by hearse through Alec Haney's land, since there was a road that connected Route 33 to the cemetery through his property.
11. Lem's Stave Mill. Established around 1900. Operated until the 1920s, employing many men from the community.
12. John K. & Lula Haney's Home Site. Their

home once stood at the intersection of present-day Route 33 and Skyline Drive. They operated a store and service station next to their home.

13. Site of Fern Hill Church, constructed in 1919 by the United Brethren Church, at a cost of \$1,350.
14. George Robert and Annie Florence Meadows Deane Homesite. Owned early on by George and Emily Deane, and deeded to their son, "Bob" Deane around 1904. Couple raised fourteen children here, before Annie's untimely death in 1916 at age 46.
15. South River Falls. Every 4th of July, mountain families would meet at the falls and bring baskets of food to have picnics.

### Shuttle Schedule

**10:00: Leave Cecil Mission**  
**10:30: Arrive Trailhead**  
**10:50: Return Cecil Mission**  
**11:00 Leave Cecil Mission**  
**11:30: Arrive Trailhead**  
**11:50: Return Cecil Mission**  
**12:00: Leave Cecil Mission**  
**12:30: Arrive Trailhead**  
**12:50: Return Cecil Mission**  
**1:00: Leave Cecil Mission**  
**1:30: Arrive Trailhead**  
**1:50: Return Cecil Mission**  
**2:00: Leave Cecil Mission**  
**2:30: Arrive Trailhead**  
**2:50: Return Cecil Mission**  
**3:00: Leave Cecil Mission**  
(Last Pick up, Lydia Tours Only)  
**3:20: Return Cecil Mission**



# EVENT SPONSORS

## The Piedmont Environmental Council

The Piedmont Environmental Council (PEC) was founded in 1972 to promote and protect the Virginia Piedmont's rural economy, natural resources, history and beauty. Headquartered in Warrenton, VA, we have offices throughout a nine county region that includes Albemarle, Clarke, Culpeper, Fauquier, Greene, Loudoun, Madison, Orange and Rappahannock counties. For more information, visit [www.pecva.org](http://www.pecva.org)

*PEC would like to express its appreciation to the following individuals and groups for their contributions to this event: Lydia Mountain Cabins, Pickin' Daisies, Judy Pagter, Kenny Samuels, Phil James, Larry Lamb, Doug Graves, Lisa Custalow, Linda Butler, Norm Addington, Jim Lawson, and Chelsi Breeden*

## Schedule of Activities

- 10AM: Cecil Mission Chapel Opens Exhibits/Displays Open Pickin' Daisies Begins First shuttle leaves Cecil Mission
- 12PM: Welcome Announcement
- 12:15: Reverend David Wayland Presentation in the chapel
- 1PM: Judy Pagter & Friends Begins
- 3PM: Last shuttle leaves
- 4PM: Displays Close Down Chapel closes



## Things to Do

- Follow the signage around the chapel grounds to learn more about the history of the Episcopal Church and its mountain missions
- Enjoy the musical talents of Judy Pagter and Pickin' Daisies
- Tour the interior of Cecil Mission and check out the various family displays
- Visit the listening station to hear oral histories from Greene County descendants who once lived in the Blue Ridge Mountains
- Take a driving tour on the free shuttle to see the historic village of Lydia or hike on Saddleback Mountain
- Visit the recording station to share your favorite mountain memories
- Visit with local groups, including the Piedmont Environmental Council, Blue Ridge Heritage Project, Greene County Historical Society, Preservation Piedmont, and others

# Greene's Mountain Heritage:

An Open House at Cecil Mission

April 22, 2017

Sponsored by:

