

Carolina Mountain Club Award of Appreciation - Bob Lindsey

By Ann Hendrickson

SELFIE is the current buzzword and rage; everyone is doing it. There is one who is not. In fact he is the opposite — he is SELFLESS. I am referring to Bob Lindsey. Do you know him? Perhaps not; Bob truly is selfless in all of his volunteer efforts.

Have you ever wondered how it is that the trails run through the forest where there are no trees or roots in the path? Well, one can thank Bob for that. Bob has been a member of CMC for over 11 years with 4000 documented hours of volunteer trail work. Bob has had the “glory” of the dirty, difficult, strenuous, and technical job of removing stumps and roots from the route where the trail will go. There are few people who will do this type of work for pay, much less as a volunteer job. In need of a new privy dug or an old one cleaned? A shelter cleaned of garbage or graffiti? Bob will do it!



There are many wonderful volunteers who put in countless hours for CMC. All of them continue to make our Club thrive. There are some who quietly go above and beyond, and Bob is one of those. For years, I have worked with Bob and watched him interact with hikers as they come through while we are working on the trail. Bob always greets every hiker with “Welcome, WE are the Carolina Mountain Club maintenance crew, please enjoy your hike.” One only needs to read a few thru-hiker blogs to run into Bob’s name being mentioned as a “cool dude that is a maintainer with the Carolina Mountain Club”... Talk about free advertising! Bob’s positive enthusiasm is infectious.

This past year, several of our senior club members have been sidelined due to illness. Bob Lindsey has been there for each of them. These hours are un-recorded, and most people do not know that the MST by the Folk Art Center is in good shape because this is where Bob takes his CMC members on rehab out to for a little trail work. I would bet that these members would be house-bound if it were not for Bob’s selflessness. Perhaps these individuals would no longer be members if it were not for Bob, urging them to get back out there, if only for a little walk on the trail, or maybe, yes, take a hazel hoe and give it a go for a few minutes.

Forget the Selfie. The Club needs Bob. The Club needs more Bobs. The Club and its membership are enhanced because of him. Bob has made an incredible difference to the CMC membership and our trails. Finally, we can all take a moment and say a heartfelt thank you, and turn the spotlight on Bob Lindsey and say THANK YOU A MILLION TIMES OVER.