

2,000-miler – a person who has hiked the entire distance between termini of the official (white-blazed) Appalachian Trail (A.T.), either by thru-hiking or section hiking. [TT]

Appalachia – a term derived from a tribe of Muskogean Indians called the Appalachee, the “people on the other side.” [p. 7]

Appalachian Trail – (A.T.) -- a 2,050 hiking trail extending from central Maine to Northern Georgia along the Appalachian Mountains. [D]

Appalachian Trail Conference – (ATC) – a volunteer-based private, nonprofit organization dedicated to the preservation, management, and promotion of the A.T. as a primitive setting for outdoor recreation (on foot) and for learning. [TT]

Arbutus – any of a genus of trees or shrubs of the heath family, with dark-green leaves, clusters of white or pinkish flowers, and small strawberry-like fruit. [p. 243]

Bigelow's Sedge – a rare flowering plant that grows on flatlands at high alpine elevations. [p. 191]

blazes – **white blazes** - painted, 2-inch by 6-inch, vertical white rectangles that are placed at eye height on trees and other objects, in both directions, to mark the official route of the Appalachian Trail. [TT]

blue blazes - spur trails off the A.T. to bad-weather routes, views, shelters, water sources, etc. are often marked by A.T. style blazes painted blue. [TT]

blow-down – a tree or shrub that has fallen across the Trail. [TT]

cracklings – the browned, crisp rind of roast pork cut into strips [D]

Diapensia – a minimalist plant that looks like an evergreen pincushion, no more than three or four inches tall. [p. 191]

flatlanders -- people who live on land that is extremely level. [p. 193]

Gallipolis – located in southeastern Ohio, “the city of Gauls” [p. 33]

Ktaadn – an Indian word meaning highest land. Thoreau noted this in his essay on Mt. Katahdin: he called the mountain Ktaadn. [p. 187]

Katahdin Arctic Butterfly – a small, dull brown butterfly which is a subspecies of Polixenes Arctic (*Oeneis polixenes*) [p. 191]

Nantahala – a Cherokee word meaning “land of the noonday sun” [p. 29]

pantywaist – a slang term for a man or youth considered as like a child in lacking strength, courage, etc.; sissy. [D]

purist – 1. A hiker who wants to pass every white blaze. 2. A hiker who wants others to pass every white blaze. [TT]



Sassafras – a small E. North American tree (*Sassafras albidum*) of the laurel family, having an aromatic bark, leaves with usually two or three fingerlike lobes and small, bluish fruits. [D]

tableland – a bare, rocky, gently sloping plateau [p. 187]

terminus – a boundary or limit; an end; final point [D]

thru-hiking – the act of attempting to become a 2,000-miler in a single, continuous journey. [TT]

trail magic – unexpected, but welcome, help or food. [TT]

trailhead – where the trail leaves a road crossing or parking lot. [TT]

ultra light – a style of gear or hiking that focuses on using the lightest gear possible. [TT]

Wood Sorrel – any of a genus (*Oxalis*) of creeping dicotyledonous plants with white, pink, red, or yellow, five-parted flowers and clover-like compound leaves that contain oxalic acid: found in cool, shaded, damp woods [D]

Yogi-ing – the good-natured art of “letting” food be offered cheerfully by strangers without actually asking them directly (If you ask, it’s begging!). [TT]

Sources:

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TT – Trail Terms www.rmghadventures.com/trailterms.htm Website design by ASH Productions



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