

**North Carolina FFLA Chapter Report  
2017  
Submitted: January 8, 2018**

**Membership:** 28 (gain of 2 from 2016)

**2017 Chapter Accomplishments:**

- Applied for, and was awarded, two grants from the Appalachian Trail Conservancy License Plate Program totaling \$8,500, for the restoration of the Rich Mountain Lookout Tower near Hot Springs, NC (on NC/TN state line, just off of Appalachian National Scenic Trail). Grant will be matched multifold by USFS Regional office.
- Met with USFS Appalachian Ranger District and ATC staff and Carolina Mountain Club to form partnership for planning of Rich Mountain Lookout Tower Restoration
- Applied for, and was awarded, \$500 Restoration Grant from national FFLA to support the Rich Mountain Lookout Tower restoration project
- Western NC fire lookouts and NC Chapter Director Peter Barr featured in cover story of popular regional publication *Our State* magazine in October 2017 issue
- Discovered previously unknown and undocumented former lookout site at Horse Gap benchmark (former Mt. Mitchell Ranger District) in Pisgah National Forest).

**Goals for 2018:**

- Complete restoration of Rich Mountain Lookout Tower in partnership with USFS, ATC, and CMC in Spring 2018
- Update WNC State Tower inventory and publish online

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