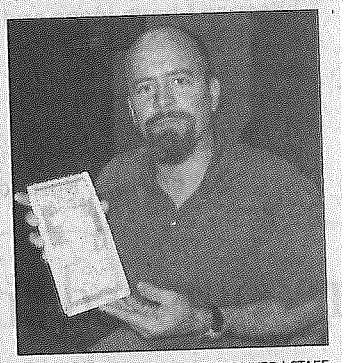
Clemson resident develops Upstate recreation map

BY GREG OLIVER
THE JOURNAL

CLEMSON — Clemson area resident Paul Galbreath has always enjoyed maps and the outdoors. Therefore, it was only natural that he combine both interests into developing The Upstate South Carolina Recreation Map.

"I realized a while ago that there were a lot of countywide maps of roads and rough waterfall locations, but not much that covered the area of South Carolina, North Carolina and Georgia where the foothills meet the mountains," said Galbreath, who earned his degree in graphic communications from Clemson University in 1996. "I've always enjoyed hiking, waterfalls and lakes and thought it would be great to create a map of the area where most people go on weekends."

Using a 1:100K scale, Galbreath said his map covers the area from Greenville on the east to Clayton and Toccoa, Ga., and Franklin, N.C., on the west. Highlands and Cashiers, N.C., are featured on up to the bottom of Brevard to the north, and then the map stops just below Clemson University's Experimental Forest to the south. Not only does the map provide information on waterfalls, Galbreath said it also shows boat ramps, a general road network, lakes, streams and an assortment of historical locations and other points of interest. Data, Web site addresses and notes on the sites can be found on the back.



GREG OLIVER | STAFF

Paul Galbreath displays The Upstate South Carolina Recreation Map he developed that includes locations of parks, lakes and historical sites.

The process, Galbreath admits, wasn't always easy.

"A lot of it is graphics originated," he said. "You have to track down data, ensure everything goes together because, sometimes, data might not match up from state to state. It also involves figuring out how to squeeze information together and much of that depends on the software."

Galbreath, who uses Graphic Illustrator, said the process involved "hours and hours of research."

"Since I'm focusing on the outdoors, waterfalls are huge as well as boating and kayaking," Galbreath said. "Therefore, it involves a lot of hours of going online as I'm checking and double checking to ensure that accurate information is provided."

Following his graduation from Clemson University, Galbreath was hired by Kingfisher Maps in Clemson and worked with topography and outdoor recreation for 3 ½ years. After taking a break from the mapping business for 1 ½ years, Galbreath was hired at a Greenville map shop — splitting time between custom mapping projects and working in the retail side of the business by selling items such as maps, globes and travel guides.

Galbreath eventually began taking Geographic Information System (GIS) classes at Greenville Technical College and took on a new job that consisted of AutoCAD work. But the desire to get back into mapping proved too strong for Galbreath, so he began developing an Upstate recreation map in his spare time.

"I tried to give it my own flavor, thinking that, if I enjoyed it, others would also," he said.

For information on the Upstate South Carolina Recreation Map visit www.site.upstatemaps.com.

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