

THE CHEROKEE HIKER

JULY 2026

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NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

"The mountains are calling and I must go." John Muir

When Jerry Barrow told me about his very interesting friend who rode his horse across America my immediate response was, "Do you think he would be willing to share his story at a hike club meeting?" Jerry checked and after some mild arm twisting, Steve Biatowas agreed. Even after his talk, I still can't fathom riding a horse 100 miles, much less more than 2,000 miles. What an adventure! Thank you, Steve, for your engaging presentation. Your stories and pictures left us believing what seems impossible might be almost possible.

Although most of us would never attempt a cross-country horse ride, as we go on our journey through life, the experience will be more enjoyable and successful if we are equipped with what we need to travel well. According to the theorist William Glasser, humans must satisfy five basic needs in order to journey well through life.

(1) *Love and Belonging:* Love and belonging are our most important needs, as the need to care for others and feel cared for is essential for fulfilling all other needs.

(2) *Survival:* Obviously, our need for clean air, quality food, adequate sleep and daily exercise significantly impacts our physical health. Poor attention to these needs and our survival is threatened while active health consciousness encourages better health.

(3) *Power:* Looking back and seeing how our lives have made a difference greatly increases our sense of well-being. Looking forward, the power we have to summit a mountain, forge onward in a canoe during a storm, bicycle 10 miles further than believed possible, live for days on what you can carry on your back contributes to feelings of significance, competence, achievement, and self-worth.

(4) *Fun:* The need for enjoyment, relaxation, laughter, and playful learning never ceases in healthy people. Playing games, dining with friends, telling stories around a campfire, walking in the woods, reading a good book, traveling to exciting destinations . . . there are so many ways to have fun. Part of the joy of retirement is having more time to play.

(4) *Freedom:* This is the need to make our own decisions, pursue our own interests, and live our lives free from coercion, oppression, and unnecessary external constraints. To the best of your ability, seize your life and live it as you choose.

See you at our next scheduled club meeting at the Etowah Senior Center on Thursday, July 9, 2026. Our presentation will be "What is a Mushroom?" presented by Jack Callahan.

Rob Coombs, Club President



HIKE CLUB BOOK RECOMMENDATION . . .

Great Hikes and Backpack Trips Near Tellico Plains, TN
by Richard Harris with Pam Hall Matthews

Written by our own Cherokee Hiking Club member, Rick Harris with Pam Mathews, provides a great resource for finding a hike/backpacking excursion in the Tellico Plains area. Thirty-eight hikes are explored in detail providing useful information on each and every hike. This book (available on bmta.org) is an invaluable guide for hiking in our surrounding area.



REMINDER:

TO ATTEND ANY EVENT, YOU MUST CONTACT THE EVENT LEADER AS THERE ARE TIMES DUE TO WEATHER OR OTHER CONDITIONS WHERE A HIKE IS CANCELED OR RESCHEDULED. THE EVENT LEADER WILL NOT BE ABLE TO CONTACT YOU IF YOU DO NOT GET ON THE ATTENDEE LIST

JULY EVENTS

Thursday, July 2, 2026 - July 12, 2026 - Lake Superior Circle Tour - Hike Leader: Jerry Schneider. Location: 1300-mile tour of Lake Superior, beginning at Canadian border in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. Departure Time: 9:00 a.m. Return Time: 4 p.m. Hike Difficulty: Moderate. What to Bring: Car, tent, RV, travel gear, passport for re-entry. Brief Description: This will be a scenic 1,300-mile loop around the largest freshwater lake on Earth. The route is known for stunning natural beauty, including cliffs, beaches, and waterfalls. We will complete the drive in five days or longer if desired exploring the varied landscapes, the Provincial and National Parks, traveling through Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Ontario. Start and end dates are malleable. Contact: Email: jschneider@floptics.com; Cell Phone: 513-324-4564

Monday, July 6, 2026 - BMT Lost Creek Section - Hike Leader: Ken Cissna. Location: BMT Lost Creek Section. Hike Difficulty: *Easy*. Brief Description: Dog friendly trail. 5.2 miles. Beautiful walk along Big Lost Creek. One stream crossing will probably get your feet a little wet so come prepared. Contact: kcissna@bmta.org.

Thursday, July 9, 2026 - Thursday Monthly Club Meeting - We will meet at the Etowah Senior Center in Etowah at 6:00 p.m. for a potluck supper and a presentation on *mushrooms* by Jack Callahan.

Tuesday, July 14, 2026 - Candies Creek Greenway - Hike Leader: James Anderson. Location: Parking lot on left side of Candies Lane just before it crosses Candies Creek if heading west. Departure Time: 8:00 a.m. Return Time: 9:30 a.m. Hike Difficulty: *Easy*. Bring: Water. Brief Description: We have seen various birds and even a fox on this walk. It is beautiful and not nearly as crowded as the Mouse Creek Greenway. Contact: Anyone planning to attend is encouraged to text or call James Anderson, the event leader, at 423-715-8824 so you will be aware of any event changes or cancellations.

Thursday, July 16, 2026 - Monthly Hike Club Breakfast - Join us for conversation over breakfast at 8:30 a.m. at Old Fort Restaurant on 25th Street in Cleveland. For more information, contact Jack Callahan at 423-284-7885.

Friday, July 17, 2026 - Bob Bald - Hike Leaders: Rick & Brenda Harris (and Nahme, our dog). Meet at the Cherochala Skyway Visitor Center. Departure Time: 9 a.m.; Return Time: 4 p.m. Hike difficulty: Moderately Strenuous. Bring: lunch, water, your dog on leash. Description of the Hike: THIS HIKE IS OPEN TO DOGS AND TO MEMBERS OF BOTH THE BMTA AND CHC. This 7.0 mile somewhat difficult iconic hike takes us from Beech Gap at the State Line on the Cherochala Skyway up 900' to the summit of Bob Bald, with its iconic views mostly to the south and east. In the distance we can see the Skyway wind its way toward Robbinsville. We will eat lunch at the top, then return the way we came. We can plan to eat supper at one of the restaurants in Tellico Plains or maybe just get ice cream at the Tellico Beach Drive-In. Contact: Email: HarrisRi1947@gmail.com Cellphone: 513-260-1184.

Sunday, July 18, 2026 - Saturday, July 25, 2026 - Mt Katahdin, Mt Washington, NY backpack - Hike Leader: Jennifer Schroll. Location: Maine to New York Adirondacks. Departure Time: unknown. Return Time:

unknown. Hike Difficulty: Strenuous. Bring: backpack gear. Brief Description: I plan to fly into Bangor, Maine, rent a car and drive to Baxter State Park or a nearby campground. Car camp for 3 nights, giving us 2 possible days to hike Katahdin. I plan to summit using the AT/Hunt trail from Katahdin Stream. It is a 5-mile rugged, rocky ascent up a stream channel and then exposed alpine ~ 10+ hours. On the 4th day drive across NH and VT and stay 1 night at a hotel. Maybe make quick stops at Mount Washington and/or Ben & Jerry's Ice Creamery. Next stop, a trailhead into the high peaks area of the Adirondacks probably starts near Adirondack Loj (near Lake Placid. Backpack 4 days and 2 nights. 8th night at a hotel and fly back from a NY airport on the 9th day. More detailed planning will be conducted with those interested. Contact: jennifergeologist@gmail.com; Cell phone: 423-284-1256.

Friday, July 31, 2026 - Conasauga River Trail with swimming and spider lilies - Hike Leader: Anne Anderson. Location: Conasauga Blue Hole. We will try to meet and carpool depending on who is coming. TBA. Departure Time: TBA Return Time: TBA. Hike Difficulty: *Easy*. Bring: Bring water, snacks, and/or lunch, swimsuit and towel if you want to swim or you can always wade, snorkel and mask if you want to look for fish, need shoes for wading, Chacos or similar and adequate for this trail. Brief Description: Plan to walk along Conasauga River on flat, easy trail searching for spectacular spider lilies. Swim along the trail and/or back at the Blue Hole. Probably will hike less than 3 miles. This is a joint hike with BMT association. Contact: Email: ahander@aol.com; Cell Phone: 423-284-7032.

Wednesdays, July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 - Wednesday Walks on the Cleveland Greenway - Every Wednesday Jack Callahan leads a 3.75-mile walk on the Cleveland Greenway, meeting at the lower end of the parking lot across from Perkits and the Gondolier restaurant adjacent to Keith Street. Meet time is currently 4:30 p.m. A note on the walk is sent out the beginning of each week on Messenger. Hike difficulty is rated *Easy*. Contact Jack Callahan at 423-284-7885 if you want to be included in the messages.

AUGUST AT-A-GLANCE

Thursday, August 20, 2026 - Monthly Hike Club Breakfast - Join us for conversation over breakfast at 8:30 a.m. at Old Fort Restaurant on 25th Street in Cleveland. For more information, contact Jack Callahan at 423-284-7885.

Friday, August 21, 2026 - Rhododendron Trail - Hike Leader: Ken Cissna. Hike Difficulty: Moderate. Brief Description: Dog friendly trail. 3.6 miles. Contact: kcissna@bmta.org.

Friday, August 21, 2026 - Warriors Passage - Hike Leaders: Rick & Brenda Harris (and Nahme, our dog). Meet at Cherohala Skyway Visitor Center. Departure Time: 9 a.m.; Return Time :4 p.m. Hike Difficulty: *Moderately Strenuous*. Bring lunch, water, wading shoes, and your dog on leash. Description: THIS HIKE IS OPEN TO DOGS AND TO MEMBERS OF BOTH THE BMTA AND CHC. This 6.1-mile National Recreation Trail is mostly (but not all) downhill with over a 2000' drop in elevation. We will leave cars at the bottom on Old Furnace Rd, then drive to the top of Waucheesi Bald. From there, we will hike 0.9 miles down the road to where the trail leaves the road and begins a steady and at times steep descent to Mule Pen Gap, then cross Toby Creek, Bald River Rd, Wildcat Rd, and downhill to a crossing of Wildcat Creek, which we must wade. Sometimes we also have to wade Toby Creek. We will probably eat lunch at the Toby Creek crossing. Afterwards, we will retrieve our cars from the bald and maybe eat supper somewhere in Tellico Plains. The road up to Waucheesi Bald is in pretty bad shape, so if you plan to drive to the top, bring a 4WD high clearance vehicle. This trail is an old Cherokee Indian route over the mountains and was constructed by Boy Scout Troops out of Knoxville over 50 years ago. Those who hike it will receive a free 50-year commemorative patch. Check out the website for the trail at www.warriorspassage.org. The

Scouts did extensive research to locate the route of the old Indian path, and it is all documented on the website. Contact: Email: HarrisRi1947@gmail.com. Cell phone: 513-260-1184.

Wednesdays, August 5, 12, 19, 26 - Wednesday Walks on the Cleveland Greenway - Every Wednesday Jack Callahan leads a 3.75-mile walk on the Cleveland Greenway, meeting at the lower end of the parking lot across from Perkits and the Gondolier restaurant adjacent to Keith Street. Meet time is currently 4:30 p.m. A note on the walk is sent out the beginning of each week on Messenger. Hike difficulty is rated *Easy*. Contact Jack Callahan at 423-284-7885 if you want to be included in the messages.

HIGHLIGHTS OF PAST EVENTS

Saturday, May 30, 2026-Thursday, June 4, 2026, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park Outing

Nine adventurous CHC members participated in a five-day club outing, May 30 through June 4, at Cumberland Gap National Historical Park. Storms before arrival temporarily interrupted the campground's electricity so the ranger had to scurry around getting everyone where they wanted to be. Jack and I got better sites and pitched our tents. Joanne Jackson, Sue Robinson, Teresa Greene, and the Coombs arrived soon after. It was the first time I had had the pleasure of meeting Teresa. She boldly stated that all Marines look at new people they meet and figure out how to kill them. I told her I appreciated her honesty. After going over the daily schedule board we drove further into the park, up to the Pinnacle, took pictures, and returned for a campfire that evening.



Learning about the Hensleys. Sunday morning at the Visitor Center we presented our Senior pass cards, paid a discounted fee, and boarded the park's 4WD diesel van to travel uphill on back roads for an hour to a plateau on Brushy Mountain. On the way up, and again on the way down, we passed black bears that ambled off the road after staring at us. The official, gated, NP park road to the top is one of three ways to get to Hensley Settlement. I have been there several times on foot, and once in our family SUV via a treacherous, washed-out, Appalachian backroad. The pioneer Hensleys themselves had a very difficult time getting to and from their mountaintop home. Heavy things, like farm wagons had to be disassembled and transported on sleds pulled by oxen. Our guide explained that Hensleys, and their friends the Gibbons, were almost totally self-sufficient. They intermingled, married, educated their children, birthed, and buried family members. Everything they needed they either made or bartered for. The community began in 1903 and the last person to leave the mountain, Sherman Hensley, departed in 1951. Back at camp that evening Rob made our campfire with his battery-powered chainsaw.



Learning about Cudjo. On Monday morning we returned to the Visitor Center and showed our Senior cards again. While waiting for the reserved cave tour group to gather, we watched a film depicting how a narrow gap in the Appalachian chain allowed 300,000 settlers to travel into Kentucky and westward in the early 18th century. Daniel Boone was the first settler's guide. Our young NP cave guide told us how to get to the park's lot near the entrance. After everyone was issued LED lanterns she marched the group up to the entrance. Once the gate was unlocked, we followed along learning about speleothems and the cave's human history. During Civil War times the cave served as a hospital for both sides. It later became a commercial tourist attraction called Cudjo's Cave. Cudjo was an enslaved person who hid out in the cave. Some of us remembered Cudjo Cave tourist signs and the gift shop from our childhoods while traveling with our parents over the Boone trail on old highway US 25E.

We were out of the cave by noon and had our shoes sanitized, ostensibly, to reduce the spread of bat-killing White Nose disease. After eating our packed lunches, we got back in our cars and drove into the nearby town of Cumberland Gap. We began our hike at the site of an old iron furnace. At the saddle of the gap is a four-sided DAR monument. In the early 20's the DAR placed iron plaques all the way to Fort Boonsboro on the Kentucky River south of Lexington. The trail we walked used to be US 25E. All the pavement has been removed and the area restored to look natural. We hiked up for 990 feet from the saddle to Tri State Point. Here the junction of Tennessee, Virginia, and Kentucky is prominently marked under a shelter. Hikers are rewarded with spectacular views of towns, lakes, and mountains in all directions. This is the eastern end of the Cumberland Trail. That evening we ate dinner in town and returned for another campfire.





All about Chain Rock, an archaeological site, Knobby Rock, and Hensley's Grocery. On day 4 we drove through the tunnel on new US 25E crossing the Kentucky line midway and were immediately in Middlesboro. The city is unique in that it sits in a 300,000 million-year-old meteorite crater.

Our destination was Pine Mountain State Park, Kentucky's oldest. A park trail took us to an overlook above the town of Pineville. Years ago, Pineville strung a large chain from a cliff to a boulder to "protect" the town. We staged a car at the bottom and hiked downhill through old-growth woods to a large sandstone overhang named Rock Hotel. Park literature describes the overhang as a significant archaeological site.



Back in the cars we headed east for a half hour along the Cumberland River toward Harlan. "Bloody Harlan" as it is known was the setting of the hit TV show "Justified." Our destination was Blanton Forest State Nature Preserve, the largest old-growth forest in Kentucky. We hiked up the mountain through sugar maple, tulip poplar, various oaks, hemlocks, beech, magnolias, and mountain laurel to a high promontory, Knobby Rock. We had splendid views in all directions. Approaching the rock summit, it became difficult to walk and maintain balance due to the steep, lumpy, sandstone surface. After snacks and taking photos, we headed down a different trail to the cars.



Our next stop was a small coal town, Wallins Creek, population, 272. We pulled into the Hensley Grocery Store parking lot with the hope of meeting a modern-day Hensley. An ATV parked outside the store had a bourbon bottle bungee corded to its' seat. Inside the store, we ordered cheeseburgers, shared fries and onion rings, chatted with the very friendly proprietor, Mrs. Hensley (who didn't seem to know about the pioneers,), and talked to other townspeople. Everyone we met was sociable and helpful.



On day 5 we cooked up our own adventures. The Barrows did a strenuous hike to a cliff top, White Rocks. Sue, Teresa, and Doug hiked to Skylight Cave, went inside the cave, and hiked various park trails going toward the Pinnacle. Coombs and I bicycled a paved path through an interesting old railroad tunnel to Lincoln Memorial University in Harrogate, TN, and back. Rob and Janet biked even more miles on Virginia's Wilderness Road Trail.



On Tuesday afternoon Jack broke camp to give a presentation to the Bradley County Master Gardeners Club. Joanne drifted home via a scenic route on Wednesday. In summary, the spring weather was good, the scenery was rewarding, the campfires were fun, and everyone who participated had an enjoyable, memorable time.

June Walks on the Cleveland Greenway led by Jack Callahan-Every Wednesday! Contact Jack to join in.



June 11 Monthly Club Meeting at Etowah Senior Center-There was an exceptional turnout to hear Steve Biatowas share his story about riding his horse across America. Members were captivated by his story and had many follow-up questions and comments... and the potluck dinner was delicious!



June 18, 2026, Boyd's Gap led by Doug Lynch Six hikers left Boyd's Gap and hiked seven miles to Brushy Creek. Doug Lunch, Leslie, Domenica, Colleen, Jiliane and Sue Robinson along with Stretch (dog). A good day but was also joined by hundreds of ticks!



June 18 Club Breakfast at Old Fort Restaurant in Cleveland, TN, hosted by Jack Callahan – What a great turnout this month! And our newest members, Dee and Ernie Morrell joined us.



June 20, Gregory Bald, Jennifer Schroll, Hike Leader Five club members made the trip (but not together) - Anne Anderson, Jennifer Schroll, Buddy Arnold, Henry Mahler, and Charlie Snow. Anne and Jennifer communicated on Wednesday and decided to get an early start because Cades Cove gets crowded, the trailhead parking is limited, and the Great Smoky Mountains Hiking Club also planned this hike with 20+ people planning to hike. Buddy, Henry, and Charlie couldn't get there that early. Anne had a campsite at the recently opened Look Rock Campground of the Blue Ridge Parkway. It's a nice shaded National Park Campground. Anne and I spent Friday night there and made it to the trailhead about 7:30 a.m. We had to park away from the trailhead, and already there was a horse trailer and lots of cars jockeying for parking. The Gregory BALD Trail cannot be accessed because Parsons Branch Ranch is closed. Everyone must hike up the Gregory RIDGE Trail. It is about 11 miles with 3000 feet of elevation gain. At 7:50 or so, we finally headed up the trail. Anne and I are good hiking partners. We are both quiet and have a similar pace. Then, we started uphill. Anne patiently hiked slowly behind me and waited while I rested 20 times on the way up. The first part of the trail is a gentle grade along a mountain stream with lots of blooming rhododendrons. We saw a huge root-ball. Then the trail grade gets steep, and it is a relentless climb to the top. There are only two small sections of relief from the grade. We stopped for a snack and rest at the trail junction with the Bald trail and then crawled (I did) up the last half a mile of steep, rocky trail. At the crest of the trail was a Flame Azalea in full bloom, beckoning to us, or taunting us, depending on your point of view. We made it about 11:15 a.m. The views looking into Cades Cove were fantastic and there were so many Azaleas in bloom and there were a variety of colors. Even the blueberries were showing off. It was spectacular! Anne and I never saw Charlie, Henry, or Buddy. We left about 12 noon to start back down. Down was easy peasy. On the drive back home Henry called. Turns out they got to the top at 11:30 or so until just after 12 noon. Crazy. Everyone enjoyed the trip.



June 23 Childers Creek Trail Maintenance Day led by James Anderson

James would like to say a GREAT BIG "THANK YOU" to all the volunteers who came out to help with our Childers Creek maintenance day!!

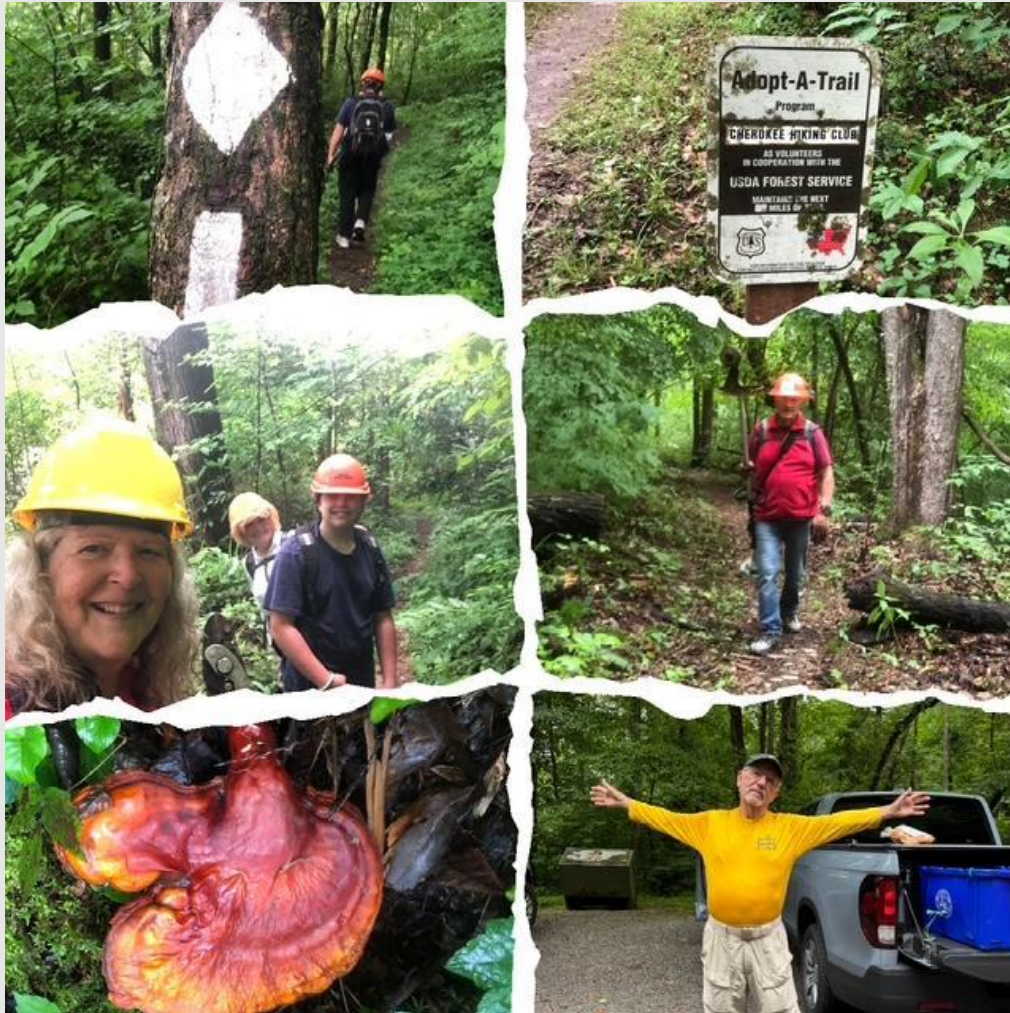


Pictured from left to right are: JD, Charlie, Rick Sarah, Buddy, Judy, Phyllis, Steve. Leslie

James would also like to thank Otis for coming out the week before with his mower and for getting a lot of the brush work done prior to the regular maintenance day.



Thank you, Judy Price, for the nice pictures.



MINUTES

Cherokee Hiking Club
Monthly Club Meeting
6:00 p.m., June 11, 2026
Etowah Senior Center

President Rob Coombs opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. The meeting Sign-in Sheet was distributed and 33 members signed. Lette Whismar won the *Tonight's Lucky Hiker* door prize. Rob Coombs shared thoughts about his month's hike club quote "The truth is in the rocks." John Otto

I. Treasurer's Report - Jennifer Schroll

- A. Previous month balance - \$3,310.36
- B. Any debts or corrections - \$100.00 donation from the Smokey Mountain Hiking Club, Knoxville, TN, to honor our efforts with trail maintenance.
- C. Current balance - \$3,256.70
- D. A motion was made by Dione Butler to accept the report, seconded by Jack Callahan, and accepted.

II. Corrections from the November minutes published in our newsletter.

- A. No Corrections were made
- B. A motion was made by Dione Butler to accept the report as reported, seconded by Jack Callahan, and accepted.

III. Unfinished Business - There was no May meeting due to 24 members being away on a club hike. Jack Callahan represented our club at the Master Garden Club and did an excellent job per Margaret Callahan. No unfinished business to report.

IV. New Business

- A. New members added to our club roster.
 - 1. Dee and Ernie Morrell
- B. Take advantage of our 2026 20-page calendar with over 90 events offered. There is something for everyone from easy to strenuous

- C. Hikes / Meetings / Events since our last meeting.
1. Tuesday, April 14, 2026 - Ijams Nature Center - Leaders: Margaret & Jack Callahan.
 2. Tuesday, April 14, 2026 - Thursday, April 16, 2026 - Silver Comet + Chief Ladiga Trail - Leaders - Janet & Rob Coombs.
 3. Thursday, April 16, 2026 - Monthly Hike Club Breakfast - Leader - Jack Callahan
 4. Friday, April 24, 2026 - BMT – Whigg Meadow to Beech Gap - Hike Leaders: Rick & Brenda Harris
 5. Saturday, April 25, 2026 - Walls of Jericho - Hike Leader: Jennifer Schroll.
 6. Tuesday, April 28, 2026 - Big Creek Trail - Hike Leader: Jack Callahan
 7. Friday, May 1, 2026 - Flats Mountain Hike - Hike Leader: Brenda & Rick Harris
 8. Monday - Friday, May 4 - 8, 2026 - Linville Gorge, NC, Backpack - Hike Leader: Buddy Arnold.
 9. Friday - May 8, 2026 - Brush Creek Trail - Hike Leader: Ken Cissna.
 10. Sunday - Thursday, May 10 - 14, 2026 - Stone Mountain, North Carolina - Hike Leader: Jack Callahan
 11. Monday, May 18, 2026 - Scenic Spur - Hike Leader: Anne Anderson.
 12. Thursday, May 21, 2026 - Monthly Hike Club Breakfast - Jack Callahan
 13. Saturday, May 30, 2026 - Thursday, June 4, 2026 - Cumberland Wilderness - Hike Leader: Jerry Schneider.
 11. Wednesday Walks on the Greenway -Walk Leader - Jack Callahan
- D. Hikes / Activities / Events scheduled for the month ahead.
1. Friday, June 12, 2026 - Turtletown Creek Falls - Hike Leader: Ken Cissna.
 2. Tuesday, June 16, 2026 - Huckleberry Knob - Hike Leaders: Margaret & Jack Callahan.
 3. Thursday, June 18, 2026 - Monthly Hike Club Breakfast - Leader: Jack Callahan
 4. Thursday, June 18, 2026 - Boyd's Gap to Brush Creek - Hike Leader: Doug Lynch.
 5. Saturday, June 20, 2026 - Gregory Bald - Hike Leader: Jennifer Schroll. 423-284-1256.
 6. Monday, June 22, 2026 - BMT - Hike Leader: Ken Cissna.
 7. Tuesday, June 23, 2026 - Club Workday on Childers Creek Trail Maintenance - Hike Leader: James Anderson.
 8. Friday, June 26, 2026 - The Hangover Cherohala Skyway - Hike Leaders: Rick & Brenda Harris
 9. Wednesdays Walks on the Cleveland Greenway - Walk Leader Jack Callahan
 10. Monday, July 6, 2026 - BMT Lost Creek Section - Hike Leader: Ken Cissna.
- V. Our presentation for the evening was entitled *Riding Horseback Across America* presented by Steve Biatowas.
- VI. Our next meeting will be held on July 9, 2026. Our presentation for the evening will be *What is a Mushroom?* presented Jack Callahan at the Etowah Senior Center.

Respectfully submitted by Otis Pannel, Vice President on June 11, 2026

NON-CLUB OPPORTUNITIES

(As always, go to the specific sponsor web page for more information on these events if you plan on attending.)

TELLICO/OCOE VOLUNTEER TRAIL CREW

Check the Facebook page for future workdays.

BENTON MACKAYE TRAIL ASSOCIATION See the calendar for upcoming events and trail maintenance sites.

*The link for the PDF of the BMTA's Annual Meeting Hikes is:

<https://bmtamail.org/annualmeeting/2026/26-05-Hike-Descriptions.pdf>

Thank you, Joy Forehand, for providing this information.

