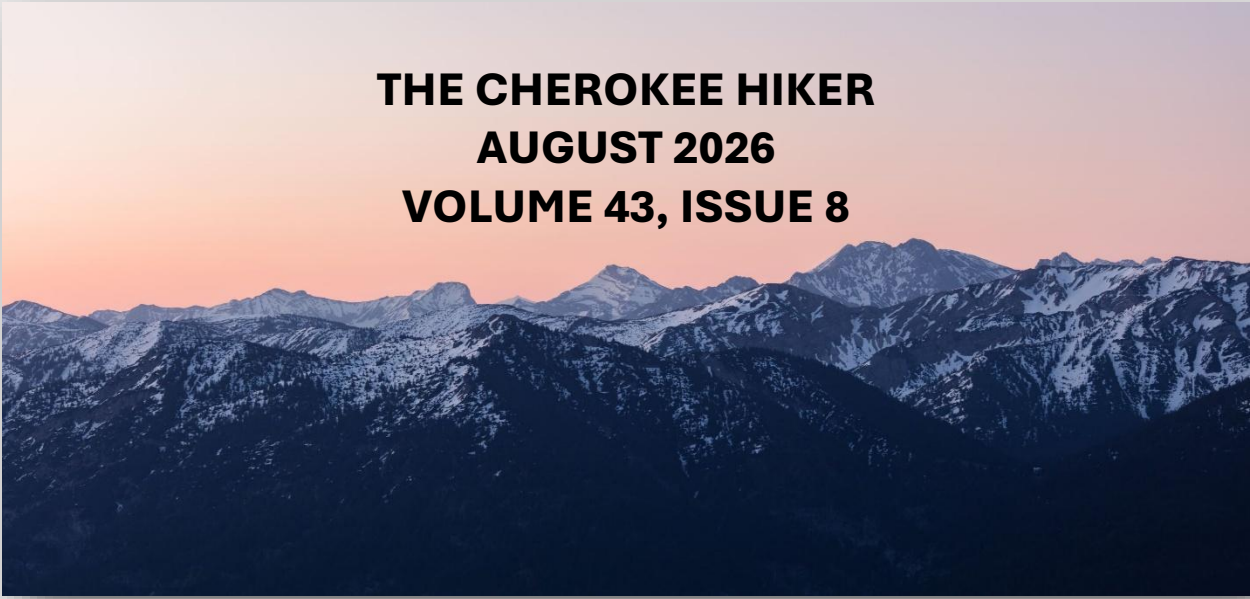




THE CHEROKEE HIKER

AUGUST 2026

VOLUME 43, ISSUE 8

NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

"There are no shortcuts to any place worth going." Beverly Sills

In our July meeting Jack Callahan presented an amazing one-hour slide show on mushrooms. His knowledge in the area, like several areas of forestry, is vast. He could have talked for another two or three hours and not lost my attention. A simple mushroom and, yet, not so simple. The variety of mushrooms and the beauty of mushrooms are easily missed by most of us who take walks in the woods. But, not by Jack. He notices. He pauses. He refuses to just walk by and in doing so, he is rewarded with unnoticed beauty and even mystified by their complexity, their variety, their intricate detail.

Since our meeting, I have thought about Jack's presentation and wondered how much I might be missing, my tendency to walk by, my preoccupation with getting there rather than being there. I want to be aware. I want to notice. I want to stop. I don't want the most important and the most beautiful realities of life to pass me by because I am simply too busy or distracted to notice. I understand how very easy this is for all of us. Most of us are busy, very busy - even for those who are now retired. There is always something that must be done, places we must go, things we must accomplish. Sadly, our busyness can rob us of the simple and pure joy of seeing a mushroom on the side of a well-worn path. There is much that can be missed . . . the setting of the sun, a starry, starry night, a bird chirping somewhere in the branches of a giant oak tree, the sound of a mountain stream . . . Do we take the time to perceive beauty? Do we stop to appreciate it? Do we understand how many other things we are missing? These are worthy questions. Worthy of our time. Worthy of our consideration. Join me in taking the time to stop, ponder, and most importantly, appreciate the beauty that life has to offer. There are so many mushrooms and so little time.

See you at our next scheduled club meeting at the Etowah Senior Center on **Thursday, September 10, 2026**. Our presentation will be "Getting Involved: Trail Maintenance" presented by Rick Harris.

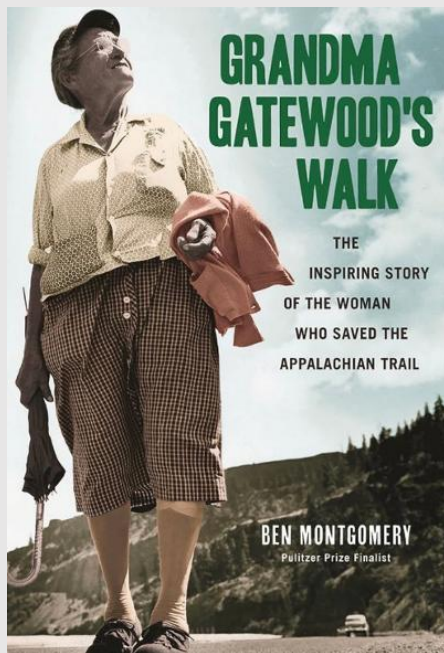
Rob Coombs, Club President



HIKE CLUB BOOK RECOMMENDATION . . .

Grandma Gatewood's Walk: The Inspiring Story of the Woman who Saved the Appalachian Trail by Ben Montgomery

"Emma Gatewood told her family she was going on a walk and left her small Ohio hometown with a change of clothes and less than two hundred dollars. The next anybody heard from her, this genteel, farm-reared, 67-year-old great-grandmother had walked 800 miles along the 2,050-mile Appalachian Trail. Grandma Gatewood, as the reporters called her, became the first woman to hike the entire Appalachian Trail alone, as well as the first person - man or woman - to walk it twice and three times. Her walk on the Appalachian Trail will inspire readers of all ages by illustrating the full power of human spirit and determination. (Check out the "Non-Club Opportunities" section at the end of this newsletter for information on the theatrical performance of *Grandma Gatewood Took a Walk*.)



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

AUGUST EVENTS

Please Note: There will no monthly meeting in August.

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.

SEPTEMBER AT-A-GLANCE

Thursday, September 10, 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 by Rick Harris entitled "Getting Involved: Trail Maintenance."

Friday, September 11, 2026 - Boyd Gap to Old Copper Road Trail - Hike Leader: Ken Cissna. Location: Boyd Gap to Old Copper Road Trail to Thunder Rock Campground. Hike Difficulty: Moderate. Bring: Lunch. Brief Description: Dog friendly trail. ~ 5 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.

Saturday, September 12, 2026 - Papaw Hike - Hike Leader: Clayton Pannell. Hike details will be provided at a later date.

Thursday, September 17, 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.

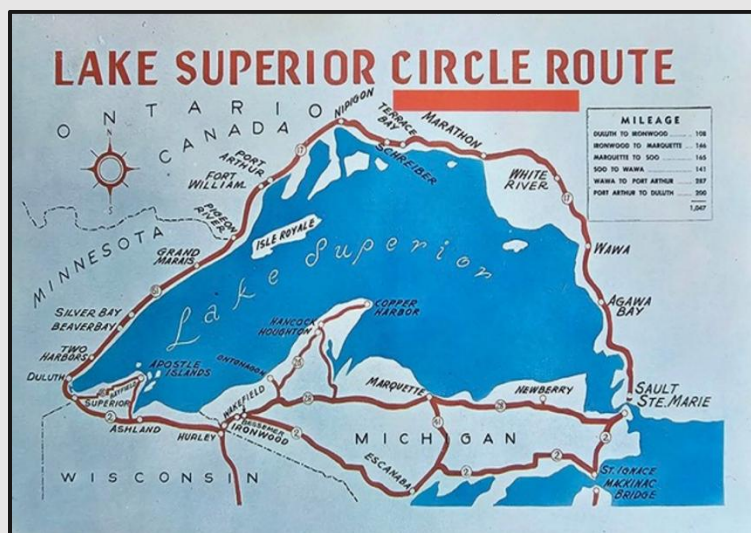
Thursday, September 18, 2026 - Rocky Flats Trail - Hike Leaders: Rick & Brenda Harris (and Nahme, our dog). Meet at Cherohala Skyway Visitor Center Departure Time: 9 a.m. Return Time: 4 p.m. Hike Difficulty: Moderately Strenuous. Bring lunch, water, your dog on leash. Description of the Hike (include any plans for after the hike): THIS HIKE IS OPEN TO DOGS AND TO MEMBERS OF BOTH THE BMTA AND CHC. This 5.0 mile fairly difficult hike takes us to the old Hollinghead place at Rocky Flats with still standing chimneys. This is a mile into the hike off Doublecamp Creek Road bordering Citico Creek Wilderness. Then the trail courses up and down around various ridges and ends up at Warden Fields. Afterwards, we will retrieve our vehicles at the starting trailhead and drive back to Tellico Plains for possible supper somewhere. This hike is in the Citico Creek Wilderness thus we must limit the hike to 12 folks. Contact: Email: HarrisRi1947@gmail.com; Cell phone 513-260-1184.

Monday, September 21, 2026 - Friday, September 25, 2026 - John Wheeler State Park - Hike Leaders: Margaret & Jack Callahan. Location: 4401 McLean Drive, Rogersville, Alabama 35625. Departure time: Arrive at your convenience. Return Time: On your own schedule. Rating: Easy. What to Bring: Camping equipment and food for days planned to stay. There is a lodge and cabins available for those who desire not to camp. Brief Description: Visit the Dismals Canyon, walk the historic district in Florence, guided tour of Mooresville, guided tour of Joe Wheeler home and grounds, guided tour of the Frank Lloyd Wright home, Rosenbaum in Florence, tour Heller Keller home and grounds, Florence Indian Mound and Museum. Possible day hikes in the Sipsey River Wilderness. Details to be worked out depending on interest in each event. Contact Email: Jackn1945@bellsouth.net. Cell phone: 423-284-7885.

Wednesdays, September 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 - 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

Lake Superior Circle Tour, July 2 – 12, 2026, by Nina Barrow Trip Participants: Jerry Schneider, Michele Ritter, Jerry and Nina Barrow





Our trip was a success due to three factors: Jerry Schneider's meticulous planning, great weather, and congenial travelers. We spent ten days driving around Lake Superior, and each of us drove two days, coming and going.

Thursday, July 2: We all met in St. Ignace, Michigan. Nina and Jerry drove halfway to St. Ignace on Wednesday, visited Wright-Patterson Air Force Museum, and stopped overnight at Toledo. Jerry S. drove halfway on Wednesday and stopped at Ann Arbor. Michele drove two days to Mackinaw City and visited Ft. Michilimackinac on Wednesday. Jerry S. and Michele visited Mackinaw Island on Thursday. Nina and Jerry B. went to Castle Rock on Thursday. We all stayed at a Quality Inn at St. Ignace and had dinner at the Driftwood Restaurant, sitting in an enclosed dining area with a view of Lake Huron across the street.

Friday, July 3: First stop was at Sault Ste. Marie on the American side to view the locks. We saw the ore ship Edwin H. Gott making the transit and toured the Soo Locks Visitor Center. We refueled our cars with less expensive U.S. gas and crossed the Canadian border with no problems. Next, we converted US dollars to Canadian dollars at a convenient facility just across the line. We stopped at The Voyageur's General Store and Apple Fritter Fryhouse for lunch, then drove north to Lake Superior Provincial Park and our site at Agawa Bay Campground. We had adjacent sites across the road from Lake Superior. It was very foggy when we arrived, so we couldn't see much of the lake. The campground's water system had a leak, so a "boil water" advisory was in place. We hadn't counted on not having access to potable water, but we shared our supplies and managed. There were many toilet facilities; all were primitive 2-stall old wooden buildings sheltering pit toilets. There was a shower house a short walk away, but its toilets were closed to conserve water. The literature that we received when we checked in included an entire page in size eight font of every conceivable park violation and its corresponding fine. There were some mosquitoes. We attended a talk titled "A Year in the Life of a Bear" at the Visitor Center – which lasted for almost two hours.

Saturday, July 4: No fog and beautiful views of Lake Superior. We drove to Agawa Rock for a short hike to view Ojibwe pictographs. Saw diabase intrusions, something new to me. Drove to Sand Falls and had a short hike up a river gorge to see the waterfalls. Drove to the trailhead for Orphan Lake Trail and hiked to the lake – saw two loons swimming. Back at the campground, Michele had July 4th headbands for all of us to wear (Michele had a light-up cowboy hat) to celebrate the 250th anniversary of our country. We walked to a high rock at the end of the campground beach and saw a stunning sunset over Lake Superior.

Sunday, July 5: Michele left early to attend Mass at a church in Wawa. Jerry B., Nina and Jerry S. stopped at Old Woman Bay on the way to Wawa. We met Michele at a grocery store, then drove to the Wawa Visitor Center to view the huge Canadian goose. We drove to White River to view a memorial (?) to Winnie-the-Pooh. During WW1, a local soldier was waiting for his train at the Wawa station where he bought a bear cub. After serving as his unit's mascot, the bear was donated to the London Zoo where it became a favorite of Christopher Milne, son of A. A. Milne. And that was the beginning of Winnie-the-Pooh. We stopped for lunch at a strip-mall restaurant in Marathon run by very friendly Asians, then continued west and arrived at Neys Provincial Park. A boil-water alert was in place at this park also. It featured more of the same primitive toilets. We hiked to The Point, where we saw the remains of old logging boats used by German POWs during WWII. There were glacial grooves in the rocks that sloped down to Lake Superior. Nice sunset. Neys featured lots of mosquitoes.

Monday, July 6: We left early and continued west, stopping at Terrace Bay to view the lighthouse (in a strip-mall parking lot). On the highway walkie-talkie's made long highway stretches without cell service indispensable. We stopped at Aguasabon River Gorge to view the two waterfalls. We stopped in Nipigon to see the recently completed cable-stay bridge and were treated to a train passing by our viewing platform and over the tracks adjacent to the bridge. Had lunch at Ducky's Diner in Nipigon. We arrived at Sleeping Giant Provincial Park to find our gorgeous campsites located directly on Lake Marie Louise, with a view of the Sleeping Giant and steps down to our private beaches. Still had primitive toilets, but at least we had potable water. We hiked on the Sea Lion trail to view a rock arch jutting out over the lake. This park had an excellent trails brochure, with good maps and descriptions. We drove south to the Silver Islet community and viewed the remains of the tiny island where the silver mine was once located. Had a beautiful sunset over a family of Canada geese on the lake.

Tuesday, July 7: Packed up and returned to Silver Islet to hike the Cemetery Trail. Saw the old cemetery with wooden headstones and wooden picket fences surrounding the graves. Drove south to Thunder Bay, Ontario, and stopped at the Terry Fox memorial overlooking the city. Drove to Fort William Historical Park (1816) on the outskirts of town and toured it – learned lots about the fur trade, the North West Fur Company, and the importance of the voyageurs. The fort is a living history site and featured interpreters in costume in most all of the areas open for visiting – very well done. We drove through the US border with no problems. Stopped at Grand Portage State Park and Grand Portage National Monument (1784) in Minnesota where we visited The Depot at Grand Portage. Again, great interpreters dressed in period clothing. We learned how beaver hats were made. The Depot predated Fort William by roughly 40 years. Camped that night at Grand Marais Municipal Campground in Grand Marais, Minnesota. Clean bathhouse with flush toilets. We knew we were back in America due to the size of the RVs. We walked to town and had a great dinner at The Angry Trout. Rain was forecast overnight, so Nina and Jerry slept in their van.

Wednesday, July 8: We drove south to Tettegouche State Park, which had the best visitor center ever featuring beautiful architecture and a coffee bar with a barista. We hiked the Shovel Point trail for beautiful views of the rocky coast of Lake Superior. Stopped and walked the trails at Gooseberry Falls. Stopped at The Rustic Inn for a memorable lunch featuring our choice of twenty kinds of pies. Michele drove to visit her brother, who lives an hour west of Duluth. Jerry S., Nina and Jerry B. went to the town of Two Harbors to see the lighthouse and to view taconite pellets being loaded on an ore ship. We drove on to our Comfort Inn near downtown Duluth. Jerry S. and Jerry B. drove to a dive bar for great burgers and to see an actual life buoy that had washed up from the Edmund Fitzgerald. Nina did laundry and relaxed.

Thursday, July 9: We all met up at the Lift Bridge in Duluth and got to watch it raise and lower. Toured the Lake Superior Maritime Museum run by the Corps of Engineers. Lunched at Grandma's overlooking the lift

bridge. We drove east to the Municipal Campground in Herbster, Wisconsin, and set up camp for two nights. The sites had limited shade and a lot of goose waste, but they were right on the shore of Lake Superior. We drove to see the Old Gym, built out of logs and wood by the WPA in 1940. We enjoyed a great sunset over the lake and made reservations for an Apostle Islands boat tour the next day.

Friday, July 10: We drove east to Bayfield Wisconsin and boarded Apostle Islands Cruises' 10:00 tour. It was much colder on the boat than on land. We saw two lighthouses and the rock caves on Devil's Island. We also saw several bald eagles. After the 2 ½ hour cruise we went to the Bayfield Maritime Museum and to the National Park Service's Apostle Islands National Lakeshore visitor center. There was also time for shopping. We had a great lunch at Manypenny Bistro and drove back to Herbster. That night we were fortunate to see a myriad of stars and the Milky Way galaxy.

Saturday, July 11: We had a long drive east and north to Copper Harbor, Michigan. We had lunch at The Forge in Hancock, Michigan, and then stopped at the Quincy Copper Mine to view the site. A tour is offered of the underground mine, but we didn't have time. We camped at Fort Wilkins Historic Park in Copper Harbor. The campsites themselves were nothing special, but they were next to the best bathhouse of the entire trip. We toured the Fort (1844) – no costumed interpreters, but many of the rooms were open with signs explaining their use. We walked to view the Copper Harbor lighthouse, built in 1848. Michele drove into town to go to Mass. We had dinner at our campsite, then walked to the Park Store for ice cream.

Sunday, July 12: We packed early and left for a long drive south and east to our last campground, Muskallonge Lake State Park, Michigan. It was a rainy morning. We detoured slightly to drive through Eagle Harbor and walked around its lighthouse. We had pizza for lunch in Marquette, Michigan. We stopped at the Pictured Rocks NPS visitor center in Munising, Michigan, but it was too stormy for a boat ride to view the rocks. Since there are very few good overlooks we chose to head straight on to our campground. We went via sixteen miles of wash-boarded dirt road; not a good experience. The campground was pleasant and packed. In fact, every campground we stayed in was full. Jerry B. and Nina slept in their van due to recent rains and continuing high winds.

Monday, July 13: We broke camp early and drove northeast to the Great Lakes Shipwreck Museum at Whitefish Point, Michigan. It was a beautiful day. The Edmund Fitzgerald was lost about seventeen miles offshore of this Point in 1975 in 350 feet of very cold water. The ship's bell was recovered in 1995 and is displayed in the museum. We watched a film about the ship and the bell recovery efforts. We also toured the lighthouse keeper's home (1861), a building that housed a rescue boat, saw an enormous wooden rudder, saw the Canadian monument to the Edmund Fitzgerald, and looked over Whitefish Bay. The beach was full of driftwood logs. We took a group picture and headed off on our separate ways.

It was quite a trip.

AWARDS:

- Best Campsite: Sleeping Giant. Second, Lake Superior Provincial Park, Agawa Bay
- Best Campground Location: Grand Marais, second was Ft. Wilkins
- Best Campground Overall: Agawa Bay/Ft. Wilkins
- Best Sunset: Agawa Bay
- Best Lunch: The Rustic Inn
- Best Dinner: The Angry Trout

- Best Museum: Maritime Museum in Duluth/Shipwreck Museum
- Best Bathhouse: Ft. Wilkins
- Best Hike: Shovel Point, Tettagouche State Park/Agawa Rocks, Lake Superior Prov. Park
- Best Visitor Center: Tettagouche State Park
- Best Historic Site: Fort William
- Best Tour: Apostle Islands Cruise
- Best Town to Visit: Bayfield, Wisconsin
- Best Piece of Equipment: Jerry S.'s Marmot screen house.

Campground List:

1. Lake Superior Provincial Park, Ontario
2. Neys Provincial Park, Ontario
3. Sleeping Giant Provincial Park, Ontario
4. Grand Marais Campground and Marina, Grand Marais, Minnesota
5. Herbster Municipal Campground, Herbster, Wisconsin
6. Fort Wilkins Historic State Park, Copper Harbor, Michigan
7. Muskallonge Lake State Park, Luce County, Michigan

Museums Visited:

1. Soo Locks Visitor Center, Soo Locks, Michigan
2. Fort William, Thunder Bay, Ontario
3. Grand Portage State Park, Grand Portage National Monument, Minnesota
4. Lake Superior Maritime Museum, Duluth
5. Bayfield Maritime Museum, Bayfield Wisconsin
6. NPS Apostle Islands National Lakeshore Headquarters, Bayfield Wisconsin
7. Quincy Mine, Keweenaw National Historical Park, Hancock Michigan
8. Fort Wilkins, Copper Harbor, Michigan
9. Shipwreck Museum, Whitefish Point, Michigan





June 26, 2026, The Hangover, Led by Rick and Brenda Harris

Seven folks went on the strenuous hike to the Hangover from the Wolf Laurel Trailhead, about 6.0 miles or arduous uphill and steep downhills. The BMT between the Stratton Ridge Trail and the Hangover is very, very overgrown and desperately needs a work trip (or 2 or 3). This will require sling blades, loppers, and scythes. Only two logs across the BMT, both easy stepovers.

But the weather was fine, cool and not too muggy. The views from the Hangover, as always, never disappoint with views into the Smokies and the other surrounding mountains and lakes.

After the hike, we all went to the Cherochala Outpost on the Skyway near the Indian Boundary Campground and had Mayfields ice cream. If you haven't tried it, get the new flavor Peanut Butter Cup. It is our favorite now.

Going on the hike were Rick & Brenda Harris, Bob Cowdrick, Jodi Mull, Daphne Martin, and Stephanie & Rodger Gordon.





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



July 9 Monthly Club Meeting at Etowah Senior Center-Fascinating presentation by Jack Callahan.



More club meeting pics...



July 14, 2026, Candies Creek Greenway – Hike Leader: James Anderson



More greenway pics...



July 16 Club Breakfast at Old Fort Restaurant in Cleveland, TN, hosted by Jack Callahan – What a great turnout again this month! Make plans to join our next one, August 20.



MINUTES

Cherokee Hiking Club
Monthly Club Meeting
6:00 p.m., July 9, 2026
Etowah Senior Center

President Rob Coombs opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. The meeting Sign-in Sheet was distributed and 24 members signed. Leslie Auriemmo won the *Tonight's Lucky Hiker* door prize. A second door prize was awarded by Jack Callahan, our guest speaker. Winner of that door prize was Randy Morris. Rob Coombs shared thoughts about his month's hike club quote "The mountains are calling and I must go." John Muir

- I. Treasury Report - Jennifer Schroll
 - A. Previous month balance - \$3,256.70
 - B. Any debts or corrections - payment for facility; dues
 - C. Current balance - \$3,149.51
 - D. Motion to accept the report - First: Carol June; Second: Jack Callahan, Vote to Accept: Unanimous
- II. Corrections from the June minutes published in our newsletter.
 - A. No Corrections were made
 - B. Motion to accept the report - First: Gail Drummond; Second: Jack Callahan, Vote to Accept: Unanimous
- III. Unfinished Business
 - A. Rob Coombs encouraged club to submit one-page stories
 - B. Margaret introduced her niece from Houston - Elise
 - C. Janet Coombs asked if anyone wanted to claim a dish left at our home. Owner was not found.
- IV. New Business
 - A. New members added to our club roster.
 - 1. None

- 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. 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 Cherochala Skyway - Hike Leaders: Rick & Brenda Harris
 9. Monday, July 6, 2026 - BMT Lost Creek Section - Hike Leader: Ken Cissna.
 10. Wednesdays Walks on the Cleveland Greenway - Walk Leader Jack Callahan
- D. Hikes / Activities / Events scheduled for the month ahead.
1. Thursday, July 2, 2026 - July 12, 2026 - Lake Superior Circle Tour - Hike Leader: Jerry Schneider.
 2. Tuesday, July 14, 2026 - Candies Creek Greenway - Hike Leader: James Anderson.
 3. Thursday, July 16, 2026 - Monthly Hike Club Breakfast - Contact Jack Callahan
 4. Friday, July 17, 2026 - Bob Bald - Hike Leaders: Rick & Brenda Harris
 5. Sunday, July 18, 2026 - Saturday, July 25, 2026 - Mt Katahdin, Mt Washington, NY backpack - Hike Leader: Jennifer Schroll
 6. Friday, July 31, 2026 - Conasauga River Trail - Hike Leader: Anne Anderson.
 7. Wednesdays Walks on the Cleveland Greenway - Leader Jack Callahan
 8. Thursday, August 20, 2026 - Monthly Hike Club Breakfast - Jack Callahan
 9. Friday, August 21, 2026 - Rhododendron Trail - Hike Leader: Ken Cissna
 10. Friday, August 21, 2026 - Warriors Passage - Hike Leaders: Rick & Brenda Harris
 11. Thursday, September 10, 2026 - Thursday Monthly Club Meeting - Etowah Senior Center
- V. Our presentation for the evening is entitled "*What is a Mushroom?*" presented by Jack Callahan.
- VI. Our next meeting will be held September 10, 2026. Our presentation for the evening will be *Getting Involved: Trail Maintenance* presented by Rick Harris at the Etowah Senior Center.

Respectfully submitted by Otis Pannel, Vice President on July 9, 2026

NON-CLUB OPPORTUNITIES

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

FUN OPPORTUNITY

Grandma Gatewood Took a Walk, the play, is being performed at Barter's Smith Theatre in Abingdon, Virginia from July 21-August 23.

Description from their website: "'Grandma' Gatewood called her son and told him she was 'going for a walk.' What she forgot to mention was that the walk would encompass all 2,050 miles of the Appalachian Trail. As we join Emma on her adventure, we relive with her the hills and valleys, obstacles and detours of her life that led her to make history as the first woman to solo thru-hike the Appalachian Trail."

TELLICO/OCOEE 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.

