

The Cherokee Hiker

November 2009 Volume 25, Issue 11

Cherokee Hiking Club, Inc. • 2349 Varnell Road • Cleveland, TN 37311
www.cherokeehikingclub.org

~CHC Calendar~

Welcome New Members!!! Trey and Christy Coleman who live in Knoxville.

NOVEMBER HIKES & OTHER EVENTS

Saturday, November 7th - John Muir Clean-up Hike – 3 or 6 miles, easy
Hike Leader: Debbie Flower

Weather permitting, we will meet at Childer's Creek Trail Head at 9:00 a.m. The hike is a beautiful, easy 3 mile trail along the Hiwassee River. It can be either a 3 mile or a 6 mile hike depending on time and car shuttle. Please bring gloves, clippers, water and a snack/lunch. Trash bags will be provided. If you plan on attending, please call the hike leader by Friday evening, November 6th at 476-3907.

Directions: If coming from Cleveland, go to and through Benton, turn right onto Rt. 30 towards Reliance, cross the bridge at Webb's Store, cross the railroad tracks, turn immediately right at Rosie's Restaurant and follow the road until Childer's Creek sign on right.

Saturday, November 7, 2009 – Rock Creek CT (5-9 mi). Mod. Leader: Esther Nunley joint with the Hiwassee Club.

Saturday November 14, 2009. Moderate. Leader: James Anderson

The hike will be approximately 8 miles in length. It is a close one so not much driving is involved. We will hike from Hwy 64/30 up Clear Creek, a mile or so on the Rim Rock connector, and then loop back down on Clemmer. It is on the southeastern side of Chillhowee Mtn. It will involve two small stream crossings that will probably have to be waded so bring water shoes or sandals. The elevation change I would estimate to be between 1000-1200 feet. It will offer some nice views of the upper section of Parksville lake and Big Frog further to the East. I would rate this hike as moderate. We will take our time and hopefully enjoy our lunch with a view of Parksville lake. Since this hike is so close I'm thinking that we won't meet until around 9:30 or 10:00. We should be out by mid afternoon. If you are interested please contact the hike leader James Anderson no later than 8:00 pm of the Friday night prior to the hike for meeting instructions.

Saturday, November 14, 2009. BMTA TN/NC Worktrip. cherokeehikingclub.org

Saturday, November 28 – Linda Davis Memorial Hike. Easy – approx 8 miles.

Leader: Belinda Mantooth

NOTE: Linda Davis memorial hike: we will eat lunch at the Boat House restaurant along the greenway after the trip.

Sunday, November 29, 2009. Unicoi Turnpike (3 mi). Easy. Leader: Marc Bernatti.

*NOTE: As a courtesy, **ALWAYS** contact the hike leader **in advance** of the hike to facilitate planning.*

Club News

Upcoming hikes: See Above.

Hikes completed: See Below

Recent Hike & Event Reports

Fiery Gizzard Trail: (October 3, 2009)

It was a cool, crisp, gorgeous fall day as six adventurous hikers and a dog descended into the boulder-strewn gorge of the Fiery Gizzard Trail. The trail was treacherous, making the footing very precarious as we walked along Big Fiery Gizzard Creek. We saw cascading and plunging waterfalls, swimming holes and rock formations. Then we began the arduous climb up to the ridge. We passed abandoned coal mines, jumped multiple stream crossings, checked out campsites, and walked out onto the bluffs. A short lunch and a photo opportunity were taken at Raven Point, which offered a panoramic view of Gizzard's Cove. Upon our return, huge, 500 year old hemlock trees held us in awe. This is a very challenging trail and not for the faint of heart. Leaders: Debbie Flower and Randy Morris. Hikers: Dave Flower with dog, Abby, Jennifer Schroll, Suzanne Bennett and Laura Almazan.

Lookout Mountain Bluff Trail (Oct 16, 2009)

On a crisp but beautiful Sunday afternoon (October 18, 2009), 11 hikers followed Jimmy Drinnon (Gail's son) and Edmond Gray from Covenant College to Point Park. It was a perfect day for this hike, even though there was a slight breeze.

The hikers used a car shuttle to go from Point Park to the trailhead at the top of the mountain. The hikers included Laura Almazan, Rhea Black, Cathy Davis and Thomas Smith, Shauna Drinnon, Butch Gregg, Kenneth and Jolynn Johnson, Kathy Seymour, and Keith and Debbie Zuidema.

One hiker extended the hike by visiting the Craven House. He quickly recovered and returned to Point Park in time to catch the shuttle.

Announcements regarding hikes in SE Tennessee

Though most of our hikes in the Cherokee Hiking Club are on weekends, some hikes do occur on weekdays. you can find our upcoming hikes on our website (www.cherokeehikingclub.org) Other options include the Hiwassee Hiking Club (www.hiwasseehikingclub.org), the Sequoyah Hiking Club

(www.sequoyahhikingclub.org) and the Chattanooga Hiking Club (hiking.chattanooga.net/). I know that the Chattanooga Hiking Club has a hike every Wednesday. Also, Liz Carter has frequent weekday hikes over here in the Cherokee National Forest (efcarter@hotmail.com). She calls her group the Turtle Walkers. They just hiked the Unicoi Turnpike Trail this Thursday. I am forwarding your email to pertinent people in these groups as well. You might want to check out their websites and contact Liz directly. Hope this helps. Many of us belong to multiple clubs and know each other. So don't feel you have to join only one and that someone's feelings will be hurt if you don't join theirs. We all pretty much know each other. Also, another resource you might check out is the Benton MacKaye Trail Association (www.bmta.org). They maintain this 300 mile trail from Springer Mtn, GA to the north end of the Smokys and sponsor hikes and backpacks in the area, not just on the BMT.
Rick Harris, 423-253-6358 home

Hi Rick and Reggie. Since Reggie is in GA. I would also recommend the Mountain High Hikers. They have two hikes every Tuesday (a long hike and a short hike), and a separate list of folks interested in a moderate hike on Wednesdays. Most of their hikes are in North Georgia. Google Mountain High Hikers to get more information. liz carter

Actually Trenton is probably closer to Chattanooga than any of the other clubs. About a third of the membership of the Chattanooga Hiking Club lives in Georgia. As Rick says though, many of us hold multiple memberships in several clubs and may go hike with whichever one has the hike that appeals to us most at the time. We hike most of the same trails but as all the clubs are volunteer, the schedule of individual hikes depends on the choice of the volunteer leaders. The Chattanooga Hiking Club has a hike most every Wednesday but the schedule is not published in advance; it is necessary to call the lady who organizes them on Monday or Tuesday before the hike to find out where they are going each week. If you like I can give you her phone number.

Cherokee Hiking Club Minutes October 8, 2009, CSCC Baptist Student Center

The monthly meeting of the Cherokee Hiking club was held on October 8, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. at CSCC Baptist Student Center. Thirty members and three guests attended. Following a great potluck meal, President Randy Morris called the business meeting to order at 7:27 p.m. Randy thanked Lettie Burress for arranging for the meeting place. Steve Biotowas, Wilderness Technician with the Ocoee-Hiwassee Ranger District, presented Debbie Flower, Al Rymer, and Rick Harris with tee shirts and commended them for their work as trail maintenance volunteers. Steve discussed his work with Gary Smith and other volunteers.

Minutes from the previous meeting were read by Secretary Jane Bohannon and correction has been made to read "the December meeting will be held on the eleventh." Treasurer Ann Gray reported a current balance.

Old business: Randy thanked Suzanne Bennett, horticulturist at CSCC for leading the hike on the CSCC Trail prior to the meeting. Suzanne mentioned the possibility of a work trip later on. Randy suggested putting the club website address on our Adopt-A-Trail sign at the CSCC trail. A request was made for volunteers to paint blazes on this trail, if interested check with Suzanne.

The nominating committee was appointed for selecting new officers for the upcoming year 2010. Debbie Flower and Belinda Mantooth were selected to nominate new officers. Debbie will do the installation of officers. The following officers will continue to serve: Secretary -Jane Bohannon; Treasurer- Ann Gray; Publicist-Debbie Flower; Webmaster-Rick Harris. The offices of President, Vice-President, and Newsletter editor are to be filled.

Rick Harris reported that information on hikes occurring during the BMTA Annual Meeting at Coker Creek Village on Nov. 6-8 will be posted on the website. All these hikes will start from the Coker Creek Village parking lot.

New business: Gail Gray made a motion for the club to donate \$50.00 to the Baptist Student Center. Debbie Flower seconded the motion.

Hikes completed: Reports were given on Len Foote, Fiery Gizzard, and Blood Mountain. Rick reported on Benton McKaye trail maintenance and discussed plans for compiling a pocket size trail guide book.

Upcoming hikes: Upcoming hikes were discussed. Refer to the website and newsletter.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Next meeting: The next meeting will be at **Ryan's Restaurant in Cleveland** at 6:30 p.m. on November 12 since Michael's is already booked. The December 11 meeting will be at Antonio's in Cleveland. Ann Gray has made reservations.

Ryan's is at 138 Paul Huff Pky. From I-75, take exit #27 which is Paul Huff Pky. Go East at end of exit ramp. Ryan's is next to the Bradley Square Mall Shopping Center. Turn between Applebee's and O'Charley's off of Paul Huff Pky.

Respectfully submitted, Jane Bohannon, Secretary

Special Announcement:

A new year is just around the corner and it is that time again. "Election of new Officers"

Our 2009 officers have done a tremendous job and we really appreciate everything. Our club has been successful because of the great leadership and commitment. All of our members support our officers in every way possible.

We have opportunities this year in the offices of President, Vice-President, and Newsletter-Editor.

We are asking for volunteers in these positions. It is a great chance to get to know all the members, trail leaders, forestry services officials, etc.

Please contact Debbie Flowers or Belinda Mantooth by November meeting if you are interested in volunteering or have any questions.

"A hiking we will go and cease the moment to enjoy our great forests" 🐾

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