

The Cherokee Hiker

January 2012 Volume 28, Issue 1

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

~CHC Hike and Events Calendar~

- January 22, 2012 – Sunday. Athens Regional Park Trail Hike (3.1 miles, easy)

JANUARY HIKES

Athens Regional Park Trail Hike - January 22, Sunday afternoon

Hike leader: Jane Bohannon. **Rating:** easy. Length: 3.1 miles.

Plan to meet at the trailhead at 2:00 p.m. The mountain bike/hiking parking lot is the first turn to the left after entering the park. This trail has its ups and downs and scenic views in woodland, open field, and paved area around the lake. It is a hike around the perimeter of the park and along North Mouse Creek.

Directions to the park from Cleveland: Take I-75 north to the first Athens exit, then turn right onto Highway 30 toward Athens. The park is approximately 1 mile on the right.

Directions to the park from Etowah: Take Highway 30 through Athens all the way to the park. The park is approximately 1 mile on the left after the Highway 11 (Congress Parkway)/Highway 30 (Decatur Pike) intersection.

If interested in attending, please call Jane Bohannon at 745-9534 or 381-8388 (cell). This is a joint hike with the Hiwassee Hiking Club.

Other hikes and events in January: be sure to check the club website at <http://www.cherokeehikingclub.org> or the Cherokee Hiking Club Facebook page (click on the Facebook graphic shown below) for more January hikes and other events that may be planned on short notice.

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

OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST

Combined January Monthly Meeting/annual Hike Planning Meeting – Sunday, January 8, 2012

We will meet at 2:00 p.m. at the Family Resource Agency conference room located at **3680 Michigan Avenue Road in Cleveland**. James Anderson will host the meeting.

Hike leaders, please make plans to attend if possible. If you cannot attend the hike planning meeting, please submit the hikes you will be willing to lead to Richard Foster, our incoming secretary, via email to habitahound@gmail.com prior to the meeting. Include the date of your hike along with an alternate date if you can. Also, if you can host a monthly meeting during 2012, but can't attend the planning meeting, please email Richard your intentions.

Driving directions: The Family Resource Building is located at 3680 Michigan Avenue Road in

Cleveland. At the Paul Huff Parkway/Highway 11 (North Lee Highway) intersection take Stuart Road east passing Golden Corral and Hobby Lobby (Paul Huff Parkway will turn into Stuart Road as you continue east through the intersection). Follow Stuart Road until you come to the intersection of Stuart Road & Michigan Avenue Road, right past the YMCA on your left. Turn right onto Michigan Avenue Road. The Family Resource Building is approximately 0.1 mile on the left. There is a sign in front of the large brick building and a large parking lot in front.

2012 Dues and Club Change of Address

Please remember that as the New Year rolls in, your 2012 Cherokee Hiking Club Membership Dues need to do likewise, to Treasurer Randy Morris. 2012 dues are **\$15** (this includes anyone in your immediate family that would like to be a part of our organization). We are looking forward to a great year under new club President Jennifer Schroll.

Attention New Members: Anyone who joined after October 1, 2011 will not have to renew until 2013.

Checks may be brought to the Hike Planning Meeting on January 8 or mailed to Randy Morris at the club's address (this has changed with that of the new Treasurer). Please mail your dues to:

**Cherokee Hiking Club
198 Crews Drive
Benton, TN 37307**

Hike Leaders Needed!

In order to have an exciting schedule of hikes for the New Year, the Club needs interested hike leaders to step forward. If you are a "regular leader", a "former regular leader" or a member who has never led but has those favorite hikes that you want to see on the schedule, we need you for 2012!

Please consider leading hikes or other activities, such as camping or canoeing trips, for the Club this year. See the information above concerning the Hike Planning Meeting to be held this Sunday, January 8, if you are willing to assist.

Thanks!

Club Treasurer Randy Morris

Hike Leader Responsibilities Regarding Hike Pictures

Since this is the start of the new year, the Club board has been reviewing and updating the Club policy related to pictures taken on Club hikes. We would like to inform all potential hike leaders of their responsibilities related to pictures that are taken on Club hikes:

Hike Sign In Sheet: We remind all hike leaders to have all participants, members and non-members alike, to sign and fill out the blocks on the Hike Sign-In Sheet, which is available for download and printing on the Cherokee Hiking Club website under the "Forms" drop-down menu. The direct link is <http://cherokeehikingclub.org/tripreportform2.pdf>. This form should be sent to the Club Secretary, Richard Foster (email address habithound@gmail.com), for storage soon after the event.

Photo Release: On the form, there is a column at the far right (the column heading is "*Permission to Use Photos*") to be initialed by participants to provide permission for photos to be used by the Cherokee Hiking Club on the CHC website, the CHC Facebook page, and the CHC newsletter, as *well as for publication in any other way*, such as a newspaper article. Be sure all participants initial this block. If a participant refuses to initial this block, then any picture with this person in it cannot be placed on the CHC website, CHC Facebook page, newsletter or other CHC-supported publication such as a newspaper article.

It is requested that any pictures of hike participants posted on the Club's Facebook page (or any other Facebook page or page of any other social media such as Picasa, etc.) are not **"tagged"** with the name of the hike participant or any of his/her guests. (**Tagging** is employed by social media sites such as Facebook, and it allows anyone posting that picture to place a label on or near a specific person's image in order to identify the person(s) in the photograph. Note that this CAN include images of any children.) We are discouraging tagging out of courtesy for many of the Club members who are either not familiar with Facebook or not comfortable with sharing their private lives and loved ones in a very public forum such as Facebook or other social media sites.

All the above being said, it must be pointed out that the **Cherokee Hiking Club cannot control what individuals do on their own Facebook pages**. If a hike participant shows a picture of another hike participant or even tags a picture of that participant on their own personal Facebook page when that participant has *not* initialed the *Permission to Use Photos* column noted above on the Hike Sign-In Sheet, then that issue is between the participant and the person whose picture was so used, and does not involve the Cherokee Hiking Club.

Right to Privacy: Please remember that the above is out of courtesy for Club members' privacy. In fact, anyone can take a picture of another person in a public area such as on a club hike, and use that picture if they so wish. From a legal perspective, **privacy is not guaranteed to anyone when out in the public eye**. Such privacy is only granted when that person is in a private location, such as in a person's own home.

Hike Pictures Appearing in the Newsletter and Club Website: If all participants have agreed to have their pictures posted publicly, and have so initialed the *Permission to Use Photos* column on the Hike Sign-In Sheet, it is the **hike leader's responsibility** to get the pictures of that hike to the newsletter editor and club webmaster, in electronic form by email. The hike leader can choose which pictures he/she sends to the newsletter editor and webmaster; or he/she can choose to send none at all. Pictures are posted to the newsletter as an additional feature to make a hike write-up more interesting, but are not required.

Picture attachments can sometimes get quite large, so please only send to the newsletter editor/webmaster about 3 or 4 pictures maximum in one email. Links to pictures posted on a third party website (such as Facebook or wherever) will not be employed to retrieve pictures for posting in the newsletter; however, pictures already posted to the Club website may be, if a link or hike title is provided. Sending large size pictures via email is acceptable, but will be sized down and/or cropped by the newsletter editor before publication. It is up to the newsletter editor and/or club webmaster as to which pictures are chosen for publication. Since the newsletter is sent out via email, only 3 or 4 pictures at maximum are published in one month's newsletter. Because the newsletter is sent out as an email attachment, it is important to consider that some people's internet connections cannot handle a wide bandwidth, which images require.

Join the rest of the Cherokee Hikers on Facebook! Click the image below to navigate to the CHC Facebook page. We now have over 100 members!



Recent Hike & Event Reports

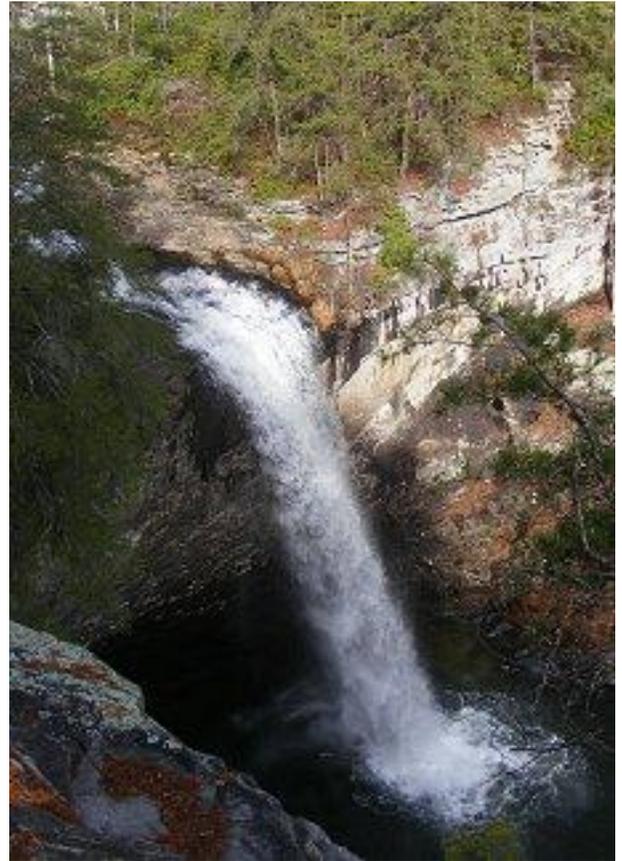
Foster Falls Hike – December 3, Saturday

Five club members drove over to Marion County on a nice December day to enjoy the beautiful Foster Falls area - part of South Cumberland State Park. We started the hike by enjoying a view of the Falls from the viewing platform located just a few hundred feet from the parking lot, before descending steeply to the bottom of the Falls and the nice, deep pool at the base of the gorge. The week's heavy rains had filled the creek nicely, so the water volumes were spectacular. We then hiked along the base of the rock bluffs as the first rock climbers of the day were beginning to ready for their ascent up the rock faces. We

ascended to the top of the gorge by utilizing the second Climber's access trail (with the use of sturdy wooden stairs) and joined the Fiery Gizzard Trail.

Once on top, we hiked along the top of the gorge for about 1.5 miles and enjoyed nice overlooks of the gorge and three smaller waterfalls plunging off the face of the cliffs. We then descended steeply down into Laurel Branch Gorge and ate lunch beside a clear, rushing stream that reminded me of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

After lunch we climbed out of the gorge on down the Fiery Gizzard Trail. Upon our final ascent out of the gorge, "Trailblazer" Rick Harris and his trusty, GPS unit then led us around the gorge on a "bushwhack" that allowed us to explore new territory while avoiding a backtrack into Laurel Branch Gorge. We regained the trail exactly where the GPS indicated we would, and then hiked back on the Fiery Gizzard Trail to the parking lot. Along the way we experienced views of Foster Falls from the opposite side of the gorge, a great small waterfall at a 90 degree angle to the main stream, and the beautiful rapids of the creek above the Falls.



You can check out our route on the club's website at <http://www.cherokeehikingclub.org/Foster Falls.pdf>. Hikers enjoying the 6 mile trek were Buddy Arnold, Dave Flower, Rick Harris, Kathy Seymour and hike leader Randy Morris (taking the picture shown below).



**Cherokee Hiking Club
Meeting Minutes December 3, 2011
Ryan's Restaurant in Cleveland**

The Cherokee Hiking Club met on Saturday, December 3, 2011 at 5:30 p.m. at Ryan's in Cleveland for the monthly meeting and Christmas party. There were twenty- five members present. Following the buffet meal, Vice-President Bill Kamm called the business session to order at 6:25 p.m. Clayton Pannell did the invocation. Minutes of the previous meeting and the Treasurer's report were omitted.

Old business: The club will pay the 15% gratuity for this meal. Membership dues may be paid tonight, at the Hike Planning Meeting on January 8, or mailed to the Treasurer at the club's address (***Ed. Note:*** *there is a new club address for dues, please see Randy Morris's note above*).

New business: James Anderson will host the annual **Hike Planning Meeting** on Sunday afternoon January 8, 2011 at 2:00 p.m. at the Family Resource Agency Building, located at 3680 Michigan Avenue Road just south of Antonio's Restaurant in Cleveland. If you cannot attend the planning meeting, please submit the hikes you will be willing to lead to **Richard Foster**, our incoming Secretary, via email along with an alternate date, to habitathound@gmail.com. Also, if you can host a monthly meeting during 2012, but can't attend the planning meeting, please email Richard Foster your intentions.

A copy of the revised membership form was passed around to each member to bring attention that the choice of newsletter mailing will not be an option starting with the January 2012 newsletter. All newsletters will be emailed to members. **Be sure to discard all old membership forms.**

Jane also discussed the importance for all hike leaders to complete the "Liability Waiver" (Hike Sign In Sheet) for all club sponsored hikes, canoe trips, and camping trips. Hike leaders are responsible for sending a photo to the newsletter editor (if there has been a photo taken) on the hike, making sure everyone in the photo has given permission for their photo to be used for publications. If a guest hiker should take photos, then the guest would be taking on their own liability for their actions. Hike leaders are responsible for getting a copy of the Liability Waiver to the club secretary for filing.

Hikes completed: Since the last meeting the following hikes have been completed: Fort Loudon State Park Trail Hike led by Bob and Effaleda Lee, and the Foster Falls hike led by Randy Morris. The Linda Davis Memorial hike was cancelled.

Upcoming hikes: No more hikes are scheduled until the January 8 Hike Planning meeting.

Installation of officers: Debbie Flower did a fantastic job with the officer installation, demonstrating how officers and club members work together as a team. The following officers were installed:

President – Jennifer Schroll
Vice President – Leon Bates
Secretary – Richard Foster
Treasurer – Randy Morris
Newsletter Editor – Rebecca Levings
Webmaster – Rick Harris
Publicist – Debbie Flower

Next meeting: Combined January monthly meeting and Hike Planning Meeting will be Sunday afternoon, January 8 at 2:00 p.m. at the Family Resource Building conference room at 3680 Michigan Ave. Road in Cleveland. See the newsletter for directions (above).

Respectfully submitted,
Jane Bohannon, Secretary
