

The Cherokee Hiker

JULY 2020 Volume 37, Issue VII

Cherokee Hiking Club, Inc. •198 Crews Drive Benton TN 37307
www.cherokeehikingclub.org

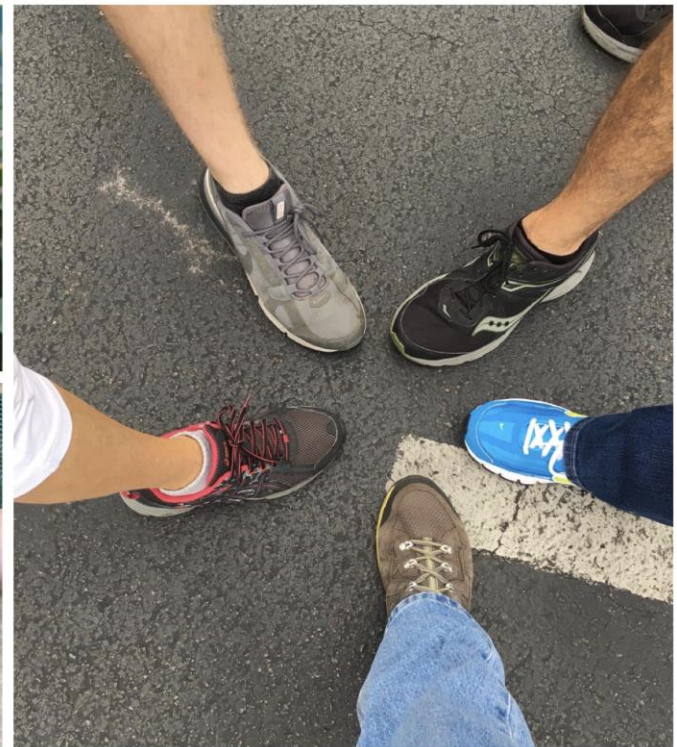
NOTICE

Club dues are past due. If you have not paid for this year this will be your final newsletter. If in doubt, double check with Randy Morris. It is always a good idea to pay by check so you will have a record.

EVENTS SINCE LAST NEWSLETTER

WEDNESDAY WALKS ON THE CLEVELAND GREENWAY

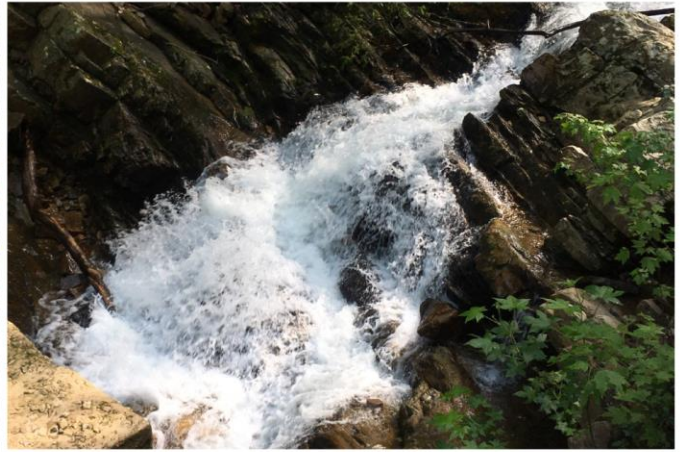
Every Wednesday Jack Callahan leads a 3.75-mile walk on the Cleveland Greenway while social distancing.



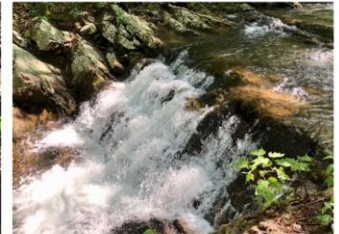
THIRD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH BREAKFAST

Five club members met at Old Fort Restaurant for our monthly breakfast and had great food and great conversation. Members included Ann and Bill Gray, Jennifer Schroll, and Margaret and Jack Callahan. Looking forward to next month.

MAY 30, 2020 GEE CREEK FALLS



On a beautiful, sunny, and warm Saturday, eight club members, one guest, and one canine met at the Gee Creek Trail parking lot for our hike. The trail follows an old road to a very nice footbridge over Gee Creek. The trail then enters the Gee Creek Wilderness and becomes more like a wilderness trail. In the wilderness, the creek goes through an old concrete flume for a short distance. There are some very rocky sections. The waterfalls were beautiful with a good water flow. Hikers were Jack Callahan, Margaret Callahan, Bob Dornfeld and Smokey, Yvonne Rittenhouse, Clare Sullivan, Ed Sullivan, Rod Price (guest), and Hike Leaders Ruth Pannell and Clayton Pannell. Thanks to all the hikers.





JUNE 8, 2020 EAST LAKESHORE TRAIL DAVIS FERRY SECTION



Eleven folks took this 10-mile hike which is a part of the series of hikes to cover the entire 30+ miles of the East Lakeshore Trail. We did an out and back due to restrictions on shuttling. The weather cooperated: there was no rain but it was quite hot and sweltery. This is a great trail. It is well-constructed and well-maintained. One of the maintainers, who lives in Tellico Village, joined us on the hike--Terry Nyenhuis. He maintains the section closer to the canal between Tellico and Fort Loudon Lakes. It was great having him along, giving us a perspective on the origin and construction of the trail. The first half of the hike was in dense woods along the edge of the lake. The second half was through a golf course. No golfers were to be seen, probably because of the high temps. We all returned tired and hot. But overall, it was a great hike. Attending were Hike Leaders Rick and Brenda Harris, Will Dostie, Sandra Fenton, Connie Janes, Steve Kidd, Ruth Matias, Judy Norton, Terry Nyenhuis, CH Wilson, and Mark Youmans.



JUNE 8-11, 2020 ISLE ROYALE NATIONAL PARK
 Canceled.

JUNE 11, 2020 MONTHLY CLUB MEETING

We had a nice turnout for our June club meeting at Charleston City Park pavilion. To help with social distancing, we all brought an individual sack supper in lieu of potluck. It was great to begin to get together with friends and discuss past and upcoming events. Thanks to everyone who participated.



JUNE 13, 2020 HOOPER BALD AND HUCKLEBERRY KNOB



Ten of us (and a canine) participated in the two out-and-back hikes off the Cherohala Skyway on the edge of North Carolina. It was a perfect day in regard to the weather as the highs were in the lower 60s with a partly cloudy sky. We first hiked to Hooper Bald. The Bald was once a part of a private hunting camp from early in the 20th century. There we saw some "Tennessee Orange" azaleas blooming and a variety of other plants as well. We saw a gravesite of an infant who is buried on the bald. There were quite a number of blueberry bushes on the bald so, in a month or so, there should be a lot of small blueberries for picking. Next, we drove the mile or so to the Huckleberry Knob parking area and hiked in from there. The fields leading up to the top of the knob were covered with yellow buttercup flowers. At the top, we had an awesome 360-degree view and it is there we found a flat spot for our lunch. We very much enjoyed the scenery as we had lunch and enjoyed the conversation. While eating we noticed a medical helicopter circling the area. It finally landed near where we had parked our vehicles. It was still there when we made it back down and we learned that it was there to pick up an injured motorcyclist who had crashed a mile or so up the road. We had to wait for it to take off before we could return to our cars. All said, we had a great day and enjoyed our walk in the woods. (Group photo above from left to right--Judy Price, Ruth Pannell, Clayton Pannell, Hike Leader James Anderson, Phyllis Anderson, Polly Heidel, Marc Bernatti, Cathy Smith, Bob Dornfeld and Smokey, and Jack Callahan.)



JUNE 15, 2020 EAST LAKESHORE TRAIL SINKING CREEK SECTION



Ten folks and two dogs hiked this section, one of the series of hikes to cover the entire East Lakeshore Trail. This is a very pretty 4.6-mile section along the edge of Tellico Lake. The weather was good--in the 70s with rumbles of thunder. We did not get rained upon, happily. We did this as a shuttle due to the impending storms due to arrive in the afternoon. We utilized the back of trucks and cars with all the windows open to avoid COVID-19 exposure. The two dogs took a few dips in the lake to keep cool. We also came upon a large family swimming in the lake. Summer has arrived. Those hiking included Hike Leaders Rick and Brenda Harris, Marc Bernatti and dog Cleveland, Will Dostie, Sandra Fenton, Lyn Irving, Ruth Matias, Terry Nyenhuis, Larry Van Dyke and dog Cody, and CH Wilson.



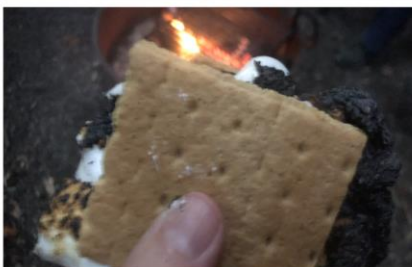
JUNE 22, 2020 EAST LAKESHORE TRAIL MORGANTON BRANCH SECTION



Five hikers joined in on this hike of another section of the East Lakeshore Trail on this hot and stormy day. We hiked from the Peterson Road Trailhead to the Wildcat Point Trailhead, including a side hike on a new segment, then returned to our starting point, a total of 8 miles. We came across a stray plott hound which followed us back to the trailhead. After much coaxing, we got her in our car and took her to the local animal shelter. On our way back to our cars we got dumped upon by a strong summer storm. Those hiking included Hike Leader Rick Harris, Brenda Harris, Terry Nyenhuis, Sandra Fenton, and Will Dostie.

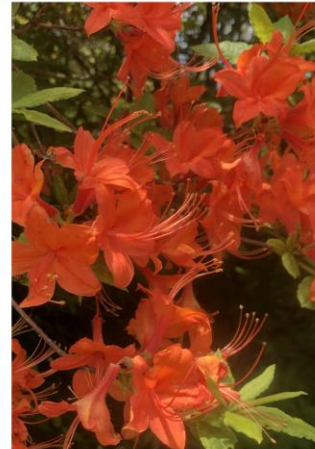
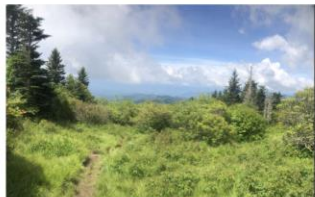


JUNE 25-26, 2020 ANDREWS BALD GSMNP





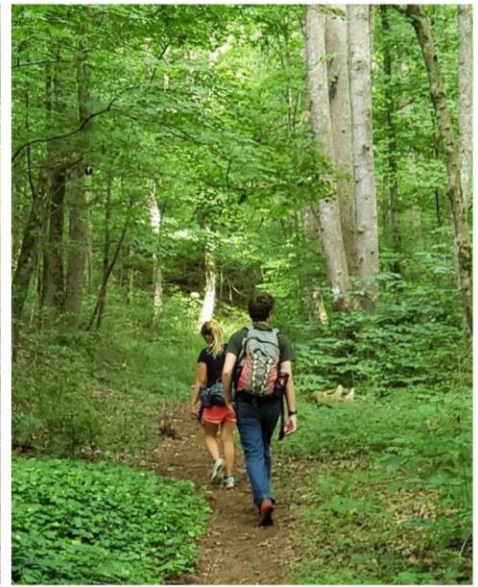
Seven members camped at Smokemont and were treated to a great display of elk in the meadows near the southern entrance to the park along Hwy 441. Then we enjoyed a nice campfire and cooked supper and some dove into the s'mores. The weather was beautiful, and temps soon required a light jacket. Camping were Hike Leader Jack Callahan, Margaret Callahan, Al Johnson, Doug Lynch, Judy Price, Jennifer Schroll, and long-distance traveler Jerry Schneider, who drove 6 hours to participate in the event. He definitely won first prize for greatest distance traveled and we greatly enjoyed his company. After breakfast the next morning, we headed to Clingmans Dome, enjoyed a bear sighting along the way, and took the walk up to the tower to delight in a clear view of the horizon. At 10 am, we were joined by Ruth and Clayton Pannell and began the hike to Andrews Bald, 1.8 miles almost all downhill. Arriving at the bald we scattered to photograph and observe the rhododendron and wild azaleas in bloom, as well as the great views to the south with Shuckstack, Gregory Bald, and Thunderhead Mountains and Fontana Lake all in clear sight. After lunch and lounging in the lush grass for a while, we began the climb back to the parking lot. The trail has many steps and is quite rocky most of the way, and is a good workout. We arrived back at the vehicles just in time for light showers. All in all, it was a nice trip and very enjoyable with great friends.



JUNE 29, 2020 EAST LAKESHORE TRAIL LOTTERDALE BRANCH SECTION



Eight hikers hiked the last remaining section today of the East Lakeshore Trail from the Sinking Creek Trailhead to the Lotterdale Campground Trailhead, a total of 4.2 miles, including our side hike to the fishing pier for lunch. It threatened rain all day with big billowy clouds and rumbles of thunder on this hot sweltery day, but we did not get caught in a storm this time. Yippee. The 8 hikers were Hike Leader Rick Harris, grandkids Simon and Mila, Terry Nyenhuis, Sandra Fenton, Will Dostie, and Steve and Dottie Kidd. Brenda was not on this hike, since she was trading in her Toyota Sienna for a new green Subaru Forester.



UPCOMING EVENTS

NOTE: Event schedule subject to change according to guidance from governmental agencies and offices regarding [COVID-19](#). An email will be sent to members if an event is canceled.

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 6:00 pm. A note on the walk is sent out the beginning of each week on Messenger. Contact Jack Callahan at 423-284-7885 if you want to be included in the messages.

THIRD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH BREAKFAST

Join us for conversation over breakfast at 8:30 am beginning with Old Fort Restaurant on 25th Street in Cleveland. For more information, contact Jack Callahan at 423-284-7885.

JULY 6, 2020 MONDAY GAHUTI TRAIL AT FORT MOUNTAIN STATE PARK

Near Chatsworth, Georgia. Approximately 1.2-hour drive south of Cleveland. Eight miles, strenuous, wear sturdy hiking boots and bring plenty of water and lunch. Meet at the parking lot on the right just past the entrance station (N34deg45min37sec, W84deg41min43sec) at 9 am to begin hike. Hike Leaders Rick and Brenda Harris (513-260-1184).

JULY 9, 2020 THURSDAY 6 PM MONTHLY CLUB MEETING

Due to current COVID-19 precautions, we will not have a potluck dinner. Bring your own meal to the Charleston (TN) City Pavilion in Hoyt Berry Municipal Park.

JULY 17, 2020 FRIDAY SECTION HIKE ON THE BMT FROM RELIANCE TO LOST CREEK CAMPGROUND

Eight miles round trip, with two stream crossings which will have to be waded, bring water shoes. Trail has several short steep pitches, moderate. Wear good hiking boots and bring lunch and water. We will eat lunch at the Lost Creek campground. The hike follows Lost Creek through a scenic limestone canyon, with numerous cascades if the water is high. After the hike, we will enjoy ice cream in an air-conditioned store in Reliance. Meet at the Hiwassee River State Park parking lot approximately 0.25 miles upriver from the Webb store in Reliance at 9:00 am. Hike Leader Clare Sullivan 404-849-0872 or clare7982@gmail.com.

JULY 21, 2020 TUESDAY STONE TOWER LOOP AT FORT MOUNTAIN STATE PARK

Near Chatsworth, Georgia. Approximately 1.25-hour drive south of Cleveland. A short hike to overlook, CCC Tower and stone wall. Meet at the parking lot on the right just past the entrance station (N34deg45min37sec, W84deg41min43sec) at 9 am. To carpool, meet at Hardee's in Ocoee at the intersection of Hwy 411 and Hwy 64 at 8 am. Hike Leaders Ruth and Clayton Pannell, crpannell@comcast.net or 423-506-9623.

JULY 22 TO AUGUST 1, 2020 BACKPACKING TRIP IN ANSEL ADAMS WILDERNESS

We will fly into Las Vegas and drive to Mammoth Lakes for acclimation prior to beginning the hike into Ansel Adams Wilderness on July 25. We will have a zero day on the shores of Ediza Lake. We will complete the hike on July 30 and drive to Yosemite for sightseeing and stay overnight. We will return to Las Vegas and fly home August 1. Event Leader, Jack Callahan.

NON-CLUB OPPORTUNITIES

[TELLICO/OCOEE VOLUNTEER TRAIL CREW](#)

Check the Facebook page for future work days.

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

Cherokee Hiking Club
Minutes of Monthly Meeting
June 11, 2020

The meeting was called to order on June 11, 2020 by the president, Jack Callahan.

The treasurer's report was presented by Randy. The balance as of March 5th was \$2017.00. Expenses since that date were \$30 to the Etowah Senior Center and \$20 to the Tennessee Secretary of State. Dues were collected from 11 members in the amount of \$165.00. The balance as of June 5, 2020 was \$2,132.00. The treasurer's report was approved as presented.

The minutes of the last meeting, as published in the club newsletter, were approved.

Unfinished Business---The president discussed the revision of the privacy statement on the membership form. Jack will put together a draft of a proposed revision and publish it in the next club newsletter. This subject will be discussed at the next meeting. Jack briefly discussed a possible hike to the Old Dutch Settlement near Big Frog Mountain in Polk County. This hike may be scheduled in the fall of this year.

Old Business--The president reported on recent hikes by some of the club members since the last club meeting.

New Business--Jack covered several hikes and camp-outs that have been scheduled before the next club meeting. Details for those events will be covered in the club newsletter.

Jack discussed the need for a nominating committee to find candidates for club officers for next year. Ruth volunteered to be on the committee. Jack will look for two more members to be on that committee.

The club Christmas party will be held on December 12, 2020, at the Benton Station Baptist Church. Jim and Judy Passmore will contact the bakery in Benton to see if they are interested in catering this event.

Members who are interested are invited to meet Thursday morning, June 18, at 8:30 am for breakfast at the Old Fort Restaurant in Cleveland.

The meeting was adjourned by the president.

Jim Passmore
Club Secretary