

The Cherokee Hiker

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

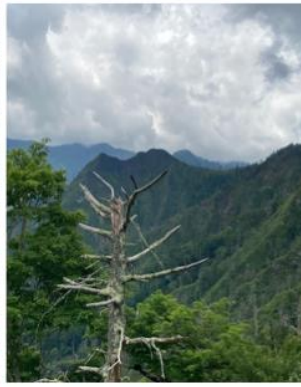
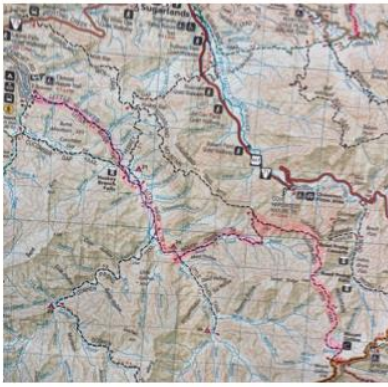
www.cherokeehikingclub.org

EVENTS SINCE LAST NEWSLETTER

JUNE 27 – 29, 2021 CAR CAMPOUT AT ELKMONT CAMPGROUND IN THE SMOKIES



Members of the club met at Elkmont Campground and Townsend in the GSMNP in preparation for the hikes. The Slick Six, Jerry Schneider, Anne Anderson, Al Johnson, Doug Lynch, Otis Pannell and Hike Leader Jack Callahan took a shuttle to the trailhead near the Mt. Collins Shelter on the access road to Clingmans Dome and began the (mostly downhill) hike. The first couple of miles of the Sugarland trail winds through relics of the ice age, boreal type forest. As the elevation declines, we began to get some great views of Mt. LeConte, and as we entered the burn area of the Chimney Top fire we had great views from both sides of the trail. The next couple of miles through the burn area were quite difficult hiking, as the sunlight had encouraged a thick growth of fire cherry and blackberry. In several sections, the trail was almost indistinguishable, causing some unsteady walking. Also, as we entered the burn area we were met by Jerry's son and daughter-in-law, Mat and Jess, who had run UP the trail some nine miles from Elkmont Campground to join us for lunch. From Sugarland Trail we took Rough Creek Trail and walked out of the burn area to more mature forest, where the trail was better maintained. From Rough Creek we joined Little River Trail, which took us back to the campground, for a total of 13 miles. After hiking with us for a while Mat and Jess ran back to camp. Back in camp we cleaned up a bit and enjoyed a nice campfire at Jerry's campsite. The club members in Townsend, Ruth and Clayton Pannell, Carin Taber, Joanne Jackson and Sheri Stewart, took another hike in the park along the Little River rather than the Sugarland hike. All in all, it was a great couple of days with nice temps and no rain.



JULY 8, 2021 MONTHLY CLUB MEETING

JULY 13, 2021 FALLS BRANCH FALLS OFF THE CHEROHALA SKYWAY



Eight of us enjoyed all the wildflowers blooming and waterfall today. Weather was perfect with temps in the 70's. Great friends, waterfall and, most importantly, no injuries on the steep slippery terrain. Topped off with lunch afterwards at Tellico Grains Bakery.



JULY 24, 2021 BMTA WORK TRIP SECTION 15B TATE GAP TO SIX MILE GAP



Fourteen maintainers came to volunteer at the hazy and humid July work trip. This trip was originally scheduled to be for the Heart of Darkness, but last month's work trip conquered it in addition to their scheduled section. Therefore, this Saturday we worked the section from Waucheesi Bald to Tate Gap, which is the site of the old Doc Rogers homestead. This section was scheduled to be maintained last winter, but was canceled due to heavy rains. The Georgia crew, led by Barry and his saw, arrived at Waucheesi Bald earlier than the Tennessee crew and hiked to the end of the 1.8-mile BMT section (plus the 0.6 approach trail). They then turned around and started brushing out the trail from Tate Gap towards Waucheesi. The Tennessee crew arrived and started brushing out from Waucheesi towards Tate Gap. The two teams met in the middle, then hiked out together. One blowdown was logged out along with some snags. The TN crew located the spring down from Six Mile Gap, brushed out the side trail, and dug a dipping hole in the spring to make water collection easier for hikers. After hiking out, the volunteers enjoyed cool drinks, brownies, and watermelon kindly provided by the Harris's. Participants included Richard and Brenda Harris, Lydia and Josh Martinez, Ed and Clare Sullivan, Nelson Ashbrook, David Blount, Barry Allen, Patrick Ward, Joe Cantwell, Andy Meeks, Bill Balke, and Steve Bayliss.



WEDNESDAY WALKS ON THE CLEVELAND GREENWAY



Every Wednesday at 4:30 pm, Jack Callahan leads a 3.75 mile walk on the greenway, beginning at the parking lot in front of Perkits Yogurt in the Cooke's Food Store complex on Keith Street. The group walks upstream to the current end of the greenway and returns, taking about an hour and 15 minutes. Jack walks regardless of the weather so if you are interested drop him a text at 423-284-7885. The group leaves promptly at 4:30.

THIRD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH BREAKFAST



Every third Thursday of the month, Jack Callahan and a group of the Club meet at 8:30 am at Old Fort Restaurant in Cleveland to enjoy breakfast and lively conversation. Gail and Edmond Gray arrive early to ensure we get our favorite table in the right corner (as you enter the front door) next to the window. Subjects discussed usually include past and future hikes and interesting things going on in folk's everyday lives. Lawnmowers were a great topic this month...you never know. No reservations needed, just show up!

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

AUGUST 9, 2021 MONDAY COKER CREEK FALLS PARKING LOT TO TN68

With Benton MacKaye Trail Association. About 7 miles moderate. First three miles downhill through the Coker Creek Gorge with impressive waterfalls. Then cross bridge over Coker Creek on BMT and hike 4 miles mild-moderate uphill to TN 68. Meet at TN68 crossing of BMT at 9 AM, xx miles north of where TN68 leaves Hiwassee River. We will leave some cars there, then drive to the Coker Creek Falls parking lot. Contact Hike Leaders Rick and Brenda Harris at 423-253-6358 or Harrisri@aol.com.

NO CLUB MEETING IN AUGUST

WEDNESDAY WALKS ON THE CLEVELAND GREENWAY

Every Wednesday Jack Callahan leads a 3.75-mile walk on the Cleveland Greenway while social distancing, 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 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 at Old Fort Restaurant on 25th Street in Cleveland. For more information, contact Jack Callahan at 423-284-7885.

NON-CLUB OPPORTUNITIES

[TELLICO/OCOEE VOLUNTEER TRAIL CREW](#)

Check the Facebook page for future work days.

[BENTON MACKAYE TRAIL ASSOCIATION](#)

See the calendar for upcoming events.

JUNE 4, 2021 – SEPTEMBER 10, 2021 FRIDAYS [LOOKOUT WILD FILM FESTIVAL](#)

“Out of concern for our attendees and as an opportunity to share wild places and the people they inspire with a new audience in Chattanooga, we have arranged for LWFF 2021 to take place along with Nightfall. Instead of 15 hours of films in one weekend, we’re breaking the films up into 15 1-hour blocks right after Nightfall on the screen in Miller Park. The films will run from approximately 9:30 p.m. until 10:30 p.m. every Friday night from June 4 to September 10. We are working to release the full lineup of films on this site and in our email newsletter.

LWFF 2022 IS SCHEDULED FOR JAN. 13-16 AT THE TIVOLI THEATRE.”

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