

- CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Judy Norton for being recognized with a Governor's Volunteer Stars Award for her many hours of community service!



Hiwassee/Ocoee Rivers State Park Instagram

- PAST EVENTS

CHILDERS CREEK SECTION OF BMT/JOHN MUIR NRT JANUARY 28, 2022



There were eight hardy hikers who showed up for our hike of the Childers Creek section of the BMT. Although it was cold and cloudy, we enjoyed the walk. Even though we had a few snow flurries, we were quite surprised to see a quince in bloom and some daffodils about to bloom. Also included in the photos is a piece of driftwood with a lot of interesting curves.
- James Anderson

LOOKOUT WILD FILM FESTIVAL FEBRUARY 4 – 6, 2022



Four club members attended the festival this year and enjoyed numerous films about the outdoors. Between the afternoon and evening events on Saturday, the group ate supper at the Community Pie just a short stroll from the Tivoli Theatre where the event was held. Film topics included events on kayaking in Africa and on the Colorado River through the Grand Canyon, mountain climbing in Patagonia, mountain biking in several locations in the state, snorkeling during a tadpole migration, and cross-country hiking across southern Iceland to name a few. During intermission in the afternoon session, the two oldest individuals to hike the Appalachian Trail were introduced and took questions from the audience. Club members attending were Jennifer Schroll, Mitchel Schroll, Margaret Callahan, and Event Leader Jack Callahan.
- Jack Callahan



MONTHLY CLUB MEETING FEBRUARY 10, 2022



After the business meeting led by James Anderson and potluck supper, Jennifer Schroll, Jack Callahan, and James Anderson conducted a discussion on backpacking gear, with examples of all the equipment typically used in an overnight trip. Discussions included water treatment, sleeping bags, tents, packs, cooking equipment, and food. As part of the potluck, Jennifer prepared one of her backpacking meals which included Stove Top stuffing, chicken, and cranberries. Jack had one of his favorite snacks, Nutella and Frito chips. This presentation was to get some members interested in backpacking. As a follow-up, there will be an overnight backpacking trip to Bob Stratton Bald on May 15 – 16. Those interested in the overnight trip should contact Event Leader Jack Callahan at 423-284-7885 to discuss gear needs. • Jack Callahan



SEQUOYAH BIRTHPLACE MUSEUM FEBRUARY 12, 2022



A baker's dozen met and toured the museum near Vonore, TN. The museum is very well-done and takes you through the life of Sequoyah and his development of the written Cherokee language. On the grounds, there are additional exhibits and gravesites of some of the Cherokee people whose remains were reinterred before the lake was filled. Afterwards, the group split up and several folks went to Madisonville and the rest stopped in Vonore for lunch.



Attendees included members Ann and Bill Gray, Ruth and Clayton Pannell, Yvonne Rittenhouse, Karen Kocher, Judy Price, Carin Taber, Maryl Elliot, Margaret Callahan and Event Leader Jack Callahan, and visitors Victoria Bailey and Kelly Kissell. • Jack Callahan



WALK IN THE WOODS - JOHNSTON WOODS FEBRUARY 15, 2022



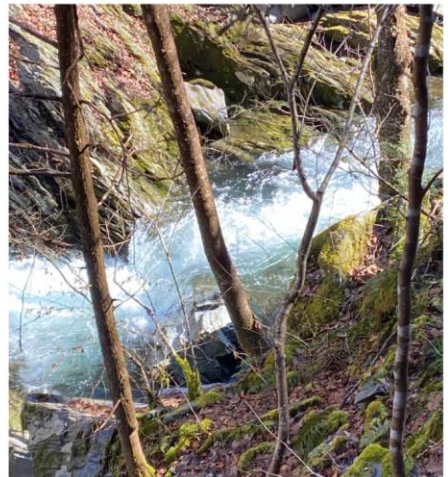
It was really good to see a total of 15 persons show up for our first Walk in the Woods at Johnston Woods off South Lee Highway. It was a real treat for us to see an owl perched in a tree just a few feet off the trail. It stayed for a few pictures but then flew just a bit further away. We also saw some interesting trees but, best of all, just enjoyed the fellowship and a peaceful walk in the woods. Hope you will consider joining us the next time we do this. You can do the 1.2-mile loop or that one and the 2.9-mile loop for a total of 4.1 miles. - James Anderson



**SECTION 12e OF BMT/LOST CREEK TRAIL TO WHITE OAK FLATS ROAD
FEBRUARY 19, 2022**

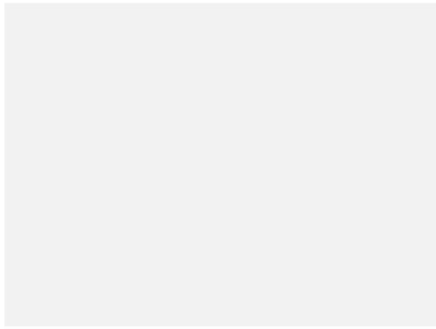


Seven club members and one energetic canine hiked the majority of Section 12e of the Benton MacKaye Trail (all but the road portions) on a beautiful February day. We enjoyed fantastic views of gorgeous, crystal-clear Lost Creek on the in-and-out trip which totaled about eight miles. We also witnessed Judy Norton make quick work of some downed tree limbs with her miniature battery-powered chainsaw going in, and a handsome whitetail buck on the return trip. Special thanks to James Anderson for assisting with the car shuttle across McFarland branch to the trailhead as it saved some hikers from wet feet at the onset of the hike. Hikers were Mary Alton, Anne Anderson, James Anderson, Judy Norton, Sue Robinson (and dog Zoe), Carin Taber, and Hike Leader Randy Morris. - Randy Morris



WEDNESDAY WALKS ON THE CLEVELAND GREENWAY

Every Wednesday at 4:30 pm, walkers meet in the parking lot at Perkits Yogurt on Keith Street and walk 3.75 miles on the greenway. A message is always sent out on Messenger to alert folks and remind them. We typically walk rain or shine. - Jack Callahan



THIRD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH BREAKFAST

Seven members met to enjoy breakfast on our regular third Thursday outing. As always, there was lively conversation and great food. Hard to beat those hot biscuits and apple butter! Members attending were Jennifer Schroll, Ann and Bill Gray, Gail and Edmond Gray, Carin Taber and Event Leader Jack Callahan. - Jack Callahan

- 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.

LOWRY TOP OVERLOOK

MARCH 3, 2022 THURSDAY

Meet at the Quinn Springs Picnic Area on Hwy 30 near Reliance, TN, at 9 am. Moderately strenuous eight-mile round-trip utilizing 2.75 miles of Oswald Dome Trail. Requires approximately one mile of bushwhacking. Hike has close to 2000 feet of elevation gain. Contact Hike Leader Jack Callahan at 423-284-7885.

DRY POND LEAD TRAIL/SECTION 12 OF THE BENTON MACKAYE TRAIL

MARCH 5, 2022 SATURDAY

We will meet at the Thunder Rock Campground parking lot at 9 am. We will hike part of Section 12 of the Benton MacKaye Trail—commonly known as the Dry Pond Lead Trail— for a total mileage of approximately nine miles. There is in excess of 1700 feet of elevation gain within the first four miles so I am rating this hike as strenuous. In fact, the first four miles are practically all uphill. There are normally great winter views of Brock Mountain, the Ocoee Gorge and sometimes Big Frog Mountain on this trail which meanders along the NW boundary of the Little Frog Mountain Wilderness Area for much of the hike. Please contact Hike Leader Randy Morris via text or call at 423-650-0485 if you are going on this hike.

BLACK MOUNTAIN SECTION OF THE CUMBERLAND TRAIL

MARCH 8, 2022 TUESDAY

Black Mountain Trail in Crab Orchard, TN, is nine-+/- moderate miles out and back with 1600 feet of elevation per AllTrails. Meet at McDonald's parking lot in Spring City, TN, at 9:30 am EST to carpool to trailhead. (Limited parking at trailhead. Please note time may change to CST in the area.) Please text Hike Leader Sue Robinson at 423-519-9751.

MONTHLY CLUB MEETING

MARCH 10, 2022 THURSDAY 6 PM SENIOR CENTER ETOWAH TN

Bring your favorite dish for the potluck dinner. The Club will be furnishing drinks, cups, and plastic eating utensils. The program is Glacier/Mount Rushmore Slideshow by Teresa Greene.

EUREKA TRAIL

MARCH 11, 2022 FRIDAY ENGLEWOOD TN TRAILHEAD

Meet at the Englewood parking lot at 10 am, weather permitting. Walk the Rails-to-Trails walkway which has a flat, good surface. It is part of the trail from Hwy 39, New Englewood Highway leading from Athens to Englewood. Eureka Trail parking lot is on the right side of Hwy 39 heading into Englewood. The trail is now five miles long. Each person or group can walk however far they choose. The trail is well-marked every quarter of a mile. Contact Hike Leader Ruth Pannell at 423-506-9623 or 263-9730, or email crpannell@comcast.net.

DUNLAP COKE OVENS

MARCH 12, 2022 SATURDAY DUNLAP TN

To carpool, meet at the Park and Ride commuter parking area near the intersection of I-75 and Georgetown Road (next to Mapco) in Cleveland, TN, at 9:30 am. Easy walking tour of the facilities at the museum. Learn how coal was transformed to coke and its uses and the operation of 268 ovens and the mines that fed them. The museum opens at 10 am CST. We will have lunch at one of the restaurants in Dunlap after the tour. Drive time one hour 15 minutes. Contact Event Leader Jack Callahan at 423-284-7885.

WALK IN THE WOODS

MARCH 25, 2022 FRIDAY 10 AM JOHNSTON WOODS MCDONALD TN

Meet at Johnston Woods trail parking lot off Hwy 11S near the former Bachman Home at 10 am. We will walk the 1.2-mile trail first, and then the 2.9-trail for a total of 4.2 miles. Considered easy. Hikers may walk one or both trails as they connect at the parking lot. Contact Hike Leader James Anderson 423-715-8824.

HISTORICAL CANEY CREEK TOWN REMAINS

MARCH 28, 2022 MONDAY

Meet at 9 am at the Thunder Rock Campground parking lot. The settlement is on the far side of the Ocoee River just off Hwy 64 and above Parksville Lake. There have been videos made of this former town. You can google "Extinct Town of Caney Creek Polk County TN" to watch them. To reach it by land requires an hour-long each way car shuttle and six-mile hike. The hike is rated moderate with one very steep section and requires a large stream crossing which may be 14 inches deep. Water shoes and hiking poles are highly encouraged. Also bring lunch, water, first aid kit, insect repellent, and camera. Contact Hike Leaders Clare and Ed Sullivan at 404-849-0872 or clare7982@gmail.com. Signup is required as there is a maximum of 12 persons allowed on the hike.

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 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.

· HIKE/EVENT CHANGES/UPDATES

OSWALD DOME *changed to*

DRY POND LEAD TRAIL/SECTION 12 OF THE BENTON MACKAYE TRAIL

MARCH 5, 2022 SATURDAY

See above.

MOUNT PISGAH BACKPACK

MAY 3 - 7, 2022 TUESDAY - SATURDAY

This will be a backpacking hike of the iconic Art Loeb Trail in the Shining Rock Wilderness in North Carolina near Asheville. The total hike is about 31 miles and is considered strenuous. There are scenic views across several miles of peaks with elevations above 6000 feet. A shuttle service will be required and will cost about \$30 per person including the campsite the first night (Mountain High Shuttles, Joel Kitchens, 828-553-0683 and Davidson River Campground). Hike is limited to eight (8) people maximum.

May 3, Day 1 – Drive to Davidson River Campground (about 3.5 hours) and camp the first night there.

May 4, Day 2 – Shuttle to Camp Daniel Boone. Starting elevation about 3500 feet. Hike 7.9 miles to campsite elevation about 5800 feet, gain of about 2300 feet.

May 5, Day 3 – Hike 7.3 miles to Deep Gap Shelter at mile 15.2, 4500 feet elevation, loss of about 1300 feet.

May 6, Day 4 – Hike 6.2 miles to Butter Gap Shelter at mile 21.4, elevation 3100 feet, loss of about 1400 feet.

May 7, Day 5 – Hike 8.7 miles to Davidson River Campground, elevation 2100 feet, loss of about 1000 feet. Drive back to Cleveland.

Contact Hike Leader Buddy Arnold at we_arnold@outlook.com or 601-414-3551 cell.

- NON-CLUB OPPORTUNITIES

SPRING WILDFLOWER PILGRIMAGE IN GSMNP

APRIL 26 - 30, 2022 TUESDAY - SATURDAY

TELLICO/OCOEE VOLUNTEER TRAIL CREW

Check the Facebook page for future work days.

BENTON MACKAYE TRAIL ASSOCIATION

See the calendar for upcoming events.

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

- MINUTES

Meeting Minutes 2-10-22

President James Anderson called the meeting to order after the potluck dinner was finished. He mentioned there were no minutes from the last meeting as it was our annual planning meeting and the planning results for hikes and other activities are posted on the Club website.

Our Treasurer, Jennifer Schroll, presented the monthly financial report. She reported the Club checking account balance is currently \$1777.50. Since the last report we spent \$72.44 on club business cards, \$26.66 on potluck dinner supplies, and made a \$50 donation to the Wesley Memorial Food Pantry for the use of their church for the January planning meeting. A motion to approve the report was made by Jack, seconded by Marc, and the motion carried unanimously.

James reported on his recent hike on the Childer's Creek section of the BMT and Jack gave an overview of the Lookout Wild Film Festival held in Chattanooga.

The following upcoming hikes were announced:

Jack will be leading the visit and hike this coming Saturday to the Sequoyah Birthplace Museum in Vonore. James will lead the Walk in the Woods on 2-15. Randy will lead a hike on Rock Creek or someplace else on 2-19. Jack will lead a hike to Lowery Top on 2-24. Randy will lead a hike up Oswald Dome on 3-5 and Sue will lead a hike on Brush Creek on 3-8.

James also brought up the topic that we may want to consider making other arrangements for our meeting space in Etowah. Tonight we were supposed to meet at the Senior Center as we had in the past but no one ever came to open the facility and let us in, nor did they answer any calls from Ruth as to what was happening. After waiting for awhile we were able to move over to Wesley Memorial Church and meet there. James mentioned we may want to consider changing our future meetings to the Church. He asked Ruth and Clayton to explore that with the Church to see if that might be a possibility and that we could discuss it at the next meeting.

James announced that he still has some Club T-shirts for sale. If a person has not bought one already it is \$18. If this is a second shirt or more those are just \$10 each.

And lastly Jack and Jennifer made an interesting and thorough presentation on an Introduction to Backpacking. There were a number of questions and comments from the audience. Many thanks to them for preparing thoroughly for this.

Sincerely,

James Anderson, President and Secretary