



- NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I would like to thank all the officers who volunteered their time the past year to make the club such a great organization. And a special thank you to James and Phyllis Anderson for their contribution as the leader(s) of the club. And to the new members of the officer cadre--Rob Coombs, who will be the new club Vice President, and Ruth Pannell, Hospitality Director--thank you for volunteering. And to the faithful group of Jennifer Schroll, Judy Price, and Rick Harris, who will continue in their positions, we all thank you.

A special acknowledgement to Otis Pannell, who completed a thru-hike of the Appalachian Trail, following in his father Clayton's footsteps some 27 years later.

I am looking forward to another great year of interesting hikes and events for the club, and, with your continuing participation in leading hikes and your support of monthly club meetings, I know we will have a fun year.

As we approach our annual development of the calendar of events, please help in filling out the year with items. If you just have an idea but may not want to lead a hike or event, contact me and let's discuss. My goal is to keep everyone involved and to plan things that are interesting. If you are unable to make the planning meeting on January 8, 2023, at 2 pm at the Etowah Senior Center, email your proposed hike/event to me and I will include it. Please make the submission complete with all the necessary information.

Please read the requirements for submission of information to the newsletter.

Remember, dues are due! Still just \$15 per year per family household. The newsletter mailing list will be updated in March, and those who have not paid will be dropped off.

If at any time you have a question about the club, do not hesitate to give me a call!

Jack Callahan, Club President

- UPDATE

The [Chattanooga Times Free Press](#) published a story on Otis and Clayton Pannell's thru-hikes 27 years apart!

Also, [Ramdino Hiking the Trails](#), whose YouTube channel covers all things Appalachian Trail, featured Otis and Clayton's story in his recent update video. Scrub to 5:16 to see it.



And, [Shutterbug's Adventures](#), who started a 2023 AT NOBO hike, has a photo of Otis "Rude" and "Daddy Long Legs" in their recent video. Scrub to 0:16 to see it.

- TENNESSEE STATE PARKS

[Tennessee State Parks](#) has now made available **FREE** offline GPS maps for use on the [Avenza Maps](#) app.

HOW TO USE AVENZA MAPS

1. Find a park and click on the link for Offline-Use GPS Map.
2. The link will prompt you to download the Avenza app from the [Apple App](#) or [Google Play](#) store.
3. Once downloaded, allow the app to use your location.
4. Download your free maps.
5. Open the Avenza App and use your map during your next hike!

- PAST EVENTS

DUTCH SETTLEMENT DECEMBER 17, 2022



A lively group of 14 club members and friends met at TVA Sugarloaf picnic area and made the drive to Pace Gap to begin the hike to the old Dutch Settlement. The area was settled in the 1840s by a small number of German, Swiss and Dutch families. The inhabitants gradually concurred the small valley and cleared land, planted orchards and grew gardens, and were self-sufficient. Their children walked about two miles through the woods to a school at the Sylco settlement. Over time, the families began to move out and the Forest Service purchased the land in the 1930s. The hike followed the original wagon road trace to the site of the former Beckler home, one of the longtime residents.



All that remains are some of the corner stones of the log home, as well as chimney stones and evidence of the root cellar. After a discussion of the history and a lunch in the field surrounding the homesite, the group made their way back up the abandoned wagon road to Pace Gap. From here, the group retraced their route and made a stop at the former site of CCC Camp 1452 in the Sylco area. With GPS coordinates and references from a 1934 USGS topo map, the group found the remains of the dam on Sylco Creek. This dam was built by the enrollees for a "swimming hole" to enjoy in their limited free time. There are other interesting remains in the Sylco area which will be explored on another trip. Hikers making the trip included Judy Price, Jennifer Schroll, Charlene Sudore, Judy Norton, Evelin Yarns, Doug Yarns, Clare Sullivan, James Anderson, Cindy Stimmel, Harry Stimmel, Gayle Drummond, James Drummond, Clayton Webster, and Event Leader Jack Callahan. - Jack Callahan



ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY DECEMBER 10, 2022

See the minutes below for details on the festivities!





STARR MOUNTAIN DECEMBER 19, 2022



It was a quite chilly day for the hike up Starr Mountain. Hike Leader James Anderson and Don Bennett completed the 6.5 mile out-and-back hike. The first mile or so of the trail was in good shape but the remainder was in great need of maintenance. A number of blowdowns, briar, and undergrowth encroachment, as well as the trail tread disappearing, were just a few of the challenges facing the hikers. Although it was challenging, the pair made it to the top where they had lunch, rested a bit, and enjoyed the view. Along the way, they noticed an interesting "sapcicle" oozing from a downed tree! - James Anderson

ENTERPRISE SOUTH NATURE PARK DECEMBER 26, 2022



Five hikers--visitors Kathy Thelen and Tim S., and members Mitchell Schroll, Jennifer Schroll, and Hike Leader Judy Price--met up at the Enterprise South Nature Park Visitor Center to begin a four-mile hike on the nature trails. Projected snow flurries never materialized while we were hiking. We started on Upper Poe Run and hiked to the hidden lake, passing bunkers where TNT had been stored when the site was the Volunteer Army Ammunition Plant. We took a short break at the lake.



The lake was frozen, so Jennifer bravely walked out to "test the waters" (pun intended). Too bad we forgot our ice skates. We then returned on Deer Hollow Trail and Poe Run to the trailhead. We appreciate our visitors joining us! - Judy Price



WEDNESDAY WALKS ON THE CLEVELAND GREENWAY



Every Wednesday Jennifer Schroll and Jack Callahan lead a 3.75 mile walk on the Cleveland Greenway. Everyone is welcome to join in and get some exercise! - Jack Callahan



THIRD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH BREAKFAST



Each month club members gather for breakfast at Old Fort Restaurant for coffee and great meal options. Topics range from upcoming hikes to which way the compass needle points when south of the equator. It is a fun time and everyone is invited. (The arrow still points north by the way.) - Jack Callahan

- UPCOMING EVENTS

NOTE: Event schedule subject to change according to guidance from governmental agencies and offices regarding health and safety, weather, or other conditions. An email will be sent to members if an event is canceled.

FENTON FOREST ON BAUXITE RIDGE

JANUARY 1, 2023 SUNDAY COLLEGEDALE TN

We will leisurely hike the two-mile, easy picturesque Sabbath Trail loop and then, if we want to continue hiking, we will hike the one-mile Oak Hole Lane back to the main trailhead junction. There is a short steep uphill at the beginning to the trailhead junction (and downhill on the way back). A trailhead restroom facility was being built recently so we shall see if it's finished! Contact Hike Leader Judy Price at cherokeehikingclub@gmail.com for information on meetup time and place.

WHITE OAK MOUNTAIN TRAILS

JANUARY 5, 2023 THURSDAY COLLEGEDALE TN

We will leisurely hike approximately three easy-to-moderate miles from Trailhead #1. Anyone who wants to continue hiking on the many trails is free to do so but will need to provide their own transportation. There are restroom facilities at the trailhead (if they are unlocked). Contact Hike Leader Judy Price at cherokeehikingclub@gmail.com for information on meetup time and place.

ANNUAL PLANNING MEETING

JANUARY 8, 2023 SUNDAY 2 PM ETOWAH TN SENIOR CENTER

Do you want to lead a hike or event? If so, bring your ideas to our annual planning meeting! Be sure to include all details in writing to turn in including date, time, description, hike difficulty, entrance fees, etc. If you cannot attend, you may email the information to cherokeehikingclub@gmail.com. See you there!

LOOKOUT WILD FILM FESTIVAL

JANUARY 12 - 15, 2023 THURSDAY - SUNDAY WALKER THEATER CHATTANOOGA, TN

The 2023 Lookout Wild Film Festival presented by TEREN is January 12-15 at the Walker Theater in Chattanooga (the Tivoli is closed for renovations).

Over the span of 4 days, we will show over 80 great outdoor adventure and conservation from 35 countries. Our goal has always been and continues to be showcasing wild places and the people they inspire.



Jack Callahan will lead the annual club trip to Chattanooga to enjoy another great weekend of outdoor films from around the world. This presentation is always memorable. If you have questions contact Jack at 423-284-7885.

WESTMORE OUTDOOR EXPO

JANUARY 27, 2023 FRIDAY WESTMORE CHURCH OF GOD CLEVELAND TN

The Westmore Outdoor Expo and Dinner will be held on Friday, January 27, 2023, at the Westmore Church of God recreation facility at 2440 Legacy Parkway in Cleveland. The club will have an exhibit again this year and anyone who would like to volunteer to represent the club and answer attendees' questions is welcomed. Jack and Margaret Callahan will organize the display, utilizing the excellent one prepared by the Andersons last year. Jennifer Schroll has volunteered to help also. Setup will begin at 4:30 pm and be completed by 5:00 pm. Doors open at 6:00 pm and the meal will begin at 7:00 pm. Tickets are \$20 per person. Anyone interested should call or text Jack at 423-284-7885.

CHILDERS CREEK SECTION TRAIL MAINTENANCE

JANUARY 28, 2023 SATURDAY BIG BEND TRAILHEAD RELIANCE TN

Calling all Cherokee Hiking Club Volunteers! Hopefully all of you remember that our Club has officially adopted the section of the Benton MacKaye Trail (BMT)/John Muir NRT known as the Childers Creek section to help maintain. This section is in real need of some treadwork restoration along the part of the trail where it goes around a rock bluff area about halfway in. I'm very pleased to announce that we have a commitment from the larger BMTA maintenance group to help us with that work. With weather permitting, we plan to do this work on Saturday, January 28. So, I hope that a number of you will put this important date on your calendar and show up to help out. Presently, the plans are to meet at the Big Bend parking area on the Hiwassee River to begin our workday and to have some food afterward. I will let you know more later about the specific meeting time, etc. Again, please put this on your calendar and come help us as this is a Club project. Feel free to contact James Anderson at 423-715-8824 if you have any questions.

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.

- NON-CLUB OPPORTUNITIES

TENNESSEE STATE PARKS FIRST DAY HIKES

JANUARY 1, 2023 SUNDAY

“Start the New Year off right this year! Bring your family and friends and make a #resolutiontohike and connect with the outdoors at Tennessee State Parks.”

GEORGIA STATE PARKS FIRST DAY HIKES

JANUARY 1, 2023 SUNDAY

“...Georgia State Parks and Historic Sites, ...will once again be celebrating with First Day Hike.”

NORTH CAROLINA STATE PARKS FIRST DAY HIKES

JANUARY 1, 2023 SUNDAY

“We hope you’ll join...one of our official First Day trail events!”

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

December 10, 2022

The club held its annual Christmas party at Heat N Eat at Bradley Square Mall. There was great attendance of 40 club members and the meal was catered by our own Jennifer Schroll. Jennifer is an excellent cook and prepared a meal of fried turkey, ham, and all the trimmings, including a variety of pies and desserts. Randy Morris gave the blessing, and everyone enjoyed the bountiful array of food. Afterwards, the outgoing president, James Anderson, gave gifts of appreciation to the outgoing officers. Jack Callahan in turn presented James and his wife, Phyllis, with gifts for their two years as president and first lady. Then the program was turned over to Jennifer, who performed the induction ceremony for the incoming officers with a wonderful skit using paper chains to unite the club and officers together. New officers are Jack Callahan, President; Rob Coombs, Vice-President; Jennifer Schroll, Treasurer; Rick Harris, Webmaster; Judy Price, Newsletter Editor; and Ruth Pannell, Hospitality Director. Gail and Edmond Gray then took over the program with their usual flawless handling of the Dirty Santa gift giving. Afterwards, James made a few comments and mentioned the upcoming hike to the Dutch Settlement. Then he turned the program over to Jack, who mentioned the Lookout Wild Film Festival; the planning meeting on January 8, 2023; and the upcoming article in the Chattanooga Times Free Press, which features Otis and Clayton Pannell for their Appalachian Trail thru-hike accomplishments. The meeting completed, everyone pitched in to help clean up the facility.

Jack Callahan, President and Secretary