

- NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I want to thank all the officers past and present for the excellent job of making the club a great organization. I look forward to the coming year as we have such a variety of club events and we have more new members to add to our breadth of knowledge of the outdoors. There are several campouts planned and, if you want to join in on these, I suggest you make your reservations as the choice spots fill quickly. Also, if you plan on joining in on backpacking or canoe trips, please let the Event Leaders know as it helps immensely in planning. Most of these activities have a limited number of slots; if you want to participate, get your name on the respective lists. We have speakers lined up for most of the club meetings so be sure to check the calendar and attend and let the speaker know you appreciate their effort.

Dues are due...we will be purging the rolls this year; if you have not paid up, you will be dropped and no longer receive the newsletter. Send a \$15 check to 1295 Crown Street NW, Cleveland, TN 37312. Still quite the bargain!

When you plan to attend any event, contact the Event Leader to let them know. That way, if there is a last-minute cancellation due to inclement weather, site closures, or other unscheduled happenings, you can be contacted. Also, knowing who is attending helps ensure that the hike will get off on time.

The club event calendar has many activities, but there will always be additions. These will be sent to the members by way of email. (They will also be added to the newsletter and website, time permitting.)

If you ever have a question about any club activity, please contact me or the Event Leader. If I do not know the answer, I will make every effort to get you one.

Stay safe and see you soon.

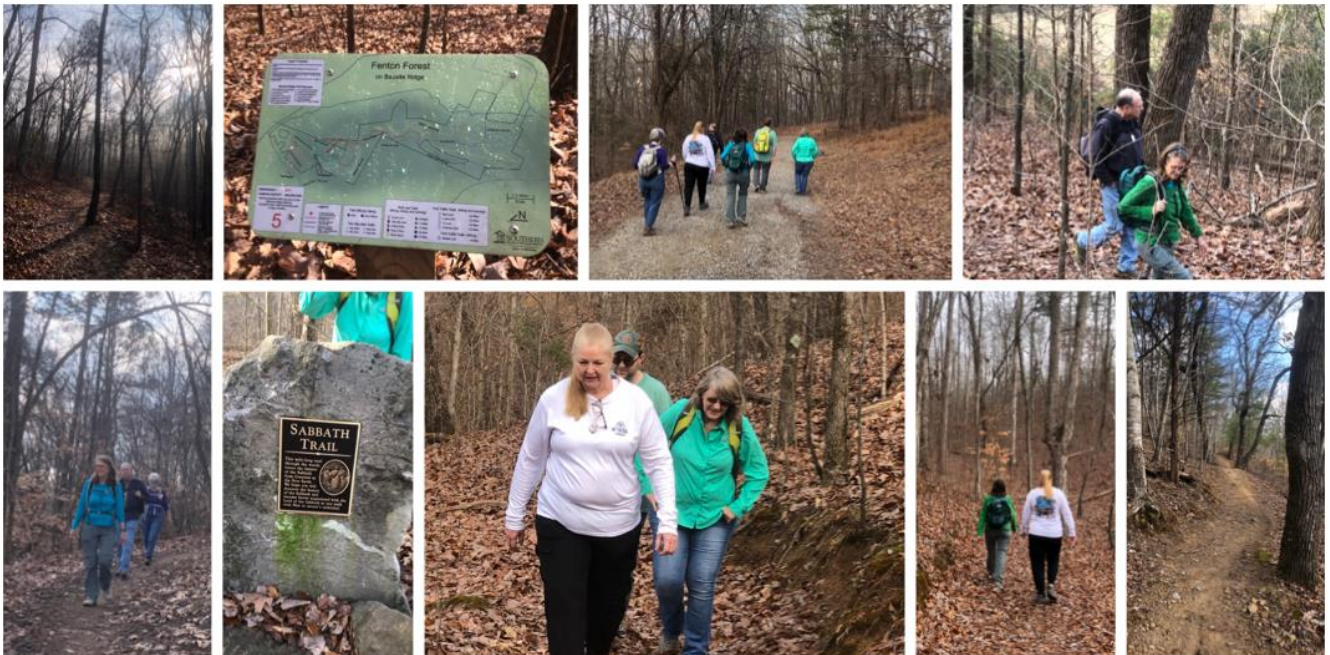
Jack Callahan, Club President

- PAST EVENTS

FENTON FOREST ON BAUXITE RIDGE JANUARY 1, 2023



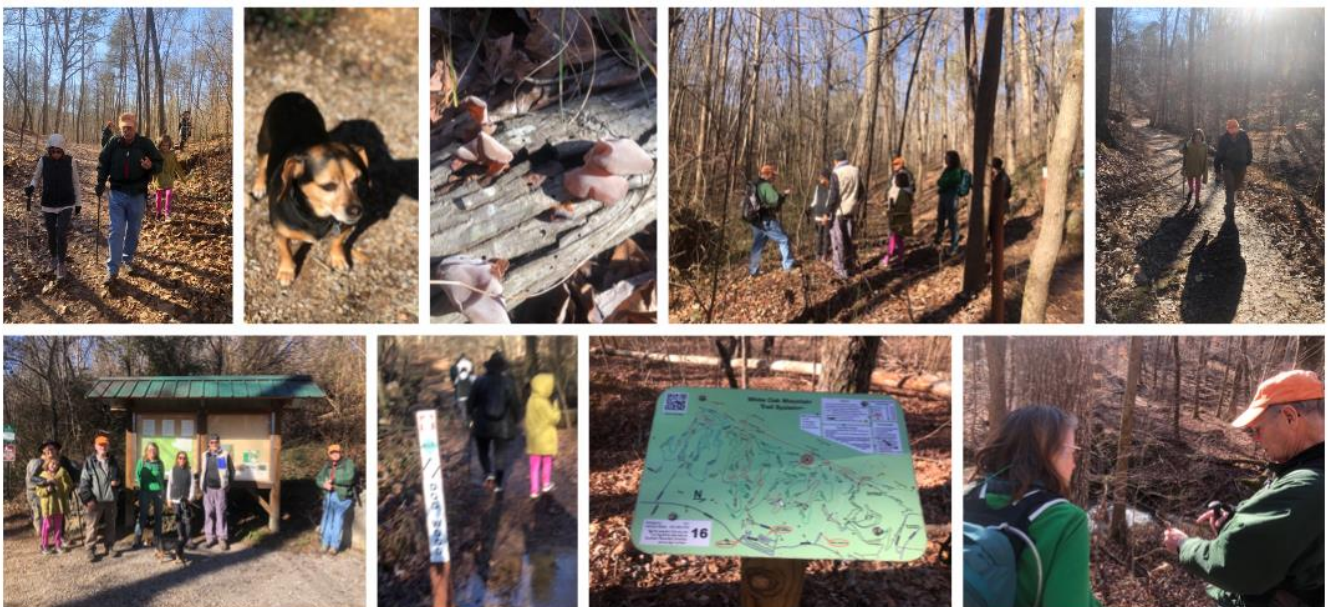
We had a great group of hikers for our First Day Hike! The weather was foggy and atmospheric to start, then suddenly the sun burst through! We inspected the new pavilion being built at the trailhead; then we started hiking the Sabbath Trail, part of Southern Adventist University's trails system. It's an easy two-mile walking-only trail with picturesque bridges and views of pastures and the campus. We saw mahonia full of berries and many mushrooms. We finished by hiking one mile on Oak Hole Lane bike trail as we listened to the train whistle. It was a fantastic way to begin the new year! Visitors Kelly Ducham and Rebecca Parker joined members Jack and Margaret Callahan, Jennifer Schroll, Mitchell Schroll, and Hike Leader Judy Price. - Judy Price



WHITE OAK MOUNTAIN TRAILS JANUARY 5, 2023



Nine hikers (including one canine!) met at Trailhead #1 in Collegedale on a beautiful day. This is a complex trail system available to hikers, runners, and mountain bikers on Southern Adventist University's campus. There are map signposts at each trail junction (as on Fenton Forest on Bauxite Ridge). We began hiking on Dogwood Lane, walking along the creek, crossing bridges, and pointing out mushrooms, lichens, and wildflowers such as crane fly orchids. We took the trail to the end (Trailhead #2), then backtracked to the Six Shooter trail junction where several trails meet. One member of our group had sat there and waited on us, so we gathered back together and returned on Rolling Green. Jack pointed out wood ear mushrooms and a branch cut by a girdle beetle. Then, as the sun shone on us, we reached the trailhead after hiking about three miles. We had a wonderful group: Guests Lauren Thomas and River Hanberry; and members Kelly Ducham, Rob and Janet Coombs, Bob Dornfeld and Smoky, Jack Callahan, and Hike Leader Judy Price. - Judy Price



ANNUAL PLANNING MEETING JANUARY 8, 2023



The club met at the Etowah Senior Center for the annual development of the event calendar. This year, we had a great turnout and a lot of interesting events were placed in the calendar. The year 2023 will be a great year with hikes, backpacking trips, a canoe trip, and several camping trips to local and neighboring state parks. This year, we will be adding a couple of birding events as we have birders in the club! There will also be numerous speakers at the club meetings and several slide presentations. The door prize this month at the meeting was won by Leslie Auriemmo. Don't forget to sign the signup sheet to be eligible to win! - Jack Callahan



LOOKOUT WILD FILM FESTIVAL JANUARY 14, 2023

Jack and Margaret Callahan attended the film festival again this year on Saturday night. There were some wonderful films about rock climbing (from some men from Soddy-Daisy/Sale Creek), trail construction of mountain bike routes, biking in the footsteps of some Buffalo Soldiers, ice climbing, and more. There was a presentation given to a man who overcame severe spinal damage and learned to walk and rock climb again, as well as one about the oldest AT hiker. The photography was excellent. Looking forward to next year! - Jack Callahan



WEDNESDAY WALKS ON THE CLEVELAND GREENWAY



Every Wednesday, Jack Callahan and Jennifer Schroll lead a 3.75 mile walk on the Cleveland Greenway. The walk begins at 4:30 pm on the greenway in front of Perkits Yogurt in the Cookes Food Store shopping center. The walk usually takes about 1.25 hours. We walk rain or shine. For information, contact Jack Callahan at 423-284-7885. • Jack Callahan

THIRD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH BREAKFAST



The third Thursday of each month, Jack Callahan and Gail and Edmond Gray host breakfast at the Old Fort Restaurant in Cleveland on 25th Street. Breakfast begins at 8:30 am and everyone is invited. Contact Jack Callahan at 423-284-7885 for information. • 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 or text from the Hike or Event Leader will be sent to those who signed up if an event is changed or canceled.

A WALK IN THE WOODS

FEBRUARY 3, 2023 FRIDAY 10 AM JOHNSTON WOODS MCDONALD TN

This is a walk using the two loops at the Johnston Woods Retreat off Highway 11 just south of Cleveland. Meet at the trailhead at 10 am. The first loop is 1.2 miles and the second is 2.9 miles for a total of 4.2 miles if you walk both. It is considered easy with little elevation change. It passes through both pine and hardwood forests and provides a pleasant hike close to town. Contact Hike Leader James Anderson at 423-715-8824 if you want to be advised of any changes and/or hike cancellation. If that isn't an issue for you, then you can just show up at the trailhead parking area at the designated time. Please note that the hike begins at different times depending on the season:

- February 3 at 10 am
- April 28 at 9 am
- July 16 at 8 am
- November 17 at 10 am

MONTHLY CLUB MEETING

FEBRUARY 9, 2023 THURSDAY 6 PM ETOWAH TN SENIOR CENTER

Bring your favorite dish for the potluck dinner. The club will furnish drinks, cups, and eating utensils. The program is **Navigation of Trails Part One** (basics of reading a USGS topographic map, with a discussion on contour lines, map scale, and magnetic declination to name a few by Jack Callahan and a discussion on compass/map navigation by Jennifer Schroll). This presentation will be an introductory session for the upcoming club event on February 11 at Harrison Bay.

HARRISON BAY STATE PARK MAP AND COMPASS ORIENTEERING COURSE

FEBRUARY 11, 2023 SATURDAY

Put your map and compass skills to the test on this 1.5-mile orienteering course set up at Harrison Bay State Park. Depart from Cleveland Park and Ride commuter parking next to Mapco at I-75 and Hwy 60 at 9 am. Bring a phone to take a picture of the map on the kiosk and bring a compass to keep you "on course." This activity is rated easy, but beware there is not a trail, so some terrain will be rough. Contact Hike Leader Jennifer Schroll at 423-284-1256 or jennifergeologist@gmail.com.

ROCK CREEK TRAIL IN LITTLE FROG WILDERNESS

FEBRUARY 18, 2023 SATURDAY

We will meet at the Thunder Rock Campground parking lot at 9 am for the quick car shuttle to the trailhead. The hike is approximately eight miles beginning at the Rock Creek trailhead on Hwy 64 and returning via the Dry Pond Lead Trail/Benton MacKaye Trail. There is a small stream crossing at Laurel Creek which is usually easy; but crossing Rock Creek will require fording the cold-water stream. Water shoes and hiking poles for balance are highly recommended. Along the way, there should be great views of the nearby mountains as the trail goes up the side of Panther Knob and into the beautiful Pressley Cove where Rock Creek is encountered. This hike is considered strenuous due to the length of the hike and several moderate climbs; **it is not for beginners**. The hike will be canceled in the event of snow/ice on the roads. Contact Hike Leader Randy Morris at 423-650-0485 if you are interested in attending.

RHODODENDRON TRAIL

FEBRUARY 27, 2023 MONDAY

At the Ocoee Whitewater Center. Easy beginner hike of approximately 1.2 miles along the Ocoee River on a graded trail. For meetup time and location contact Hike Leader Clare Sullivan at 404-849-0872 or clare7982@gmail.com

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

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 was brought to order by Jack Callahan and, after a brief business meeting, the development of the club calendar was done. There was great participation and many great events are scheduled for the club. The meeting was concluded at 4:30 pm.

Jack Callahan
President and Secretary