

The Cherokee Hiker

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Cherokee Hiking Club, Inc. • 2349 Varnell Road • Cleveland, TN 37311
www.cherokeehikingclub.org

~CHC Calendar~

July 10	Monthly Meeting
July 12	Cleveland State Trail Construction
July 12	John Muir Trail Maintenance
July 13	Indian Boundary (Sunday)
July 20	Benton Falls (Sunday)

Welcome New Members!!! Mike & Sarah Dorset, Jerry & Sandra Liner and Mary Heather West

JULY HIKES & OTHER EVENTS

July 12 – Cleveland State Nature Trail Construction

Leader – Diana Ristom

Come help us restore the nature trail at Cleveland State! Many hiking club members have used this trail for years, until a recent land sale to developers cut off one end of the loop. We'll dig in a short connector to re-establish the circuit. Some tools are available; please bring a shovel or other implements as desired. Lunch can be at a nearby eatery, or bring it if you wish to eat on the trail.

Meet at Cleveland State in the parking lot by the tennis courts at 7:00 AM. (If this is too early and your coffee hasn't kicked in yet, please be there for the 8:00 shift.) With enough help, we can finish this project on the 12th. Thanks to Suzanne Bennett of Cleveland State for making this volunteer opportunity available.

If you are planning to attend the Cleveland State Trail work trip, please complete the attached Cleveland State Work Release Form. You can fill in the blanks on your computer and print it, or print it and fill it out by hand. Please bring this with you to the outing. If you forget, I'll have extra copies at the campus. Hope to see you there!

July 12 – John Muir Maintenance

Leader: Clayton Pannell

We will be working on the reroute of the John Muir Trail to get the tread way off the road and into the woods! This is a great opportunity to learn trail building skills, camaraderie, get some exercise and otherwise accomplish a great goal. Meet at the Hiwassee Corner Market at the intersection of US 411 and TN 30 near Reliance at 8:30 AM. Tools will be provided. Bring lunch, gloves, water and other trail essentials.

June 13 – Indian Boundary, 3.4 Miles, Easy.

Leader: Clayton Pannell

Meet in Etowah, Bi-Lo Parking lot at 2:00 PM to car pool to Indiana Boundary. We will park in the picnic parking lot, a fee area. The trail around the Indiana Boundary Lake is a bike trail 3.4 mile long, almost level. The beach is near the picnic area and anyone who wishes can go swimming. The lake is a great place to canoe and some people may like to canoe after the hike. If you plan to canoe, please bring your canoe and other necessary equipment. After the hike and activities, we will eat in the picnic area. Please bring food for yourself.

July 20 – Benton Falls, 3.2 Miles, Easy.

Leaders: Edmond & Gail Gray

***NOTE:** As a courtesy, **ALWAYS** contact the hike leader **in advance** of the hike to facilitate planning.*

Club News

June Meeting Minutes: The monthly meeting of the Cherokee Hiking Club was held on June 12, 2008 at Sugarloaf Park in Ocoee with seventeen members and six guests attending. Following a picnic style potluck, President Randy Morris called the business session to order at 7:20 PM. Minutes of the previous meeting were read by Secretary Jane Bohannon. The minutes were approved as read. Treasurer Ann Gray reported a current balance of \$----.

New Business: Bill Ristom and Suzanne Bennett, who supervises landscaping at CSCC, made a proposal for the club to have a day (tentatively planned for July 12) to work on a connector trail on the CSCC campus. The need for this has arisen as a result of part of the trail being cut off when it was sold to developers. Ten people working one morning with shovels, mattocks, and loppers should be able to accomplish this approximate 80 yard project. Bill, Suzanne and James Anderson will organize a plan for this work trip which will include a waiver form. Richard Harris suggested coming up with a plan for a club tee shirt, and he will work on this project. Jane requested that hike leaders who have overlooked turning in hike sign in sheets/release of responsibility forms please turn these in to her for archiving.

Old Business: Randy read a “thank you” note for the club’s donation to Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church Food Pantry. This donation was made at the annual meeting in April. Richard Harris gave a report on the Southeastern Foot Trails Coalition meeting. Funding was discussed since their contract with The American Hiking Society has expired. Increasing individual hiking club membership fees by \$1.00/year was one of the options. It was determined the Coalition will continue.

Hikes completed: See Below

Upcoming hikes: See Above

Since there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

July Club Meeting: The Cherokee Club will have the July 10 monthly meeting picnic style at Sugarloaf Park at 6:30 PM. Bring a covered dish; drinks & ice provided by the club. **Directions:** Take HWY 64 East to Ocoee #1. The park is on the right.

Recent Hike & Event Reports

June 7 – National Trails Day

We had a great National Trails Day event with 29 workers helping build a much needed reroute of the John Muir / Benton MacKaye Trail. We had participants from all four of the sponsoring clubs (Benton MacKaye Trail Association, Chattanooga Hiking Club, Cherokee Hiking Club, and Hiwassee Hiking Club) as well as 5 guests. We started the events of the day with sign-in, awarding T-shirts & door prizes, and a tailgate safety briefing. Worker safety was an especially important consideration since the temperatures hit the mid 90s for the day. With the large number of workers, we split into 3 crews that worked on different tasks and sections of the reroute. One crew worked on brushing out an old road bed, while there were two digging crews working on different side hill segments to construct new tread.

The brush out crew finished cleaning out all of the old road bed (0.15 miles). The lower digging crew finished about 420' of new tread construction, while the smaller in numbers upper digging crew completed 300' of new tread for the day. The day was a wonderful success, with all of the workers performing great in some really difficult conditions. All of the workers completed the day safely, although a few workers suffered some stings when they tangled with some yellow jackets along the way.

Special thanks go out to all of the following workers that made the event so successful. Participants included Stephen Cartwright, Tom Waters, Al, Will & Jack Rymer, Rick & Brenda Harris, Clayton & Cady Pannell, Bill Lundin, George Owen, Ester, Ron & Ryan Nunley, Steve Biatowas, Randy Morris, Jane Bohannon, Eric & Rick Rutledge, Elberta & Ross Broadway, Gary Smith, Ralph Van Pelt, Eric Anderson, Kathy Ryan, Betty Petty, Donald Box, Steve Barnes and crew chief Ken Jones.

~submitted by **Ken Jones**

June 14 – Laurel-Snow Pocket Wilderness

With the possibility of showers in the forecast four hikers set out on the Laurel-Snow Pocket Wilderness hike near Dayton. The day was a bit warm and muggy but as we neared the top of the gorge on our way to Buzzard's Point we did pick up a bit of a breeze. Buzzard's Point is aptly named as there were several buzzards circling round above as we ate our lunch and enjoyed the views of Dayton and the Tennessee River to the east. One of our feathered friends landed and even perched for awhile on a nearby rock out-cropping. To reach the final destination of Laurel Falls we had to hike back down into the gorge then most of the way up the other side. We saw some interesting rock formations and potential swimming holes along the way. Also on the hike we explored the entrance to an old coal mine and saw the pipe that used to supply Dayton with water from a small reservoir. We rested and enjoyed looking at and listening to the falls from the cool of a nearby shade. On our way back to the trail head we stopped to watch some locals diving in one of the many pools that we passed by. After the hike we enjoyed a nice dinner at the Heartland Grill. Those participating in the hike were Evette, Sheila, Randy and James, hike leader.

I would also like to pause for a moment to say that we are going to miss Linda. She was an avid supporter of the club and loved the outdoors. I know we all enjoyed hiking with her and enjoyed her company.

~submitted by **James Anderson**

June 22 – Hiwassee Canoe Trip

Being the outdoor enthusiast and the unselfish person as Linda Davis was, after discussion, we decided that Linda would want us to go and that we would paddle in memory of her. We are sorry for the loss of

Linda, who passed away this past Tuesday, June 17. She had been our fearless canoeing leader and our dearest hiking friend.

We started the canoe and vehicle shuttle at 2:00 PM from where we met at the vacant lot across from Hiwassee Corner Market. Four members paddled from Hiwassee Outfitters to Patty Bridge. The water was choppy enough to make maneuvering interesting. We saw a heron, two kingfishers, an otter swimming on the river and a turtle. The weather was great, but with some head wind at first and threatening clouds.

Thanks for all who turned out for a fun paddling adventure! And they were: Esther & Ron Nunley, Clayton Pannell and Jane Bohannon.

~submitted by Jane Bohannon

She will be missed.....

A few days ago I received an email that literally stopped me in my tracks as I saw the subject line come up on my computer. Our friend & fellow club member Linda Davis had lost her courageous battle with cancer.

Any of us who have been with the club for any length of time have great memories of time spent with Linda. I will never forget a hike on December 3, 2005 out of Twentymile Ranger Station in the Smokies. Due to high water on the creeks, our planned loop hike was changed to a hike up the steep trail toward Shuckstack and the trail's convergence with the AT. Linda took off up the very steep trail at such a fast pace that James, Clayton and I had a hard time keeping up with her - all in a driving, freezing rain. I will always remember my heart thumping wildly in my chest as I strove to accomplish two goals - to not be left behind by Linda and not collapse from a heart attack! Linda's attack of the mountain that day epitomized the way she lived her life - always to its fullest.

I first met Linda several years ago on a Bradley Initiative for Church & Community committee that was planning the first Festival of Cultures in Cleveland. Her drive, and her passions—church, community and hiking—soon became apparent. These passions she kept, and embraced, even while undergoing cancer treatments the past few months - her spirit a courageous testimony to her inner will and faith.

Saturday, November 29 the Cherokee Hiking Club will hike the Chattanooga Riverwalk - a hike that was to be led, as in past years, by Linda. I hope you can join us. Linda loved hiking, and we loved her.

--Randy Morris

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