

The Cherokee Hiker

July 2010 Volume 26, Issue 7

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

~CHC Hike Calendar~

July 11, 2010 – Sunday. Hiwassee Canoe Trip

JULY HIKES

July 11, Sunday – Hiwassee Canoe Trip on the Hiwassee River.

Canoe trip leader: Clayton Pannell. Meet at 2 p.m. at the boat ramp at the Gee Creek Campground; we will float from the Gee Creek Campground to Patty Bridge. Each person will be responsible for their own canoe, life jackets, and other gear. Anyone with a canoe, please let Clayton know if you have room for another person(s) in your canoe. From Gee Creek we will work out the shuttle of vehicles to Patty Bridge to pick up our canoes. Each person will need water, snacks, rain gear and any other lightweight items (preferably waterproof) to help make the trip enjoyable. If interested, please call Clayton at 423-263-9730.

Other hikes in July: be sure to check the club website at <http://www.cherokeehikingclub.org> for more May hikes that may be planned on short notice.

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

OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST

July Monthly Club Meeting: At the June club meeting it was decided to not have a July club meeting this year since the meeting date was in such close proximity to the 4th of July holiday. The next meeting will be the **August meeting** which will be held at the Quinn Springs Recreation Area off of Highway 30 on August 12 at 6:30 p.m. More information on this meeting will be forthcoming in the August newsletter.

Videos on Bear and Weather Safety in the Smokies. Richard Harris forwarded this link to a page on the Great Smoky Mountains Association website, which has two videos that contain some helpful tips on dealing with bears and the unpredictable weather in the Smoky Mountains:

http://thegreatsmokymountains.org/hike_smokies_challenge. The bear video is entitled “*Day Hiking: & Wildlife*”, and the weather video is entitled “*Day Hiking: Expect the Unexpected*”. They are good videos and each last about 6 minutes each.

Backpacker Magazine will feature the Cherokee Hiking Club, along with other hiking clubs, as part of their new ongoing **Local Hikes Project**. Richard Harris was contacted by phone recently by Backpacker Magazine, after they came across our website, maintained by Richard. The club would be

highlighted, along with several other clubs, in the September issue of Backpacker Magazine, and we also would be highlighted on their website (<http://www.backpacker.com/>). On their site, in a special area dedicated to the Cherokee Hiking Club, our club members can list upcoming hikes and provide trail descriptions, maps, etc., of our favorite hikes, to make this information available to other CHC members and, for certain information that we choose, to the general public. So far the following CHC hikes have been posted: 1) from the Waucheesi Bald via the BMT and the Kirkland Creek Trail to the Bald River Road Trailhead; 2) the Bald River Falls through the Bald River Wilderness and 3) from Waucheesi Bald down the Warrior's Passage NRT to its end on the Old Furnace Road. Included in the hike highlights are a GPS map of the hike trail, a description of the hike and various points of interest, and directions to the trailheads.

To be able to access this hike information, you must be invited to be a member of the "Cherokee Hiking Club" group on the Backpacker website, and then you must register with the Backpacker website, providing a username & password, which is all free. You may have received an invitation from "Trimbleoutdoors.com"; this is not spam, but an invitation from the Backpacker site to join the CHC club there. When you receive the email, open it and just click on the link provided & then register to join the Backpacker website, providing a valid email address, user name and password known only to yourself. After registering, you will see the Cherokee Hiking Club group listed, along with a green "plus" sign and a red "X". To join the Cherokee Hiking Club group, click on the green "plus", and then you will see the CHC group listed as one of your groups. Click on the link for the group to enter the CHC group site. Only CHC group members can see this information, if it is designated as private.

After joining the Backpacker Magazine CHC group, you can return to it any time by going to <http://www.backpacker.com/>, logging in with your email address and password, then scroll down to the "Groups" heading, click on it, and you will see your groups listed. Click on the "Cherokee Hiking Club" group to view or update the club hike information.

If you are interested in joining the Backpacker site's CHC group and posting or viewing hike information, and you either have not received a "Trimbleoutdoors.com" email, or the link did not send you to a site with the Cherokee Hiking Club group listed, please contact Richard Harris, at HarrisRi@aol.com, and he can get the Trimbleoutdoors people to email you with the correct link. For more information, there is a flyer available in PDF format that explains everything in more detail. If you would like a copy of the flyer, please contact either Richard Harris at HarrisRi@aol.com or Rebecca Levings at 310-0523 (cell) or lively@myarbonne.com.

New newsletter attachments policy: attachments will no longer be sent along with the emailed and mailed newsletter, in order to conserve bandwidth for emailed members, and to reduce bulkiness for mailed members and mailing costs for the club. Instead, where available, website links will be listed where the member can download the document or view the web page. Mailed members can go to the local library if their computer or connection does not cooperate or is non-existent. Otherwise, if this is not an available option and the member is really interested in the document, the member can contact Rebecca Levings at 310-0523 or lively@myarbonne.com, to get a hard copy mailed out. The only exception to this policy will be the shared roster, which is periodically mailed or emailed out to club members. The shared roster is about 3 pages long, and shows club members' names, home addresses, phone numbers and email addresses (when available). Only those club members who have designated that this personal information can be viewed by other members will be shown on the shared roster.

Join the rest of the Cherokee Hikers on Facebook! To connect, press the CTRL button on your keyboard, and then click the image below to navigate to the CHC Facebook page.



Recent Hike & Event Reports

Rhododendron Trail – June 13, Sunday. Nine hikers enjoyed the sunny weather for the 2.75 mile hike from Ocoee Powerhouse #3 to the Ocoee Whitewater Center. Along the way we saw several white rhododendron (*rhododendron maximum*), little brown jugs, foamflowers, wild hydrangea, and a few rafters and picnickers. We also did some playing in the river. After touring the Whitewater Center where we enjoyed trail information pamphlets, popsicles, and ice cream we hiked back, played in the water some more and observed a five foot long black snake slithering along the trail. Hiking club members included Jane Bohannon(leader), Clayton Pannell, Joanne Jackson, Rebecca and Brendan Levings. Our guests included Rhonda and Emily Morgan, and Robin and Sarah Steele. Six of our hikers are pictured below.



Editor’s Note: for those interested in wildflowers, there is a website called “Eastern Tennessee Wildflowers”, which is a forum where you can exchange photos & information with other folks who have walked in the woods of Eastern Tennessee and explored the wildflowers. On one of the pages of this site (http://www.easttennesseewildflowers.com/gallery/view_album.php?set_albumName=Spring-Flowers-Woodland-Pink), you can find a short blurb about Little Brown Jugs and more. Scroll down almost to the bottom of the page to find the Little Brown Jug blurb.

Blood Mountain Hike - June 19, Saturday. On a very warm Saturday, eight hikers led Gail Gray up Blood Mountain. Hikers were Edmond Gray, Joanne Jackson, Ken Jones, Randy Morris, Taylor Morris (Randy’s son), Robert Owenby and Clayton Pannell. The Byron Herbert Reece Trail leading up to the Appalachian Trail was new territory for Clayton, Ken and Robert. This was pretty incredible since the three are such experienced hikers. Many wildflowers were in evidence, including Flame Azalea, Mountain Laurel, Fire Pinks, Spiderwort, Buttercups, and Black-Eyed Susan. The picture below displays

some of the beautiful Flame Azaleas along the hike.

We enjoyed a leisurely lunch at the top of the mountain and began the trip back down to the parking lot. It was extremely warm, so we expected many no-shows. This hike should probably be planned in a less hot and humid time of the year in the future. It is a strenuous trip.

The **Boogher Hollow Store** was not forgotten by many at the end of the trip back to our original meeting place (the Hardees in Ocoee).



National Trails Day – June 5, Saturday. The following blurb was published in a recent edition of the Cleveland Banner: “*Observing National Trails Day, from the Cherokee Hiking Club, were David Flower, Deborah Flower and Brenda Harris hiking the Rock Creek Trail.*” Other CHC members that participated included Esther and Ron Nunley, and Jane Bohannon. The blurb was accompanied by this picture:



Cherokee Hiking Club Minutes
June 10, 2010
Ann and Bill Gray's Home

The monthly meeting of the Cherokee Hiking Club was held at 7:00 p.m. on June 10 at Ann and Bill Gray's home. We want to thank the Grays for helping us make a smooth transition from Fletcher Park to their house. Now we know we must reserve a picnic shelter if we want to use Fletcher Park in the future. Twenty-one members and one guest attended. Following our potluck meal, President Randy Morris called the business meeting to order at 8:05 p.m. Minutes of the previous meeting were read by Secretary Jane Bohannon and were accepted as read. Treasurer Ann Gray reported a current balance of \$1, 271. 01.

Old business: A sample copy of the edited **Release of Liability/Hike Sign In form** was discussed and shown. This is to be used for each hike. By initialing the "**Permission to Use Photos**" box, hikers are giving permission to post their photo on the Cherokee Hiking Club website or on the CHC Facebook page or on any other club publicity.

New business: Rebecca Levings, newsletter editor, discussed **HughesNet** (<http://www.hughesnet.com/>) for members who can't get broadband internet service. **HughesNet** currently is offering free installation for a limited time. Rebecca also asked for input as to how to decrease the length of the newsletter. Brief statements of the topic along with attachments and links were suggested.

Jane made a motion to omit the July meeting and the motion was seconded. Carol Guhne made a motion to have the **August meeting** at the **Quinn Springs Picnic Area** and the motion was seconded. Jane will make reservations for the picnic shelter.

Hikes completed: The following hikes have been completed since the last meeting: Whigg Meadow, Starr Mountain, the Greenway and Tinsley Park in Cleveland. Clayton Pannell and Kathy Seymour participated in work trips on National Trails Day. The Rock Creek Trail and Old Copper Road were also worked on by some Cherokee Hiking Club members on National Trails day, as part of the celebration at the Whitewater Center.

Upcoming hikes: The following hikes are scheduled prior to our next meeting: Piney River, Rhododendron Trail, Blood Mountain, Cucumber Gap, Lower Hiwassee River Canoe Trip, Raven Cliffs, and Gregory Bald.

Next meeting: The next monthly meeting will be at the **Quinn Springs Picnic Area on Thursday, August 12 at 6:30 p.m.**

Directions to the August 12 meeting: From Hwy. 411 at Hiwassee Corner Market, turn onto Hwy 30 going toward Reliance. If you are traveling North on Hwy 411, Hwy 30 will be a right turn. If traveling south on Hwy 411, Hwy 30 will be a left turn. In approximately two miles turn right to enter the **Quinn Springs Picnic Area** which is labeled with a **large sign**. There is only one shelter and it has been reserved for us to use.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Bohannon, Secretary

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