



## Smoky Mountains Hiking Club      Schedule for May 2007

(Extracted from the published Newsletter\*)

\*The printed Newsletter sent to members and subscribers also contains reports of hikes done, info on new members, full names of leaders plus e-addresses, plus the Appalachian Trail Maintainers Newsletter. To subscribe: \$10 to SMHC, Box 1454, Knoxville, TN 37901. (If start after August issue, subscription is good through next year.) After one signs in on 3 Club hikes (or 2 A.T. Work trips) an application for membership is provided.

Newsletter Editor: Charlie Klabunde (865) 483-8055  
**Area Code, unless otherwise noted, is 865.**

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### CONTENTS: Items listed here for May

<b>5 - Sat</b>	AT Worktrip
<b>6 - Sun</b>	Stillhouse Hollow- W. Prong & Dorsey Branch Trails <off trail>
<b>12 - Sat</b>	Up Dry Sluice Manway- AT- Down Wooly Tops <off trail>
<b>19-20 - S&amp;S</b>	Car Camp: Fall Creek Falls State Park
<b>28 - Mon</b>	Max Patch to Lemon Gap

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### **A T WORKTRIP / Volunteer Training** **May 5 – Saturday** **See ATMNews for details**

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### **STILLHOUSE HOLLOW TO WEST PRONG AND DORSEY BRANCH TRAILS** **May 6 – Sunday**

Because it is no longer possible to get around the falls of Stillhouse Hollow Branch except via treacherous steep climbs, a new route to get above the falls will be used. From the tip of the sharp bend in the road 1.0 mile past the Tremont Institute entry, we will climb the gentle ridge paralleling the road and the Hollow. At a point safely past the falls we climb down to the little creek and walk it for a while. A shortcut along the right bank takes us to the mouth of a smaller hollow up which we go to find the gap at head of the nameless creek we'll follow down to the West Prong Trail. Some places along this creek are challenging, especially if the water level is up.

On reaching the West Prong Trail, very close to the West Prong, we could cross the prong's foot log for lunch (if not eaten earlier), before climbing the trail around Fodderstack Mountain. Just beyond the high point, we find the no-longer-labeled Dorsey Branch Trail (well-maintained by Institute personnel). This takes us out a ridge, down Bearsign Branch and back to the West Prong Trail trailhead (across from Institute entry) where we will have shuttled cars from our starting point. Long pants are recommended for the off trail.

Meet at **Alcoa Food City** <see list> to leave at 8:00 AM. Round trip mileages: drive- 82, hike- 4.4. Rated fairly difficult due to some steep-hillside traverses.

Leaders: Charlie 483-8055 klabundece@aol.com      Bob 693-6522 rehawthorne@comcast.net

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### **THE SAWTOOTH TRAVERSE VIA DRY SLUICE MANWAY AND WOOLY TOPS** **May 12 – Saturday**

This strenuous all-day off trail hike offers the challenges and rewards of traveling in the heart of the Smokies wilderness. We will begin in the Greenbrier following the Porters Creek Trail to its end and continuing up the manway to the A.T. at Dry Sluice Gap. Then it's 3.5 miles on trail along the crest past the Saw Teeth to Laurel Top. Here we leave the A.T. and descend along a ridge, down then up to the flat open forest summit of Wooly Tops. Our route will then descend steeply northwest into the Kalinu Prong watershed where there is an old-growth forest and we can find a well-used manway back out into the main valley.

Due to the extreme conditions and endurance level required, anyone interested in this trip must call and talk with one of the leaders ahead of time to learn the meeting times and places.

Leaders: Alan 908-9867      Dick 483-3792 rhketelle@comcast.net

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\*\*\*>>> MID-WEEK HIKES <<<\*\*\*

**Three May Wednesdays**

**May 2 - Porters Creek** 7.5 mi Meet at 8:00 at Alcoa Food City  
**May 23 - Roundtop Trail** 7.5 mi Meet at 8:00 at Alcoa Food City  
Joy 690-5958 rkgator@comcast.net & Angie 947-1534 angiewarren\_66@comcast.net

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**May 9 - AT work day.** Meet Alcoa Food City 9:00 or Sugarlands V.C. 10:00. Bring work gloves, lunch, rain gear. Tools supplied. Lucinda 945-1441 lucindaturbeville@comcast.net

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**LITTLE RIVER**

**EASY, Short Hike:** **May 19 - Saturday** 4.6 miles  
Elkmont to Cucumber Gap Trail junction & back. A creek walk, a flower walk and a history walk all in one.  
Meet 8:30 AM at Alcoa Food City Rae 558-9154 knxrae@aol.com

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**FALL CREEK FALLS STATE PARK CAR CAMP**

**May 19-20 – Saturday-Sunday**

Come join us for a weekend outdoors. This would be a good trip to bring along the kids, friends, parents, etc. The park has hiking and biking trails, a museum, a lake for fishing and boating and scenic areas to drive to. You can also just relax at camp and do nothing. We have the option of short and/or long hikes (by stringing short trails together) and will adjust the plan to suit the group. Give us a call if you are interested in going.

Leaders: Gary & Dee 423/344-5772

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**MAX PATCH TO LEMON GAP AND BACK**

**May 28 – Monday**

This will be a joint hike with the Carolina Mountain Club (CMC). The hike will start at the parking lot below the large grassy bald of Max Patch and follow the Appalachian Trail (AT) north for a little over 5 miles to Lemon Gap. Along the way we will see the new shelter that was recently built by the CMC. Once at Lemon Gap, we will return via the same section of the AT. This hike offers potential wildflower viewing and, depending on the weather, possibly fantastic views from the summit of Max Patch at two different times of the day.

Meet at the **Asheville Hwy Food Lion** <see list> to leave at 7:30 AM. Round trip mileages: drive-150, hike- 10.8, rated moderate.

Leaders: Mark & Heather 693-9795 mark.shipley@townoffarragut.org

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**COMING EVENTS - June**

2 - Sat National Trails Day: AT Work  
2 - Sat Enloe Creek Trail via Hyatt Ridge  
9 - Sat Hot Dog- Ice Cream- Dessert Social and Hike  
16-17 - S&S Backpack: Grassy Ridge Bald (Roan)  
17 - Sun Wolf Ridge- Gregory Bald- Long Hungry Ridge  
30 - Sat Mt. LeConte via Cannon Creek

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**MEETING PLACES:** "Asheville Hwy Food Lion"= From exit 394 ramp off I-40 go left (east) out Asheville Hwy, US-11E/25W/70, 1.0 mi to signal light; turn left, then right into Food Lion lot ( not visible from Hwy intersection). Park along front edge, to left of entry. Far east side of Knoxville

"Food City in Alcoa"= on right between 3rd & 4th stoplight (on Hall Rd., TN 35), just before Big Lots- where we are not wanted.

"Sugarlands Visitor Center" = in the Park at junction of Newfound Gap Road and Little River Road.

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