

## Smoky Mountains Hiking Club Schedule for October 2008

(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. (New Subscriptions are not available now — See lead Article below.)

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Area Code, unless otherwise noted, is 865.

### SMHC Membership Now Open to All

To make SMHC Membership more inclusive, the SMHC Board of Directors decided on 7/7/08 to drop the "traditional 3-hikes rule" as a requirement for basic membership in the club.

>>Please see our new Brochure for details on joining SMHC. <<

#### CONTENTS: Items listed here for October

- 4 - Sat A.T. Work Trip (?)
- 5 - Sun Lone Mtn State Forest
- 8 - Wed Max Patch
- 11 - Sat The Hangover from Big Fat Gap
- 11 - Sat EZ: A New Knoxville Greenway
- 17 - Fri Fall Photo Show & Contest Results (Knoxville)
- 18\* - Sat Mt. Cammerer via McFalls Branch & Groundhog Ridge Manway
- 19 - Sun A.T.: Stecoah Gap to Wesser
- 22 - Wed Hemphill Bald via Hemphill Bald Trail
- 26 - Sun Hooper Bald- Huckleberry Knob, & Falls Branch Falls

#### A.T. WORK TRIP October 4 – Saturday

See ATMNews for details of this very short trip.

>>NOTICE:: The listed task is already done. Call for info on new task.<<

#### LONE MOUNTAIN STATE FOREST October 5 - Sunday

The club first did a hike in this state forest near Wartburg in 1997 and has done several others since then. A tornado in November 2002 destroyed part of the forest, the results of which still can be seen today. We will start on the back side of the forest going up the Longest Mile Trail and have lunch at Coyote Point and come back on Southwest Trail, Horseshoe Flats, Sawmill Trail and part on a gravel road to complete the loop.

Meet at **NOAA in Oak Ridge** <see list> at 9:00. Round trip mileages: drive- 49 {8¢=\$3.90}, hike- 9. Rated moderate.

Leaders: Elsie 584-1705 bedodson06@comcast.net Jean 483-9862 jbangham@comcast.net

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

##### Two October Wednesdays

**Oct 8** - Max Patch; A.T. 11.6 mi 8 AM Asheville Hwy

**Oct 22** - Hemphill Bald; H.B. Trail 9.2 mi 8 AM Food City Alcoa

Bobby 621-1646 whiteblazing@yahoo.com

#### A NEW KNOXVILLE GREENWAY

**EASY, Short Hike: October 11- Saturday** ~2 miles

Meet: entrance to U.T. Horticulture Garden on Neyland Dr. at 9:00

Elsie 584-1705 bedodson06@comcast.net

**THE HANGOVER FROM BIG FAT GAP**  
**October 11 – Saturday**

The hike starts at Big Fat Gap and passes through Grassy Gap at 1.5 miles. A fire down on the east slope of Hangover Lead resulted in the Forest Service cutting a helispot in Grassy Gap, leaving a mess. They plan to clear the debris out of the gap, and may have already done so. We'll see. One benefit for this hike is, the firefighters used the trail to access the fire, so cleared out the blowdowns. At any rate, this is a great and invigorating hike, with tremendous views and the possibility of seeing a Raven and even a Peregrine Falcon on the top. Always, Chimney Swifts.

Meet to leave at 8:00 from the **Maryville ex-Bi-Lo** <see list>. Round trip mileages: drive- 94 {8¢=\$7.50} *beware the 'Dragon'*, hike- 5.6, rated strenuous, with a 2200' climb.

Leaders: Jim 828-479-9271 [jhlowejr@hotmail.com](mailto:jhlowejr@hotmail.com)

Karen 984-4560 [heartwork4@gmail.com](mailto:heartwork4@gmail.com)

Robby 983-1985 [robbypaul@hotmail.com](mailto:robbypaul@hotmail.com)

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**FALL PHOTO SHOW**  
**October 17 - Friday**

Did you or a fellow hiker enter the photo contest? This is a great chance to see where your fellow hikers have been visiting throughout the year and to socialize. All photo entries will be on display. Winners will be announced and prizes awarded. Complete details about the contest are on p.48 of our Handbook or on our website. Entry drop off window is between SEPT 15th and OCT 3rd at ~~either~~ Thompson Photo Products location. Or if you've had a wonderful trip this year, and would like to bring slides or digitals (on CD or USB flash drive) to share for the evening- Please do!

Meet at 6:30 PM at the TN Valley Unitarian Church, 2931 Kingston Pike, Knoxville. This is a fun evening open to all. A \$2 donation is requested, and please bring snacks or drinks to share.

Info: Nan 392-1212 [tallwatersdsl@gmail.com](mailto:tallwatersdsl@gmail.com).

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**MOUNT CAMMERER VIA MCFALLS BRANCH AND GROUNDHOG RIDGE MANWAY**  
**October 18 - Saturday** (note date change)

An opportunity to enjoy a gorgeous 360-degree panorama of the fall colors of the Appalachians and the Tennessee Valley will await those who venture along this off-trail hike up the northern slope of Mt Cammerer, located at the northeastern end of the Smokies. We will drive to Cosby and continue east along TN-32 to where it crosses McFalls Branch, our hike's starting point. This all-off-trail hike may be just a short, 5-mile round trip outing, but it will come packed with a healthy 2,500-foot climb to the beautiful wood and stone Mt Cammerer fire tower at 4,928' with some special views along the way. After enjoying lunch at the tower, we will retrace our steps back down to where the fun began.

Meet at **Asheville Hwy Food Lion** <see list> at 8 AM, or the Cosby entrance to the park at 9. Round trip mileages: drive- 120 {8¢=\$9.60}, hike- 3. Rated difficult. NOTE: Rain will cancel this hike—in deference to the fragile upper part of the manway, which we don't want to damage further.

Leaders: Steven 828-651-8165 [samiller71@rocketmail.com](mailto:samiller71@rocketmail.com)

Charlie 483-8055 [klabundece@aol.com](mailto:klabundece@aol.com)

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**STECOAH GAP to WESSER on the A.T.**  
**October 19 – Sunday**

The route covers 13.6 miles with 1500' elevation gain up to Cheoah Bald and about 3000' downhill to Wesser. This is a great opportunity to see what a good job the SMHC A.T. maintainers are doing in the Nantahala NF. Some great fall views can be expected along the way.

Leave from either the **ex-Bi-Lo in Maryville** <see list> at 7:30 AM, or the Smokies Sugarlands Visitor Center at 8:00. Drive 120 miles RT {8¢=\$9.60}. A car shuttle will be arranged between Wesser and Stecoah Gap. Rated difficult.

Leaders: Tim 607-6781 [bigelowt2@mindspring.com](mailto:bigelowt2@mindspring.com)

Ed 436-4719 [edwrdfm@aol.com](mailto:edwrdfm@aol.com)

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**HOOPER BALD - HUCKLEBERRY KNOB**  
**and FALLS BRANCH FALLS**  
**October 26 – Sunday**

The Cherohala Skyway is a fall color wonderland and the drive to the trail will be just as scenic. At 7.4 miles into NC we park at the trail to Hooper Bald. Past the viewpoints on top, the trail continues, crosses the road and climbs to Huckleberry Knob for 360° views. Returning the same way makes 3 miles RT. A drive back into TN 1.6 miles to Rattlesnake Rock, and we are ready for a very different hike. The trail to the falls starts by paralleling the highway, but separated from it by a narrow ridge; then it uses part of the

old road that predated the Skyway. With the new "flying bridge" in sight, the trail turns to drop about 250' to the base of the falls. After exploring there, we retrace our route for a 2-mile RT hike.

Meet at **ex-Bi-Lo in Maryville** <see list> at 8 A.M. Round trip mileages: drive- 165 {8¢=\$13.20}, hike- 5; rated easy-to- moderate.

Leaders: Bobby 621-1646 whiteblazing@yahoo.com

Joy Kelly

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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), a block before Big Lots  
**"ex-Bi-Lo in Maryville"** = just south of where US-129 & US-411 join, (SW corner at traffic light, past Pilot/Conoco). Meet at front of lot.

**"NOAA in Oak Ridge"**= on SW side of Illinois Ave. (TN-62), **National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration**, (doing weather research). Between *Ford* dealer and *Carden Rentals*, on left coming from Knox. Is between 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> traffic lights.

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### COMING EVENTS - November

- 1 - Sat AT Work Trip [P. Reddoch 588-1658]
  - 1 - Sat Mystery Hike [H. Rogers 584-7310]
  - 2 - Sun Clingmans Dome – Double Springs
  - 8 - Sat Cumberland Gap NHP: Sand Cave & White Rocks
  - 15 - Sat Jack Bradley Branch <off trail>
  - 23 - Sun Hatcher Mtn & Little Bottoms
  - 28 - Fri Cove Mtn & Laurel Falls Trails
  - 30 - Sun Big Stone Door
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### New Volunteers NEEDED in Social Committee

Two or 3 new helpers are needed for the 2 knife & fork events in 2009. Just the Election and the Installation (and a pre-event planning session for each).

Contact Chair- Rae Jones 558-9154 knxrae@aol.com

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**Great News!** - The State of Tennessee chose to fund the ATC's Recreational Trails Program grant application for **\$62,400**. This will fund the majority of the SWEAT crew for the next two years. The SWEAT Crew helps SMHC by maintaining the remote sections of the A.T. in the Smokies. The TN State Department of Environment and Conservation uses a published priority ranking system for grant applications, but it certainly didn't hurt to have our cause supported by State Senators Randy McNally of Oak Ridge and Tim Burchett of Knoxville. We appreciate their actions on behalf of a good cause.