

Smoky Mountains Hiking Club Schedule for February 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. 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.

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Area Code, unless otherwise noted, is 865.

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6 - Wed Joyce Kilmer Loop
9 - Sat Mt. Winnesoka Traverse
9 - Sat EZ: Sugarlands Visitor Center Nature Trails
16 - Sat Green Camp Manway
17 - Sun Albright Grove
23 - Sat River Bluff Trail Below Norris Dam
27 - Wed Prentice Cooper State Forest

NOISY CREEK FALLS February 2 – Saturday

Starting from Hwy 321 this easy but mostly off trail hike does not offer great vistas but is a nice winter hike up Noisy Creek to Noisy Creek Falls. We pass old homesites, hike a short distance on the Old Settlers Trail, and then off trail again on the way to the falls. It is a small water fall but quite attractive and snow and ice would make it more attractive.

Leave **Asheville Hwy Food Lion** <see list> at 8:30 AM. Round trip mileages: drive- 130, hike ~ 4.5.

Leaders: Barbara 558-9214 allen745139@bellsouth.net
Bill 522-0515 goochbill@bellsouth.net

SUGARLANDS VISITOR CENTER NATURE TRAILS

EASY, Short Hike:

February 9 - Saturday about 3 miles
(Bad weather – alternative: walk on Blount Greenbelt)
Meet: 10:00 at Alcoa Food City Cata 982-3890

MT. WINNESOKA TRAVERSE February 9 – Saturday

This hike starts at the Porters Creek Trailhead in Greenbrier, takes Porters Creek and Brushy Mountain Trails to the Fittified Spring, then goes off trail up Long Branch. After following Long Branch awhile, we will climb up the south slope of Winnesoka to Turkey Rock, traverse the top going past Lookout Rock to Round Top. We will then descend the north slope to the Grapeyard Ridge Trail, and follow it back to Greenbrier. Due to the rough terrain of this hike, the group will be limited to 8 including the leaders. Preregistration is required. Hike about 9 miles, rated difficult. Drive 100 Miles RT.

Leaders: Ed 436-4719 edwrdfilm@aol.com
Mike 691-4742 mike_harr@bellsouth.net

GREEN CAMP MANWAY February 16 – Saturday

The Green Camp Manway is part of a CCC-era system of abandoned mid elevation trails in the Tremont Area of the Smokies. We'll begin our hike at the upper Tremont Trailhead with an easy off trail stroll along the route of the old Thunderhead Prong railroad grade. After a cold ford of the prong, we'll turn left off the grade onto the manway. Much of the manway is still in walkable condition, but some sections are overgrown, and we can count on some briar bashing and some struggles with rhododendron. After another wet ford of Sams Creek, we'll reach the Middle Prong Trail at the site of an abandoned old car, and follow the trail back to the trailhead.

Leave from **Alcoa Food City** <see list> at 8AM. Round trip mileages: drive- 80, hike about 9, rated moderate, if the two stream crossings are manageable.

Leaders: Hiram 584-7310 hiramrogers@yahoo.com
Jean 584-7310 jeangauger@yahoo.com

>>> MID-WEEK HIKES <<<

Two February Wednesdays

Feb 6- Joyce Kilmer Loop (up to Naked Ground, down Jenkins Meadow) 9 mi

Meet: Alcoa Food City 7:00 (8:30 at JKMF parking lot) Brian 387-1183 tobyandbrian@bellsouth.net

Feb 27- Prentice Cooper State Forest, Mullins Cove Loop Moderate ~11 mi

Meet: New Wal-Mart on Hwy 411 at 7:00 Lucinda 945-1441 lucindaturbeville@comcast.net

ALBRIGHT GROVE
February 17 – Sunday

This trail hike ascends gently, passing the Willis Baxter homestead site, the loop-end of the old fire road and a foot-log over Indian Camp Creek. Albright Grove is a remnant of virgin forest that escaped the logging industry in the Smokies in the early 1900's. There are fabulous, old poplars and hemlocks. We'll see markings on some hemlocks that have been treated by the NPS for the hemlock woolly adelgid.

Meet at **Asheville Hwy Food Lion** <see list> at 8:30 AM. Round trip mileages: drive- 115, hike- about 8, rated moderately easy.

Leaders: Meg 522-0515 megmabbs@bellsouth.net
Debbie 382-3047 debbiegoddard@bellsouth.net

RIVER BLUFF TRAIL
February 23 – Saturday

This 3.2-mile loop is located in the TVA River Bluff Nature Area on the Lake City side of Norris Dam. It is an easy to moderate hike with a 400' elevation gain from the Clinch River to the highest elevation point on the rock bluff. Children over 10 accompanied by parents should find the hike interesting enough and short enough to not lose interest or heart.

We will meet at 9:30 AM at the corner of N. Seivers Blvd. and Hillvale in Waffle House parking lot. From Knoxville, take Exit 122 off I-75, turn left back over the interstate and the Waffle House is on the right at the first stop light. We will car pool to the trail head which is 7.8 miles from the Waffle House and over the Norris Dam. We should be off the trail around noon.

Leaders: Lenny 482-5824 lennycroce@comcast.net
David 216-0363 drspradlin@comcast.net

MEETING PLACES: "Asheville Hwy Food Lion"= 6221 Riverview Crossing Dr., Knoxville. 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. [Map](#)

"Food City in Alcoa"= 121 North Hall Rd. Alcoa. On right between 3 rd & 4th stoplight (on Hall Rd., TN 35) [Map](#)

"NOAA in Oak Ridge"= 456 S Illinois Ave., 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 1st & 2nd traffic lights. [Map](#)

COMING EVENTS - March

- 1 - Sat AT Work Trip
- 1 - Sat Couches Creek & Mt. Stand Watie <off trail>
- 7 - Fri Spring Photo Show (Oak Ridge)
- 9 - Sun FHSP: Chimney Top Trail
- 15 - Sat Little River, Huskey Gap, Sugarland Mtn. & Rough Fork Trails
- 22 - Sat Scotts Gulf
- 29 - Sat Fiery Gizzard
- 29 - Sat Abandoned Roads: Mids Gap- Laurel Creek Rd- Elkmont Manway

NOW AVAILABLE

>>For those **Members & Subscribers** who **don't want paper copy** of the Newsletter<<

We now offer **full complete SMHC Newsletter as a pdf** file (black & white) sent as e-mail attachment to those members and subscribers who ask for this service. No paper copy will be sent. The ATMN is already complete on website, so this is not included in pdf. No change in dues or subscription rates with this. To ask – send e-mail to KlabundeCE@aol.com

Reminder to Members and Subscribers Dues and renewals for 2008 are now overdue.
Printed Newsletters will not be mailed after the March issue unless renewals are received.