

*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.

NOW: 8 cents /mile /passenger is Recommended

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3 - Sat AT Work Trip
 4 - Sun Courthouse Rock- Quilliams Cave- over top & down Sugarland Mtn Trail
 7 - Wed Low Gap-AT-Mt Cammerer-AT-Lower Mt Cammerer
 10 - Sat BSF: Grand Gap Loop & Angel Falls Overlook
 21 - Wed LeConte via Bull Head from Mynatt Park
 26 - Mon Mt Sterling from Sterling Gap and down Big Branch Manway or Baxter Creek Trail
 31-6/1 - S&S Backpack: Beech Gap Trail- McGhee Spring Site#44

AT WORK TRIP

May 3 – Saturday

This is a training session. See ATMN for details.

COURTHOUSE ROCK- QUILLIAMS CAVE- AND OVER THE TOP TO SUGARLAND MTN TRAIL

May 4 – Sunday

The other time the Club went over Sugarland Mtn from Quilliams Cave (5/24/97) the route was straight up and over. This time we'll go more *around* to cross at a lower spot, thereby avoiding both rhododendron and very steep slopes (up or down). But we do go over a couple extra (side) ridges. We'll still reach the Sugarland Mtn Trail at the same place, campsite #21. Then, after going down the Huskey Gap Trail, we'll cross the highway and walk old roads and trails back up to our cars. **Sights:** On our way up the path to the "Cave" (really a rock-house), we'll pass an old homesite, make the small detour over to that 45-foot monolith called Courthouse Rock, and pass the falls beside the Cave. Three weeks ago there were wildflowers galore.

Meet at **Food Lion on Asheville Hwy** <see list> to leave at 8:00. Round trip mileages: drive- 86 {8¢=\$6.88}, hike- about 7. Rated difficult, with multiple off-trail goodly climbs.

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

BSF: GRAND GAP LOOP and ANGEL FALLS OVERLOOK

May 10 – Saturday

Starting at Leatherwood Ford, the first three miles will follow the John Muir Trail to the Angel Falls Overlook where there should be spectacular views into the Big South Fork Gorge. From that point, we will hike the relatively flat 6.8 mile Grand Gap Loop where there are numerous glimpses of the gorge along the way. Upon completing the loop, we will follow the John Muir Trail back to the trailhead.

Meet at **Merchants Drive** <see list> to leave at 8:00 AM. Round trip mileages: drive- 150 {8¢=\$12}, hike- 12.8, rated moderately difficult.

Leaders: Dan 673-5822 Debra 494-0276

PINEY RIVER

May 11 – Sunday

Spring wild flowers, including gay wings dotting the trail, are one of the main attractions on this hike. The trail follows Newby Branch and Duskin Creek, descending from 1700' to 1000' before it reaches the Piney River where it gains a couple hundred feet, then descends to our cars. Piney River is part of the Cumberland Trail and is located near Spring City, TN.

Meet at **Roane County High School** <see list> at 8 AM. Round trip mileages: drive- 80 {8¢=\$6.40}, hike-10. Rated difficult due to some water/rock crossings.

Leaders: The Andersons 376-4895 ander743@bellsouth.net

>>> MID-WEEK HIKES <<<

Two May Wednesdays

May 7 Low Gap-AT-Mt Cammerer-AT-Lower Mt Cammerer

Meet: Asheville Hwy at 8:00 AM very strenuous 15.5 miles
Joy 690-5958 joymkelly@gmail.com

May 21 LeConte via Bull Head from Mynatt Park

Meet: Alcoa Food City at 7:00 AM strenuous about 16 miles
Angie 947-1534 angiewarren_66@comcast.net and Joy & Terri

MIDDLE PRONG TRAIL TO PANTHER CREEK

EASY, Short Hike: May 10 - Saturday 4.6 miles on RR grade

Meet: Alcoa Food City at 8:30 or trailhead at 9:15. Bring camera!
See Lynn Camp Prong Cascades and Wildflowers Rae 558-9154

HOTDOG- ICE CREAM- DESSERT SOCIAL- GEAR SALE & HIKE

May 17 - Saturday

All club members and their friends are invited to our Spring Social at Admiral Farragut Park. Rain or shine, the event will meet at a pavilion. Lunch will be served at 11:30. Hot dogs and toppings, chips, ice, water and tableware will be provided. A donation of \$2.00 will be asked. Please bring folding chairs and a small dessert or ice cream to share. After lunch, Cata will lead a short hike on a forest/ lakefront trail. If you bring a pet, make sure it is on a leash at all times (Park regulations).

HIKING GEAR SALE: Do you have perfectly good hiking, camping or backpacking gear that you don't want? This is your chance to find a loving home for that stuff. Bring it to our Silent Auction. Write your name, Gear description and minimum acceptable bid on a paper (provided) and interested parties will list their name and latest bid (minimum increment is 50¢). This is not a fund raiser. Sellers receive the entire selling price. Silent auction will close at 1:45. Arrive to set up the gear you want to sell between 11:00 & 11:30.

Directions: Take I-140 (Pellissippi Parkway) to Northshore Drive, exit 5. Go west on Northshore Drive about 0.6 mile to Admiral Farragut Park on the left

The Social Committee — Rae Jones, Chair

(BARTRAM TRAIL: WAYAH BALD TO NANTHALA LAKE)

May 18 - Sunday

Not ready at this time. We hope to do it another date.

ELKMONT TO TREMONT

May 25 - Sunday

After shuttling some cars to Tremont, we will begin our hike in Elkmont on the Jakes Creek Trail and proceed on gently rolling terrain to Meigs Mountain. After six miles we will intersect with the Lumber Ridge Trail, which will take us through a magnificent forest of Eastern Hemlocks on our descent into Tremont. There are several stream crossings and the potential for some late-blooming, low elevation wildflowers.

Meet at **Alcoa Food City** <see list> at 8:00. Round trip mileages: drive-94 {8¢=\$7.52}, hike- 10.3, rated moderate.

Leaders: Cindy 776-1301 spangler2@gmail.com Les 690-3814

**MT. STERLING via MT. STERLING GAP TRAIL and down
BAXTER CREEK TRAIL (or BIG BRANCH MANWAY)**

May 26 - Monday

The traditional annual Memorial Day hike with the Carolina Mountain Club this year is to Mt. Sterling. The hike will begin at Mt. Sterling Gap after a 5 mile car shuttle from Big Creek Picnic area. We will climb 1954' in 1.8 miles to Mt. Sterling and stop for lunch and enjoy the view. Then we will start down the Baxter Creek trail along Mt. Sterling Ridge about 1.2 miles to a junction with the Big Creek manway. The manway is old and slightly overgrown but passable and continues along the ridge and then drops down to the Big Branch valley that it follows to Big Creek. Those not wanting the manway challenge will continue down the Baxter Creek Trail. Both routes are about 8 miles long and descend 4127' to end at the same point, with the Baxter Creek route rated moderately difficult and the Big Branch Manway rated difficult.

Meet at the **Asheville Highway Food Lion** <see list> to leave by 8:00 AM. Round trip drive is 120 miles {8¢=\$9.60}.

Leaders: Tim 675-3822 bigelowt2@mindspring.com

David 984-4621 dcshiker@bellsouth.net

Becky Smucker (CMC)

BACKPACK: BEECH GAP TRAIL- McGHEE SPRING (#44) - HYATT RIDGE LOOP
May 31 - June 1 — Saturday-Sunday

This trip was rained out last year but is worth repeating. We begin at the Hyatt Ridge trailhead along Straight Fork Road near Cherokee. The trail climbs about 2000' and then follows the ridge top to the junction with Beech Gap Trail near Hyatt Bald. From there a short side trail leads to Campsite 44 situated at McGhee Spring. This site offers the possibility of day hiking an old trail along Breakneck Ridge that leads to Three Forks. We will return down Beech Gap trail to Straight Fork Road and either hike or car shuttle back to the starting point.

Party size is limited to 8 by the NPS, so pre-registration with the leader is required. Hike 9-11 miles plus side trips. Rated moderate. Drive 180 miles round trip.

Leader: Tim 675-3822 bigelowt2@mindspring.com

COMING EVENTS - June

7 - Sat AT Work = National Trails Day
14 - Sat Cumberland Trail: Cross Mtn to New River
21-22 – S&S Backpack: Grassy Ridge Bald <<if we have a leader>> (looks like we will)
22 - Sun Gregory Bald via Sheep Pen Gap
28 - Sat Mt. LeConte via Boulevard Prong <difficult off trail>

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](#)

"ex-Bi-Lo in Maryville" = just south of where US-129 & US-411 join, (SW corner at traffic light, past Pilot/Conoco). 1715 W Broadway Ave. Meet at front of lot. [Map](#)

"Merchants Dr" = off I-75 at exit 108, Merchants Dr, west towards Clinton Hwy. Park in front part of large lot at Outback Steakhouse, (near McDonalds). [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](#)

"Roane County High School"= From I-40 exit 352, go south on US-58 to light #4, turn right and go 0.2 miles to parking lot on left, across from school. [Map](#)

"ORNL Credit Union in Kingston" at exit 352 off I-40: Turn left at end of ramp and go 1/2 block to entry on right. Park behind. [Map](#)

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS !

| | | |
|---------------------------|--|-----------------|
| Edwin A. (Ed) Peck | joantpk@knology.net | 693-8235 |
| | 7725 Saber Dr. | Knoxville 37919 |
| Mickey & Cassie Sylvester | mickeysylvester@yahoo.com | 856-9408 |
| | 1302 Prairie Place | Greenback 37742 |

Do you have **Artistic talent or Artistic ideas?**

Both are needed to redesign and update the **SMHC T-shirts**. If you want to join the T-shirt team or just have ideas and suggestions contact Nan Woodbury tallwaters@earthlink.net

Now: full complete SMHC Newsletter (and ATMNews) as PDF (in black & white) sent as e-mail attachment to those members and subscribers who ask for this service. No paper copy will be sent. No change in dues or subscription rates with this. To ask – send e-mail to

KlabundeCE@aol.com

[87 at last count]