

## Smoky Mountains Hiking Club Schedule for June 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.

**NOW: 8 cents /mile /passenger is Recommended**

### CONTENTS: Items listed here for June

7 - Sat AT Work = National Trails Day  
11 - Wed Lead Cove- Bote Mtn- Spence Field/ Rocky Top  
14 - Sat Cumberland Trail: Cross Mtn to New River  
21-22 - S&S Backpack: Grassy Ridge Bald  
22 - Sun Gregory Bald via Sheep Pen Gap  
25 - Wed Clingmans Dome — Silers Bald  
28 - Sat **EZ:** Thomas Divide and Kanati Fork Trails  
28 - Sat Mt. LeConte via Boulevard Prong

### AT WORK TRIPS = NATIONAL TRAILS DAY

June 7 – Saturday

See ATMN for details & how to Register

### CT: CROSS MOUNTAIN TO GREENS BRANCH CAMPSITE

June 14 – Saturday

The Smoky Mountain Section of the Cumberland Trail will be 35 miles long when finished, but for this June day we'll do an in-and-out 9-mile route. After parking near the top of Cross Mountain (the highest point of the CT) we'll hike down to Montgomery Fork. After the campsite and an adventurous creek bridge we'll climb another ridge and descend to Greens Branch campsite for lunch. We can hike a little farther if the group wants to, but then we'll turn around for the long, possibly hot climb back up Cross Mountain to the cars. Bring tick repellent and extra water. By choosing this route, we skip a pretty 3.7-mile section between Cross Mountain and I-75. If the weather is good and we can arrange a shuttle, the leaders may offer a chance for hikers to descend this section and get picked up at the bottom after the main hike is finished.

Meet at **Merchants Drive** <see list> to leave at 8:00 AM. Round trip mileages: drive- 50, hike- 8-9, rated moderate because of the steep climb back up Cross Mountain.

Leaders: Doris 522-9896 dorisgove@aol.com Ron 482-5078 rbrandenburg@bellsouth.net

### GRASSY RIDGE BALD BACKPACK

June 21-22 – Saturday-Sunday

We will hike from Carvers Gap on the A.T. "north" over Round Bald and Jane Bald for about 1.6 miles to the Grassy Ridge Trail which splits off to the right. From there, it is about 0.7 miles along the Grassy Ridge Bald to the campsite in a broad gap. Day-hiking from there includes the short bit out to the end of the top of Grassy Ridge, exploring around the Bald, and going further out on the A.T. Sunday, we will take a leisurely breakfast and explore some more, before heading back out to Carvers Gap by noon or a little after. We should experience rhododendron in full blossom.

The group will be limited to 8, including leaders, so preregistration is required.

Leaders: Lenny 482-5824 lennycroce@comcast.net David davidspradlin@bellsouth.net

### GREGORY BALD VIA SHEEP PEN GAP

June 22 – Sunday

Gregory Bald is the premier spot in the Smokies for flame azaleas, which hopefully will be at their peak this weekend. From Sams Gap on the newly re-opened Parson Branch Road, we'll hike the Gregory Bald trail for 4.5 miles with an elevation gain of 2300 feet. We'll pass Sheep Pen Gap at campsite 13 before we arrive on top of the bald to enjoy the azaleas. We'll have optional side trips to Moore Spring or Parson Bald, depending on the wishes of the group. After returning to our cars by the same route, we'll proceed out of the park along the one-way road.

Leave from **Alcoa Food City** <see list> at 8:00 AM. Round trip mileages: drive- 90, hike 9, rated moderate.

Leaders: Dave & Ellen 927-6522 emg01@comcast.net

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

Two June Wednesdays

June 11- Lead Cove- Bote Mtn- Spence Field/ Rocky Top Leave: 8:00 AM at Alcoa Food City 11.4 miles  
June 25 - Clingmans Dome — Silers Bald Leave: 7:30 AM at Alcoa Food City 10.0 miles  
Ron 482-5078 rbrandenburg@bellsouth.net

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**MOUNT LECONTE VIA BOULEVARD PRONG**

**June 28 - Saturday**

We begin this hike at the Porters Creek trailhead in Greenbrier, following the Porters Creek trail about 2.5 miles to the mouth of the Boulevard Prong. Here we begin the off-trail portion of our hike climbing the Boulevard Prong drainage about 3 miles to the Boulevard Trail. Along the way we will see some nice cascades, old growth forest with many large trees, and rhododendron in bloom. We will follow the Boulevard Trail on to LeConte Lodge, then return to Greenbrier via Trillium Gap and Brushy Mtn Trails.

Because of the difficult nature of this hike pre-registration is required. The group is limited to 8 including the leaders. The hike is about 16 miles with a 4710' climb; rated very difficult.

Leaders: Ed 436-4719 edwrdfm@aol.com Mark 693-9795 mark.shipley@townoffarragut.org

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**THOMAS DIVIDE and KANATI FORK TRAILS**

**EASY, Short Hike:**

**June 28 – Saturday** 4.7 miles

Descends steeply 2120' in 2.9 miles on Kanati Fork Trail.

Meet: Food City in Alcoa at 8 AM Laura 985-3194

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**COMING EVENTS – July**

5 - Sat AT Work Trip  
11-13 - Fri-Sun Mystery Car Camp  
13 - Sun Mt Collins to Newfound Gap  
19 - Sat Maddron Bald via Little Greenbrier Creek  
27 - Sun Rich Mtn Loop

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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  
**"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 ).

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KlabundeCE@ aol.com [ 90 at last count ]

**Got Hike Ideas?** Your Program Committee is already at work on the 2009 schedule. Please send your hike ideas and suggestions to any committee member, or better yet, post your ideas on the club's message board at [www.smhclub.org](http://www.smhclub.org)