

Smoky Mountains Hiking Club Schedule for October 2009

(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. Everyone may now become a member by sending in appropriate dues and the signed Application form found in the Brochure in this website.)

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Area Code, unless otherwise noted, is 865.

CONTENTS: Items listed here for October

3 - Sat A.T. Work Projects
7 - Wed Blanket Mtn
10 - Sat EZ: FHSP: Judge Branch Trail Loop and Flat Fork
~~10 - Sat Siler Bald (on the A.T. in Nantahala N.F.)~~
16 - Fri Fall Photo Show (and Contest results)
~~18 - Sun Savage Gulf: North Rim <NEEDS LEADERS> - Hike only if somebody volunteers to Lead it !!~~
21 - Wed Mt. Cammerer via Chestnut Branch Trail
24 - Sat Mt. Cammerer via Low Gap - { 75th }
24 - Sat Mt. Cammerer via Toms Creek- Rich Butt <off trail>
31 - Sat Boogerman - Caldwell Fork Loop

A.T. WORK PROJECTS

October - Ongoing all month

See ATMN "Work Projects" for information.

We lose two hikes this month for lack of leaders--
SILER BALD (A.T. IN NANTAHALA N.F.) on Sat, 10/10, and
SAVAGE GULF: NORTH RIM TRAIL on Sun, 10/18.
But we have one substitute; see 10/17.

>> MID-WEEK HIKES <<

Two October Wednesdays

Oct 7 Blanket Mtn 7 miles Meet Food City Alcoa 9 AM
Oct 21 Mt. Cammerer via Chestnut Branch Trail 12 miles Meet Food Lion Asheville Hwy 8 AM
Bobby Trotter 621-1646 whiteblazing@yahoo.com

FROZEN HEAD STATE PARK: JUDGE BRANCH TRAIL LOOP and FLAT FORK

EASY, Short Hike: **October 10 - Saturday** ~4 miles
Meet 9:00 at NOAA in Oak Ridge
Elsie Dodson 584-1706 bedodson06@comcast.net

FALL PHOTO SHOW

October 16 - Friday

AT A NEW LOCATION: Cedar Springs Presbyterian Church, 9132 Kingston Pike. (But: enter parking from South Cedar Bluff Rd. More details below.) Starts at 7 PM. The winners of the SMHC photo contest will be announced, and projected, and all entries will be on display. You are also invited to bring any other of your outdoor pictures you'd like to share (via any method), as well as pot luck snacks. A \$2 contribution will be appreciated. Contact? Call Dianne Gruber at 977-0807.

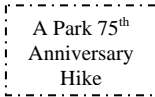
Entry details: Take first available left turn off S. Cedar Bluff Rd. into church parking. Park. Opposite the drive entry is a broad sidewalk. Walk it to covered walkway; turn right in there and go to doorway. Go in and take first left (not stairs); the fellowship hall, where we meet, is then first door on left.

DEVILS DEN - GREENBRIER PINNACLE
October 17 – Saturday

This hike, originally scheduled earlier this year, was not done due to weather issues. We will start at the Ramsey Cascades Trailhead, cross the river on the bridge, then climb the Greenbrier Pinnacle **off-trail**, going past Buzzard Rock, Devils Den, and other interesting rock formations on our way to the old fire tower trail at around 4100'. This is a steep climb gaining 2000' in about a mile and a half over some exposed rock. After lunch at the Pinnacle Overlook, looking down on the autumn foliage in the Greenbrier Valley, we will take the old trail and road back.

Meet Debbie at **Asheville Hwy Food Lion** <see list> to leave at 7:30, or Ed at the trailhead at 8:30. Hike about 6 miles; rated difficult. Round trip drive 100 miles {8¢=\$8}.

Leaders: Ed Fleming 436-4719 edwrdfilm@aol.com
Debbie Goddard 382-3047 debbiegoddard@bellsouth.net



MT. CAMMERER VIA LOW GAP
October 24 – Saturday



Now here's a hike in the top 10 for a lot of folks, and a real classic — especially on a fall weekend at about the peak of colors. The destination is an octagonal stone fire tower on a spur of the mountain. On a clear day, you get spectacular views for at least 270 degrees. The hike begins at Cosby Campground and follows an old road for ~3 miles (climbing 1800') to Low Gap. It continues on the A.T. taking some ups and downs to a side trail and thence to the tower, having gained another ~800'. Once we get finished playing at the tower, it's back the way we came.

We'll leave **Asheville Hwy Food Lion** <see list> at 8:00 AM, or the Cosby Campground trailhead at 9:00. Round trip mileages: drive- 122 {8¢=\$9.80}, hike- 11.2, rated moderate.

Leaders: John Kirkpatrick 927-2501 David Greenwood 927-6522

MT. CAMMERER VIA TOMS CREEK & RICH BUTT
October 24 – Saturday

This off-trail route to Mt. Cammerer begins from the Lower Mt Cammerer Trail at the crossing of Toms Creek - named for Tom Holland, a former resident of this area. We will follow some old farm roads up this creek and Panther Branch (named for the former feline residents of this area) to a point where we will turn north-east for a climb of Rich Butt Mountain. After reaching the crest, we will climb the steep rocky spine of this mountain on an exposed stretch not suitable for anyone who is afraid of heights - the 'Panther Stairs'. We can expect some spectacular autumn views as we climb our way to the Mt Cammerer Trail. Following a visit to the tower, we will take the Groundhog Ridge Manway to TN-32 where we will have shuttled vehicles waiting.

Meet at 7:00 AM at **Asheville Hwy Food Lion** <see list>. Round trip mileages: drive- 130 {8¢=\$10.40}, hike- about 6, rated difficult due to thick brush and steep climbs over exposed rock.

Leaders: Ed Fleming 436-4719 edwrdfilm@aol.com Hiram Rogers 584-7310 hiramrogers@yahoo.com

BOOGERMAN – CALDWELL FORK LOOP
October 31 – Saturday

What better way to spend Halloween than on the Boogerman Trail. Come join us for a leisurely hike on what some call the prettiest trail in the Cataloochee area. Perhaps we will learn something about the Boogerman himself. After an easy start we will climb through forest that was never logged. The return on Caldwell Fork can be rocky and muddy in places. There should be time afterwards to explore the Cataloochee Valley and most likely see some Elk.

Meet to leave at 8:30 at the **Asheville Hwy Food Lion** <see list>. Round trip mileages: drive- 180 {8¢=\$14.40}, hike- 7.6, rated moderate.

Leaders: David Smith 984-4621 dcshiker@bellsouth.net Chris Hamilton 521-6107 hikeat@nxs.net

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. (*The exit ramp is again accessible from I-640 and I-40.)

"Food City in Alcoa"= on right between 3rd & 4th stoplight (on Hall Rd., TN 35), a block before Big Lots
"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 1st & 2nd traffic lights.

COMING EVENTS - November

- 7 - Sat A.T. Work Trip
 - 7-8 – S&S Backpack to Gregory Bald
 - 14 - Sat CT: Possum Creek segment
 - 21 - Sat Lumber Ridge- Spruce Flats Manway & Falls
 - 27 - Fri Ramsey Cascade {75th Anniv}
 - 29 - Sun North Bird Mtn Loop in Frozen Head S.P.
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