

Smoky Mountains Hiking Club Schedule for October 2010

(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. (Subscriptions are no longer offered. Everyone may now become a member by sending in appropriate dues and the signed Application form found at *Join the SMHC* in this website.)

Newsletter Editor: Charlie Klabunde (865) 483-8055 KlabundeCE@aol.com
Area Code, unless otherwise noted, is 865.

CONTENTS: Items listed here for October

- 18-22 M-F A.T. Work Trips
- 3 - Sun Sugarlands to Fighting Creek Gap
- 9 - Sat *EZ#1*: U.T. Horticultural Gardens
- 10 - Sun Cumberland Falls SP: River Trail Loop
- 13 - Wed Gregory Bald via Gregory Bald Trail
- 15 - Fri Photo Show (Knoxville, with Contest Results)
- 16 - Sat Mt. Cammerer via Chestnut Branch Trail
- 16 - Sat Mt. Cammerer via Rowdy Ridge <off trail>
- 20 - Wed Brushy Mtn Trail
- 23 - Sat Elkmont to Tremont
- 23 - Sat *EZ#2*: Rugby: New Trail to Massingale Place
- 30 - Sat Buffalo Arch (BSFNRRRA)
- 31 - Sun Indian Camp Branch – Easy Off Trail

A.T. WORK

October 18-22 Monday-Friday

In NF near Cody Gap with Mac McNutt & Stew Taylor

SUGARLANDS TO FIGHTING CREEK GAP

October 3 – Sunday

We'll start at the Laurel Falls trailhead and join the hordes strolling up the paved trail to Laurel Falls, lose the crowds and the pavement beyond the falls and continue up to the top of Cove Mountain, at about 4,000', near an old fire tower now used as an air quality monitoring station. The trail follows the park boundary with vacationland sprawl on one side of the trail and national park on the other. We'll pass Cataract Falls Cascade on our way to Sugarlands Visitor Center. This hike will include a car shuttle at Laurel Falls to Sugarlands. Some hikers may choose to take the City Trolley from the Visitor Center to Laurel Falls for \$2--exact change required.

Meet: **Alcoa Food City** 8:00 AM, or Laurel Falls Trailhead 9:00 AM. Drive about 90 miles {8¢=\$7.20}. Hike 12.5 miles; 1700' elevation gain; rated moderate.

Leaders: Claudia Dean & Dan Feller 673-5822 claudiadean@bellsouth.net

U.T. HORTICULTURAL GARDENS (next to Vet School)

EASY, Short Hike #1: October 9 - Saturday Greenway walk

Meet there 9:00 Elsie Dodson 584-1705 bedodson06@comcast.net

CUMBERLAND FALLS SP: RIVER TRAIL LOOP

October 10 – Sunday

This loop trail begins at the far end of the picnic area, follows the river upstream and joins an old logging road to the left after a couple of miles. On our way to the down-stream part of the Cumberland River we will pass a short side trail to a newly reconditioned fire tower. Upon reaching the river, we intersect the Moonbow Trail winding its way up river along the base of a cliff line until it ends at the falls parking area. The highlight of the hike will be the awesome views of Cumberland Falls at the end of the hike and at the fire tower on our way. If the leaders can pull it off, we will have a nice surprise for the group during the hike. Cumberland Falls is the 'largest' waterfall (in the USA) south of Niagara Falls and the only place you can see a moonbow (at night), in the Western Hemisphere.

Meet at **Walmart behind the Waffle House (on TN-61) at Exit# 122 off I-75** at 8. (Look for a 2003 **RED Toyota Solara**.) Round trip mileages: drive- 170 {8¢=\$13.60}, hike- 7.0, rated moderate.

Leaders: Lynda Bryan 661-3117 Jim Quick jqhiker37@aol.com

FALL PHOTO SHOW with CONTEST RESULTS
October 15 – Friday

Again in the Fellowship hall at 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 \$3 contribution toward cost of the room will be appreciated.

Entry details: Take first available left turn off S. Cedar Bluff Rd. into church parking. Park. Opposite the drive entry is 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.

MT. CAMMERER VIA CHESTNUT BRANCH TRAIL
October 16 – Saturday

This hike starts at the Big Creek Ranger Station and follows the Chestnut Branch trail up to its junction with the AT. We turn left on the AT and climb to the main ridge top and Mt. Cammerer trail junction. A right turn and short hike on this spur brings us to the summit and renovated fire tower. Views from there are outstanding and fall colors should be on display. After lunch on top, we return by the same route.

Meet at **Comcast on Asheville Hwy** <see list> at 7:30 AM. Round trip mileages: drive- 115 {8¢=\$9.20}, hike-12, with 3300' climb. Rated moderately difficult due to length and elevation gain.

Leaders: Debra Barton 494-0276 dgbarton@comcast.net Chris Hamilton

MT. CAMMERER VIA LEADMINE RIDGE
October 16 – Saturday

Don't be misled by the meager mileage of this all day, off trail hike. Our hardy crew will first explore the relatively open ground of the Right Fork of Groundhog Creek before beginning the steep climb of Leadmine Ridge (which we found to be less rough than Rowdy Ridge). We'll struggle and slither through the dense brush and rocky spine of Leadmine, following the trail of midget bears where possible. If all goes well, we'll emerge onto the trail close to the Cammerer tower in time for lunch and a more leisurely descent down the Groundhog Ridge Manway.

Meet at **Comcast on Asheville Hwy** <see list> at 7:30. Round trip mileages: drive- 130 {8¢=\$10.40}, hike- 5, rated difficult.

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

RUGBY: NEW TRAIL TO MASSINGALE PLACE
EASY, Short Hike #2: October 23 - Saturday under 3 miles

Meet at Books-a-Million, Oak Ridge at 9:00 Elsie Dodson 584-1705 bedodson06@comcast.net

ELKMONT TO TREMONT
October 23 – Saturday

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 Easter Hemlocks on our descent into Tremont. There are several stream crossings and the potential for some late blooming, low elevation wildflowers as well as fall colors.

Meet at **Alcoa Food City** at 8:00. Round trip mileages: drive- 94 {8¢=\$7.50}, hike- 10.3, rated moderate.

Leaders: J. D. Schlandt 457-4474 jdschlandt@comcast.net
Todd Wright 250-9365 toddwcpa@yahoo.com

BSFNRRRA: BUFFALO ARCH
October 30 – Saturday

This hike into Daniel Boone NF of KY will begin at the Blevins cemetery off Divide Road in BSFNRRRA and follow Rock Creek Trail for 2 miles before turning right onto the Sheltolee Trace trail above Rock Creek. After about a half mile we either wade or rock hop Rock Creek depending on water level. We then begin a 400', half mile ascent via the Parker Mtn. Trail through large boulders before topping out on plateau land. It's then an easy 2 mile woods walk to Buffalo Arch (height- 18.5' span- 81.7'). Return same way.

Meet at **Books-a-Million in O.R.** <see list> at 8:00. Round trip mileages: drive- 175 {8¢=\$14}, hike- 10, rated moderate.

Leaders: Keith Mertz 982-7368 keithmertz@hotmail.com
Carol Anderson 376-4895 ander743@bellsouth.net

INDIAN CAMP BRANCH
October 31 – Sunday

This is an easy off trail hike along a small tributary of the Little River near the Metcalf Bottoms picnic area, but on the north side of the river. Evidence of pre-park residents will be seen and the brush is not difficult to get through except at one short location. Following this small branch takes us to the Round Top Trail at the Park's boundary near the road from Wear Valley that enters the Park at Wear Gap. We follow the Round Top Trail to the road and the road back to our vehicles, noting former home sites along the way. We will park near the bridge across Little River at Metcalf Bottoms or perhaps in the picnic area.

Meet at **Food City in Alcoa** at 8:30 or at the north side of the bridge across Little River from the Metcalf Bottoms Picnic Area at 9:30. Hike 3 miles. Round trip drive about 60 miles {8¢=\$4.80}.

Leaders: Ray Payne 693-6944 Ed Fleming 436-4719 edwrdfm@aol.com

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

Two October Wednesdays

Oct 13 Gregory Bald via Gregory Bald Trail 9.2 miles Food City Alcoa at 8
Oct 20 Brushy Mtn Trail 11.8 miles Comcast at 8
Bobby Trotter 621-1646 whiteblazing@yahoo.com

COMING EVENTS - November

6 - Sat A.T. Work Trip
6 - Sat Shuckstack from Twentymile
7 - Sun Mt. Sterling via Big Branch Manway
14 - Sun "Leaders Choice"
20 - Sat Honey Creek
21 - Sun Tiptons Sugar Cove <off trail>
26 - Fri Frozen Head SP
27 - Sat House Mtn

MEETING PLACES: "Comcast on Asheville Hwy" = From exit 394 ramp off I-40 go left (east) on Asheville Hwy, US-11E/25W/70, to signal light at top of hill; turn right, down into Comcast lot. Park to left of entry, about 2 lanes over toward the exit end of lot.

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

"Books-a-Million in Oak Ridge" = (same lot as the Rush) 3-1/2 traffic lights in, coming from Knoxville; on left, opposite WalMart. Meet next to Illinois Ave. in front of Books-a-Million.
