

## Smoky Mountains Hiking Club Schedule for January 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.)

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Area Code, unless otherwise noted, is 865.

### << Member DUES are now due and payable for 2010 >>

Each of you on the SMHC (non-Life-) member mailing list (PDF'ers too) has with this Newsletter a billing or status review statement. **Members** in good standing at the end of 2009 automatically receive 2010 Handbooks, on the assumption that they will renew membership. **Supporting Dues at \$20 and up**, supporting A.T. Maintenance and Conservation work of the club, are **income tax deductible** (after the first \$14). **All** have a couple months grace period before we weed out the non-renewers.

### CONTENTS: Items listed here for January

- 1 – Fri Finley Cane-Bote Mtn-Lead Cove
- 6 – Wed The Foothills Parkway Segment out of Wears Valley
- 3 – Sun Seven Islands Wildlife Refuge
- 9 – Sat Abrams Creek- Rabbit Creek Trails Loop
- 16 – Sat New Members Hike: Chestnut Top out & back
- 17 – Sun North Ridge Trail (Oak Ridge)
- 23 – Sat *EZ*: Mystery Hike on the Cumberland Plateau
- 24 – Sun Norris Watershed and Norris Dam State Park
- 27 – Wed North Ridge Trail
- 30 – Sat FHSP: Bald Knob, CT, Old Gobey RR Grade

### FINLEY CANE- BOTE MOUNTAIN- LEAD COVE January 1 – Friday

This favorite loop can be a fairy land in the winter if the trees are frosted. We will do all the work in the first 1.8 miles, hiking Lead Cove Trail to the junction with Bote Mountain Trail. There are many openings to admire the mountains as we descend Bote Mountain Trail for 2.5 miles. We will turn back into the woods and follow Finley Cane Trail for 2.8 miles back to Laurel Creek Road.

Meet at **Alcoa Food City** 9:30 AM. Round trip mileages: drive- 53 {8¢=\$4.20}, hike- 7.1.

Leaders: Dianne Gruber 599 5165 gruber.d.r@gmail.com Carol Kerr 922 3920 kerr427@gmail.com

### SEVEN ISLANDS WILDLIFE REFUGE January 3 – Sunday

We will explore a diverse variety of river bottomlands, fallow fields, and hardwood forest along the banks of the French Broad River in East Knox County. These habitats support a wide diversity of wildlife, and are a popular place for bird watching. The park is a former farm, and includes several structures such as the farmhouse, barns, ponds, and fields now planted in native grasses. The hike will be approximately 5 miles, and is rated easy with a slight elevation gain of 200 ft.

Meet at **Food Lion on Asheville Hwy** at 9 AM. Round trip drive is 20 miles {8¢=\$1.60}.

Leaders: Andy Zimmerman 579-0497 andyz2@juno.com  
Mindy Fawver 546-8768 fawverm@bellsouth.net

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

Two January Wednesdays

**Jan 6** The Foothills Parkway Segment out of Wears Valley. 4.8 miles completed= 9.6 mi RT.

Meet at Alcoa Food City at 8 AM. Carol Anderson 376-4895 ander743@bellsouth.net

**Jan 27** North Ridge Trail in Oak Ridge 7.7 miles

Meet 8:00 at Oak Ridge the *Rush* set shuttle to start at east end: Endicott Ln.

Angie Warren 947-1534 angiewarren\_66@comcast.net & Carol Anderson (see above)

**ABRAMS FALLS – RABBIT CREEK TRAIL LOOP**  
**January 9 – Saturday**

From Abrams Creek Ranger Station we'll walk a short section of Cooper Road Trail to Little Bottoms Trail, take that to join the Abrams Falls Trail, admire the falls, and continue on to the trailhead on the west side of Cades Cove. We'll rock hop or enjoy a revitalizing wade across Mill Creek and take the Rabbit Creek Trail all the way back to the ranger station. If Mill Creek is too high to cross, we'll return the way we came. Hike 15.2 miles, rated difficult as long hike and short daylight hours require we maintain a brisk pace. If the weather is unpleasant, a shorter route is an option. Meet at **Alcoa Food City** at 7:30 AM. Drive 40 miles RT {8¢=\$3.20}.

Leaders: Tim Bigelow 607-6781 bigelowt2@mindspring.com  
Mary Anne Hoskins 523-1051 mhoskins@utk.edu

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**CHESTNUT TOP ( Hike Especially For New Members )**  
**January 16 – Saturday**

This hike (not for new members only) is for our new members to become better acquainted with each other, as well as with some of our older members, and with winter hiking in the Smokies. We will start at the "Y" on Little River Road for a hike up the Chestnut Top Trail to School House Gap. If we have a clear day, we will have some good views from the ridge top of the Townsend valley on one side and the mountains on the other. After lunch at School House Gap, we will return to the "Y" via the same trail. There will be an optional after hike dinner in Townsend for those interested.

Meet Rebekah at the **Food City in Alcoa** at 8:00 AM or Ed at the "Y" at 8:30. Round trip mileages: drive- 41 {8¢=\$3.20}, hike- 8.6, rated moderate.

Leaders: Ed Fleming 436-4719 edwrdfilm@aol.com Rebekah Bell 927-6808 rebekahbell@comcast.net

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**OAK RIDGE: NORTH RIDGE TRAIL**  
**January 17 – Sunday**

Join us as we walk a secluded woodland trail traversing ridge-side deciduous forest all located inside the city of Oak Ridge. We will start at the east end on Endicott Lane and finish at Illinois Ave and West Outer Drive at the Rocky Top Market. (We leave the far western section for another day). We plan to stop and eat our lunches along the way. The shortened the hike, about 6.2 miles, is rated easy to moderate.

Meet at **Oak Ridge NOAA** <see list> by 9:00 AM and we will carpool to Endicott Lane, leaving a car or two at our exit point, in the process (about 14 miles RT including shuttle).

Leaders: Mark Ruffner 748-0292 Ronnie Bogard 482-7991 rhondabogard@comcast.net

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**MYSTERY HIKE ON THE PLATEAU**

**EASY, Short Hike:** **January 23- Saturday** ? miles  
Meet at 8:30 at **ORNL Credit Union in Kingston** Debbie Goddard 382-3047 debbiegoddard@bellsouth.net

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**NORRIS WATERSHED and NORRIS DAM STATE PARK**  
**January 24 – Sunday**

This loop will begin at the Lenoir Museum and will follow the Lower and Upper Clear Creek trails. We'll pass a few historic sites and may take a side trail to the Eli Nine sink-hole and another to Hill Cave beside Norris Lake. We'll return via the High Point and Longmire trails and a short bit along the Clinch River back to the Museum. There may be a music performance at the museum in the afternoon.

Meet at **Merchants Drive** <see list> at 9:30 (or Lenoir Museum at 10:00). Drive 35 miles RT {8¢=\$2.80}. Hike about 6 miles. Rated easy to moderate depending on the weather and side trails hiked.

Leaders: Debra Barton 494-0276 dgbarton@comcast.net  
Tim Bigelow 607-6781 bigelowt2@mindspring.com

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**FROZEN HEAD: BALD KNOB AND OLD GOBEY RR GRADE**  
**January 30 – Saturday**

Come join us in our second exploratory hike into the new Emory Tract section of Frozen Head. This year we'll start with a bridged crossing of the New River and a hike up a primitive road that sees some ATV use. We'll climb to near the summit of Bald Knob then head east on a recently rehabilitated section of the park's North Boundary Trail. After some welcome downhill, on trail walking we'll close our loop following an old coal bench. This area is open to hunting, so please bring some blaze orange.

Leave from **Oak Ridge NOAA** <see list> at 8:00 AM. Round trip mileages: drive- 74 {8¢=\$5.90}, hike about 9, rated difficult.

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

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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. Park along front edge, to left of entry  
**"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 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> traffic lights.  
**"the Rush fitness complex in Oak Ridge"**= 2-1/2 traffic lights past NOAA; opposite Walmart. Meet next to Illinois Ave. [for mid-wk]  
**"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  
**"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 along right edge of side lot, toward rear.

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#### COMING EVENTS - February

6 - Sat	Big Ridge State Park
13 - Sat	Rich Mountain Loop
14 - Sun	"Leaders' Choice"
20 - Sat	Stone House
20-21 – S&S	Backpack: Caldwell Fork Loop
28 - Sun	Ijams Nature Center

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