

## Smoky Mountains Hiking Club Schedule for March 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.

### CONTENTS: Items listed here for March

- 5 – Fri Spring Photo Show (Oak Ridge)
- 6 - Sat A.T. Work Trip
- 7 – Sun Cumberland Trail: Cove Lake S.P. ↔ New River
- 10 – Wed Lead Cove- Bote Mtn- Finley Cane Loop
- 11 – Thu Backpacking Skills Workshop
- 17 – Wed Bobs Bald from Cherohala Skyway
- 21 - Sun Spruce Flats Falls Plus
- 27 – Sat Seven Islands Wildlife Refuge
- 28 - Sun Laurel-Snow Pocket Wilderness

### A.T. WORK TRIP March 6 – Saturday

Help clear blowdowns in the National Forest

### SPRING PHOTO SHOW March 5 – Friday

7 PM at Oak Ridge Unitarian Universalist Church

Have you lacked an appreciative audience for a showing of your photos? You'll find one here, if only you'll assemble a show of the best pics of a recent vacation, or hike scenes. (Put digital on a 'thumb' drive/flash drive or a CD. Or if you have actual slides – let us know and we'll bring in that projector.) Even if you don't contribute to the show, come see your friends' work, and enjoy a social evening. Bring something or the snack table, and we suggest a \$3.00 donation to defray room expenses.

Directions to the Oak Ridge Unitarian Universalist Church: From Knoxville on Pellissippi Pkwy (TN-162) then TN-62 into O.R. as S. Illinois Ave. Go past the Wal-Mart and the DoubleTree Hotel (on your right) and Turn RIGHT at the next traffic light - onto Raccoon Rd. Continue through the next traffic light, crossing O.R. Tpke (at its light #11). The church is on your left. Enter parking lot at 2nd left; park and come down the steps and into the Social Hall to your right.

Dianne Gruber for the Photography Committee

### CUMBERLAND TRAIL: COVE LAKE STATE PARK ↔ NEW RIVER March 7 – Sunday

The dedicated folks who are building the Cumberland Trail have made remarkable progress in the last few years. We'll take advantage of their hard work with a long key swap hike over trail that will be mostly new to the club. Both groups will face long climbs up Anderson and Cross mountains, but will be rewarded with scenic vistas and nearly empty trails. TWRA has begun returning elk into the Cumberland Mountains and this section of trail offers one of the hiker's best chances of viewing the new arrivals.

Preregister with the leaders to arrange our key swap. Drive 54 mi. RT with 26 mile shuttle. Rated difficult due to its 16.3 miles, two big climbs, and our need to move quickly.

Leaders: Hiram Rogers 584-7310 hiramrogers@yahoo.com  
Mark Shipley 693-9795 mark.shipley@townoffarragut.org

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

#### Two March Wednesdays

**Mar 10** Lead Cove- Bote Mtn- Finley Cane Loop 7.1 miles  
Meet: Alcoa Food City at 8:00 Drive 53 mi RT James Stanley 734-735-2251 j\_stanley46@yahoo.com  
& Terri Mclean 599-6755 tmctoil@aol.com

**Mar 17** Bobs Bald from Cherohala Skyway 6.8 miles  
Meet: ex-Bi-Lo in Maryville at 9. Brian Schloff 387-1183

## BACKPACKING SKILLS WORKSHOP

March 11 – Thursday

This workshop will provide information to the dayhiker who wants to take it to the next level of experiencing the backcountry. We will start from acquiring gear to the essentials of a successful backpacking trip. This may also help the backpacker from years gone by who needs information on newer, lighter gear that will help make backpacking more enjoyable. How many times have you been dayhiking only to have to turn around due to limit of daylight? Backpacking takes you a little further into the backcountry to experience sunsets and sunrises and more solitude that you can't get from a dayhike. Come see if backpacking is right for you! Contact leader for time & place.

Leader: Bobby Trotter 621-1646 whiteblazing@yahoo.com

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## SPENCE FIELD – RUSSELL FIELD LOOP

March 13 – Saturday

This is a fine loop hike that includes great views at Spence Field and a nice section of the AT. We will start and end at the Anthony Creek trail and follow a prong of Anthony Creek up to the higher elevations. A likely lunch spot is the Spence Field trail shelter. With a warm spring, we might even see a few early wildflowers at the lower elevations.

Meet at **Alcoa Food City** <see list> at 8:00. Round trip mileages: drive- 40 {8¢=\$3.20}, hike- 13.2. Rated difficult with 3000' elevation gain.

Leaders: Tim Bigelow 607-6781 bigelowt2@mindspring.com  
Debbie Goddard 382-3047 debbiegoddard@bellsouth.net

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## FROZEN HEAD: BALD KNOB

March 20 – Saturday <added re-try>

The original version of this hike was cancelled due to bad weather, but now we'll still be able to visit this new addition to Frozen Head. Starting at the gate 5 bridge over the Emory River, we'll climb a series of old roads to nearly the crest of Bald Knob where the route intersects the park's North Boundary trail. The return will be by the same route.

Leave from **Oak Ridge the Rush** <see list> at 8:30 AM. Round trip mileages: drive 74 {8¢=\$5.90}, hike about 8, rated moderate.

Leaders: Don Coffman 376-5842 don\_e\_coffman@yahoo.com  
Keith Mertz 982-7368 keithmertz@hotmail.com

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## SPRUCE FLATS FALLS, PLUS

March 21 – Sunday

From the GRSM Institute at Tremont to the Falls we use the well-known Institute-maintained trail, which rates easy-to-moderate. The Plus takes us across Spruce Flats Branch below the falls and up the switchbacks to the old railroad grade where we will have it very easy exploring to the right all the way to the river, then back and to the left, past the upper falls, and a short way up the Honey Cove Branch RR spur. The out-bound crossing of Spruce Flats Branch is a longish step down, which is quite imposing for most on the return, so rock-hopping or wading may be required.

Leave from **Alcoa Food City** at 9. Round trip mileages: drive- 46 {8¢=\$3.70}, hike- 3.5, rated easy-to-moderate.

Leader: Charlie Klabunde 483-8055 klabundece@aol.com

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## SEVEN ISLANDS WILDLIFE REFUGE

**EASY, Short Hike:**

March 27- Saturday

~5 miles

Meet: Asheville Hwy (ex)-Food Lion at 8:30 Mindy Fawver 310-1979 fawverm@bellsouth.net

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## LAUREL-SNOW POCKET WILDERNESS

March 28 – Sunday

From the parking lot of this Pocket Wilderness, we will first hike to Snow Falls. Wading shoes will be necessary for those willing to wade the creek to reach the falls. After viewing Snow Falls, we will stop at Betty Dunn Overlook for lunch. You can see Laurel Falls plainly from there. We will then proceed to Buzzards Roost for the view before heading back to the parking lot.

Meet at **ORNL Credit Union in Kingston** <see list> at 8:30. Round trip mileages: drive- 90 {8¢=\$7.20}, hike- 8.5, rated moderate.

Leaders: Carolyn Reeves 717-3528 Jack Millsbaugh 513-505-2457 jem2907@gmail.com

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## COMING EVENTS – April

- 3 – Sat A.T. Work Trip
  - 3 – Sat Porters Creek Wildflowers
  - 10 – Sat Frozen Head Wildflowers
  - 17 – Sat White Oak Sinks
  - 18 – Sun Bent Arm Manway
  - 24 – Sat Brookshire Creek Trail (Cherokee NF)
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**MEETING PLACES: “Asheville Hwy (ex)-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 store has been recently vacated and the sign is gone.**

**“Food City in Alcoa”**= on right between 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> stoplight (on Hall Rd., TN 35), a block before Big Lots

**“ex-Bi-Lo in Maryville”** = just south of where US-129 & US-411 join, (SW corner at traffic light, past Pilot/Conoco). Meet at front of lot.

**“the *Rush* fitness complex in Oak Ridge”**= 2-1/2 traffic lights past NOAA; opposite Walmart. Meet next to Illinois Ave

**“ORNL Credit Union in Kingston”** at exit 352 off I-40: Turn left at end of ramp and go ½ block to entry on right. Park along right edge of side lot, toward rear.

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