

## MOUNTAIN HIGH HIKERS CALENDAR


**Winter 2019**

❖❖ Trails maintained by MHH

## Designated Wilderness Area (limit 10 hikers/group in NC, 12 hikers/group in GA)

<b>Jan 1</b> <b>10 AM</b> <b>C3</b>	Wagon Train Trail/Arkaquah Trail combo hike. We will start at Brasstown Bald parking area and hike out and back on the Wagon Train Trail about 2 miles to viewpoint then return to parking area and hike about 1.5 miles out and back on the Arkaquah trail. Total of about 7 miles. Meet: Brasstown Bald Parking lot. Parking fee required or Golden Age Pass. Leader: Kim Blankenship 770-880-8358
<b>Jan 1</b> <b>9 AM</b> <b>C3</b>	Bear Paw and Chestnut Mountain loop trails opposite the Whitewater Center in the Ocoee Gorge, TN. A moderate 7.7 mile hike. Good winter views of gorge. Meet: Piggly Wiggly in Ducktown TN Leader: <b>NEED HIKE LEADER</b>
<b>Jan 3</b> <b>9 AM</b> <b>B2</b>	<b>Leisure Hike - Three Forks to Hickory Flats Cemetery &amp; Return</b> - This 3.6-miler on the Appalachian Trail has some uphill going in, we'll take it graciously, then its almost all downhill returning. Enjoy beautiful Long Creek Falls and the "whirlagig" ride at Hickory Flats Cemetery. Meet at Park and Ride, Blairsville Leader: Howard Baggett howardeb@windstream.net
<b>Jan 3</b> <b>9 AM</b>	<b>Georgia Trail Maintenance Day.</b> <b>Meet:</b> Blairsville Park and Ride <span style="float: right;"><b>Bronco Burnsworth 315-591-3167</b></span>
<b>Jan 8</b> <b>9 AM</b> <b>B3</b>	Benton MacKaye Trail, Section 15 near Coker Creek, TN. Moderate 4.2 miles in and out, from Sandy Gap NC to Sixmile Gap, with the optional side trip up Waucheesi Mountain. The side trip will add @ 1.5 miles but includes GREAT 360° views. The main trail walks the ridge along the TN/NC line, with beautiful views in the winter, and a stone state line marker engraved in the 1821 state line survey. Total: 5.7 mi. Meet: Piggly Wiggly in Ducktown TN Leader: <b>NEED HIKE LEADER</b>
<b>Jan 8</b> <b>9 AM</b> <b>C4</b>	Duncan Ridge Trail from Mulky Gap to Fish Gap for ≈6 miles round trip. This section has some moderate to strenuous ascents and descents. Meet: Park & Ride in Blairsville. Leader: Steve Dennison 706-299-6825
<b>Jan 10</b> <b>9 AM</b> <b>B1</b>	<b>Leisure Hike - Boyd Gap &amp; Old Copper Rd. Trail to Whitewater Center</b> - We'll run our short shuttle then begin by drinking in the vista of Big Frog Mountain (4,224 ft.) first. Then it's almost entirely a pleasant, modest downhill hike of just over three miles to the 1996 Olympic Ocoee River Whitewater Center (closed in winter). (Parking fee or federal pass required) Meet at old Piggly Wiggly parking, Ducktown, TN Leader: Ginny Smith 706-258-8716
<b>Jan 10</b> <b>9 AM</b>	<b>NC Trail Maintenance Day</b> <b>Meet:</b> Ingles parking lot in Hayesville <span style="float: right;"><b>Bronco Burnsworth 315-591-3167</b></span>
<b>Jan 15</b> <b>9 AM</b> <b>B4</b>	Fires Creek. From recreation area pass by Leatherwood Falls, then take Rim Access Trail for another 2 miles of steady ascent. Return down access trail and complete Leatherwood Falls loop for 5 miles. Steep uphill section. Meet: Ingles parking lot in Hayesville. Leader: <b>NEED HIKE LEADER</b>
<b>Jan 15</b> <b>9 AM</b> <b>D4</b>	Hogpen Gap on Richard Russell Hwy to Low Gap Shelter and return. A round trip of 8.4 mi on the AT. Nice winter views. Meet: Choestoe Baptist Church parking lot on Hwy 180

	Leader: <b>NEED HIKE LEADER</b>
<b>Jan 17 9 AM B3</b>	<b>Leisure Hike - Winding Stair Gap to Log Steps at Old Logging Rd.</b> - Begin with a modest-grade 550-ft. uphill then run along the ridge at 4,400 ft. on the A.T. to the log steps at an old logging road crossing, then return - distance is exactly 5 miles round-trip. Meet at Ingles parking lot, Hayesville Leader: Virginia Lane 706-897-1785
<b>Jan 17 9 AM</b>	<b>NC Trail Maintenance Day</b> <b>Meet:</b> Ingles parking lot in Hayesville <b>Bronco Burnsworth 315-591-3167</b>
<b>Jan 22 9 AM C3</b>	Lake Winfield Scott-Jarrard Gap- Slaughter Gap loop. This is a pleasant 6 mile hike with no ascents and descents. (\$5.00 or Golden Age Pass at Lake Winfield Scott). Meet: Choestoe Baptist Church parking lot on Hwy 180. Leader: Marjorie Hornsby 828-415-1530
<b>Jan 22 9 AM D4</b>	Dicks Creek Gap south on the AT to Kelly Knob and return. 9 miles. Climb Powell Mtn and Kelly Knob. Meet: Macedonia Baptist Church east of Hiawasse Leader: Steve Dennison 706-299-6825
<b>Jan 24 9 AM B1</b>	<b>Leisure Hike - FS Rd. 221 on BMT to Thunder Rock Campground Parking</b> - This hike on the Benton MacKaye Trail is virtually all downhill, starting high and dropping down eventually to trek along the Ocoee River, for a 3.2 mi. hike. Meet at Piggly Wiggly parking, Ducktown TN Leader: <b>NEED HIKE LEADER</b>
<b>Jan 24 9 AM</b>	<b>Georgia Trail Maintenance Day.</b> <b>Meet:</b> Blairsville Park and Ride <b>Bronco Burnsworth 315-591-3167</b>
<b>Jan 29 9 AM C3</b>	<b>Miller Trek at Brasstown Valley Resort.</b> This 6.5 mile loop is moderately difficult with an elevation change of 1,400 feet and some rough, rocky footing. Meet: Trailhead parking lot on service road at the Resort. Leader: <b>NEED HIKE LEADER</b>
<b>Jan 29 9 AM D3</b>	Hike Inn Trail. 4.9 miles from Amicalola Falls State Park to Len Foote Hike Inn, 4.9 miles return. 9.8 mi total. Several moderate climbs. Moderate Pace. Meet: Meet at Blairsville Park & Ride at 900 AM – Food Lion in Blue Ridge around 930 and the trailhead at Amicalola around 1000. Need a State Park Pass for parking. Leader: Marjorie Hornsby 828-415-1530
<b>Jan 31 9 AM B2 or B3</b>	<b>Leisure Hike - Toccoa River Swinging Bridge and BMT to Hwy. 60</b> - Yes, you will start low at the awesome 260-ft. Benton MacKaye Trail swinging bridge, then climb the BMT on moderate uphill and pace in a mile to pass around little knolls of Toonowee Mountain. The final mile is downhill - total mileage is 3.5. Your leader will share some history of the bridge and trail in this area. Three-plus-mile Forest Service Rd. shuttle necessary Meet at Park & Ride, Blairsville Leader: George Owen 706-374-4716
<b>Jan 31 9 AM</b>	<b>NC Trail Maintenance Day</b> <b>Meet:</b> Ingles parking lot in Hayesville <b>Bronco Burnsworth 315-591-3167</b>
<b>Feb 5 9 AM C3</b>	Woody Gap to Gooch Gap on the AT 7.2 miles round trip. A moderate hike with two nice viewpoints. Meet: Choestoe Baptist Church parking lot on Hwy 180. Leader: Candy Retter 706-897-9538
<b>Feb 5 9 AM D3</b>	Eagle Mountain, near Hiawasse: 9 mile loop with some steep climbing. Come climb the mountain that along with Bell Mountain dominates the skyline from Hiawasse and Hayesville. Up close views of Bell Mountain; great views of Lake Chatuge. Meet: Macedonia Baptist Church east of Hiawasse Leader: Irene Reiner 706-970-9822

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<b>Feb 7 9 AM B1</b>	<b>Leisure Hike - Two Jackrabbit Trails</b> - It's an easy double-loop outing, using the Central Loop Trail and off that the Upper Ridge Trail for a 4.6-mile venture. Much of it is pretty flat, and it's all at Jackrabbit Mountain Bike/Hiking Trails. Meet at first parking area on left for bike/hiking trails at Jackrabbit Forest Service Campground area off NC 175. Leader: Marjorie Hornsby 828-415-1530
<b>Feb 7 9 AM</b>	<b>NC Trail Maintenance Day</b> <b>Meet:</b> Ingles parking lot in Hayesville <b>Bronco Burnsworth 315-591-3167</b>
<b>Feb 12 9 AM B3</b>	Cohuttas: Gahutti Trail loop at Fort Mtn. State Park. Start at park entrance Gahutti to Goldmine Trail to Lake Trail to Rock Trail and back on Gahutti Trail, 5.3 mile. Variety of terrain, minor stream crossings, great views. Meet: Park & Ride in Ellijay Leader: Carolyn & Tom Sewell 706-669-4916
<b>Feb 12 9 AM D3</b>	Classic Hike: Winding Stair Gap to Siler Bald and return. Approx. 9 miles. Winter views outstanding. Wilderness area: group size rules apply. Slower Paced. Meet: Ingles Parking lot in Hayesville Leader: Marjorie Hornsby 828-415-1530
<b>Feb 14 9 AM B1 or B2</b> 	<b>Leisure Hike - Lake Nottely Trails</b> - Our day begins with the easy loop trail on the northwest side of the lake near where Loving Rd. splits off GA 325. After that 2-plus-mile trek, we drive across the dam to do a couple little trails there. Total for the morning is something over three miles. Two of the trails have very modest climbs. Meet at southern parking lot for new loop trail just north of Loving Rd. on GA 325. Leader: Kim Blankenship 770-880-8358
<b>Feb 14 9 AM</b>	<b>Georgia Trail Maintenance Day.</b> <b>Meet:</b> Blairsville Park and Ride <b>Bronco Burnsworth 315-591-3167</b>
<b>Feb 19 9 AM B3</b>	Gooch Gap north to Justus Creek. Break at Gooch Shelter. 6 miles. Meet: Choestoe Baptist Church parking lot on Hwy 180. Leader: Kim Blankenship 770-880-8358
<b>Feb 19 9 AM E4</b>	Unicoi Gap to Tray Mountain on the AT with return on the Rocky Mountain Trail. A 10.4 mile strenuous hike, 2400 ft. elevation gain. Great view from Tray Mountain. Meet: Unicoi Gap on Hwy 75 south of Hiwassee Leader: Irene Reiner 706-970-9822
<b>Feb 21 9 AM B2</b>	<b>Leisure Hike - Wonderful Trails Near TN Whitewater Center</b> - We start out with our only short, moderate climb across from the Ocoee Whitewater Center using the 1.7 Bearpaw Loop - ascending only about 200 feet, looping around, then descending back down to walk a half-mile down to the Rhododendron Trail. This latter 1.0 mile trail to TVA powerhouse #3, and then to the Thunder Rock Campground, gives us a total of about 3.4 mi. Short shuttle - fee or federal pass at Whitewater Center parking. Meet at Piggly Wiggly parking, Ducktown, TN. Leader: Evelin Yarns 828-837-7237
<b>Feb 21 9 AM</b>	<b>NC Trail Maintenance Day</b> <b>Meet:</b> Ingles parking lot in Hayesville <b>Bronco Burnsworth 315-591-3167</b>
<b>Feb 26 9 AM C3</b>	Fall Branch Falls parking lot on BMT to junction with Stanley Gap trail at Weaver Creek section and return. No shuttle. 6.4 miles. Meet: Food Lion in Blue Ridge Leader: Ken Cissna 813-310-6084
<b>Feb 26 9 AM E4</b>	Long Branch Trail to AT to Albert Mt. 10.5 mi. Up to the AT on Long Branch Trail, from the Backcountry Information Center, hike south on the AT to Albert Mt lookout tower and return Meet: Ingles parking lot in Hayesville

	Leader: Marjorie Hornsby 828-415-1530
<b>Feb 28</b> <b>9 AM</b> <b>B1</b>	<b>Leisure Hike - Three Towns County, GA Short Loop Trails</b> - 1) Loop the Young Harris athletic fields. 2) Then drive to nearby Brasstown Valley Lodge parking to traverse the Bottoms Loop. 3) Finally, drive briefly again to Lake Chatuge Forest Service Day Use Area (one mile south of U.S. 76 on GA 288) to hike either the paved or unpaved loop. Total hike mileage - little over three. Meet at Young Harris College parking lot on U.S. 76 between tennis courts and just east of Blue Ridge Mtn. EMC. Leader: Laurie Columbo 530-295-7639
<b>Feb 28</b> <b>9 AM</b>	<b>NC Trail Maintenance Day</b> <b>Meet:</b> Ingles parking lot in Hayesville <b>Bronco Burnsworth 315-591-3167</b>
<b>Mar 5</b> <b>9 AM</b> <b>C3</b>	Neels Gap to Wolf Laurel Top and back on the AT. A 6.8 mile round trip. Great views from Wolf Laurel. Meet: Byron Reece Parking Area on Hwy. 129 Leader: Candy Retter 706-897-9538
<b>Mar 5</b> <b>9 AM</b> <b>D3</b>	Woody Gap to Lake Winfield Scott via the AT. Woody Gap to Slaughter Gap, down the Slaughter Creek Trail to Lake Winfield Scott for 10 miles. Shuttle required. Designated wilderness area. Meet: Choestoe Baptist Church parking lot on Hwy 180 Leader: Marjorie Hornsby 828-415-1530
<b>Mar 7</b> <b>9 AM</b> <b>B1</b>	<b>Leisure Hike - Murphy River Walk - PART NEW</b> - Like flat? Then this one is for you. It's about a four-mile walk along Murphy, NC's Hiwassee and Valley rivers. We start at the old L&N Depot near downtown, walk along the main trail to a split where we follow the new trail extension up the Valley River's south shore to Lowe's - this extension is delightful and well-wooded. We return to take the Confluence Loop and a lower trail also with pond cypresses. Total distance is about four miles, easy. We'll consider late lunch near 1 p.m. at a nearby downtown restaurant. Meet at L & N Depot off Hiwassee St. off U.S. 74/64/129 (most western trailhead parking) Leader: Sue & Bob Astley 404-403-8425, 404-702-0273
<b>Mar 7</b> <b>9 AM</b>	<b>Georgia Trail Maintenance Day.</b> <b>Meet:</b> Blairsville Park and Ride <b>Bronco Burnsworth 315-591-3167</b>
<b>Mar 12</b> <b>9 AM</b> <b>C3</b>	Woody Gap over Big Cedar Mt. to Miller Gap on the AT, then down Dockery Lake Trail for a total of 6.4 miles. Shuttle required. Very scenic hike with flame azaleas in spring. Meet: Choestoe Baptist Church parking lot on Hwy 180 Leader: Richard Sullivan rjsullivan@tds.net
<b>Mar 12</b> <b>9 AM</b> <b>C3</b>	Benton MacKaye Trail from Hwy. 60 across Toonowee Mountain to the suspension bridge and return for 7.2 miles round trip. Elevation change 800 ft. in, 900 ft out. Meet: Park & Ride in Blairsville. Hike leader will meet hikers at trailhead 9:15 to 9:30. Leader: Steve Dennison 706-299-6825
<b>Mar 14</b> <b>9 AM</b> <b>B2 or B3</b>	<b>Leisure Hike - Green Mtn., Connector, Long Branch Loop</b> - From Deep Gap on Aska Rd. south of Blue Ridge, we ascend modestly on the Green Mountain Trail for one mile, then drop a bit, pick up the Long Branch Loop Connector Trail, and finally turn right (counter-clockwise) to do about two-thirds of the Long Branch Loop Trail to shuttled vehicles in that trail's parking area. Total distance is somewhere between three and four miles. Short shuttle. Meet at Food Lion parking lot in Blue Ridge Leader: Ken Cissna 813-310-6084
<b>Mar 14</b> <b>9 AM</b>	<b>NC Trail Maintenance Day</b> <b>Meet:</b> Ingles parking lot in Hayesville <b>Bronco Burnsworth 315-591-3167</b>
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