

MOUNTAIN HIGH HIKERS CALENDAR

Winter 2017

Jan. 3 9 AM C2	Jack Rabbit hike/bike trail. 7.6 miles. Hike four loops of the Jack Rabbit Hike/ bike trail--3.1 miles on the white blazed loop, 2 miles on the blue blazed loop, 1 mile on the orange blazed trail, 1.5 miles on yellow blazed loop (or leader's choice). Great views of Lake Chatuge in winter. Meet: Jack Rabbit hike/bike trailhead. Hwy 75 N of Hiawassee Gail Janney 419-708-8709 C
Jan. 3 9 AM D4	Smith Creek Trail from Unicoi State Park to Ana Ruby Falls and return. A moderate/strenuous 9 mile hike with lunch at the falls. MHH maintained trail. Meet: Macedonia Baptist Church parking lot Hiawassee. Ginny Smith 706-258-8716 C
Jan. 5 9 AM	NC Trail Maintenance Day Meet: Ingles parking lot in Hayesville Bronco Burnsworth 315-591-3167
Jan. 5 9 AM C2	Leisure Hike - Brush Creek Trail near the Ocoee Whitewater Center. 5 mile loop easy moderate from large parking lot. Good views of the lake. Meet: Piggly Wiggly at Ducktown, TN Evelin & Doug Yarns 828-837-723
Jan. 10 9 AM B1	Big Lost Creek Trail Located in TN. on the BMT. Less than six miles in and out. This easy, mostly level hike follows Big Lost Creek. Beautiful gorge, high rock walls on each side. Cascading rapids, falls, and beautiful rock formations on one side. Giant icicles in winter make this a gorgeous winter hike. Meet: Piggly Wiggly Parking lot in Ducktown, TN Ken Cissna 813-310-6084
Jan. 10 9 AM C4	Byron H. Reece Parking area to Woods Hole Shelter on the AT. Return on the Freeman Trail. (7.5 miles) 1,400 ft.climb. Rough, rocky footing in designated wilderness area. Meet: Choestoe Baptist Church parking lot on Hwy 180 Ginny Smith 706-258-8716 C
Jan. 12 9 AM B1 ##	Leisure Hike - New - Four Trails of Towns County - This day we will do four hikes in three locations just minutes from each other - short shuttles - and total trek mileage of just over four miles, each trail being a mile or slightly over in distance - all loops. It includes: (1 & 2) two trails at Lake Chatuge (one paved), 3) the lower loop in the flats below the lodge at Brasstown Valley Resort, and 4) the walkway around the fields at Young Harris College. Meet: Blairsville park & ride at 9:00 or Lake Chatuge trailhead at 9:15. George Owen 706-374-4716
Jan. 12 9 AM	Georgia Trail Maintenance Day. Meet: Blairsville Park and Ride Bronco Burnsworth 315-591-3167
Jan.17 9 AM B1	Pinnacle Knob from Courthouse Gap and return for a 4.4 mile hike. Lunch afterwards in Clayton. Meet: Blairsville park & ride at 9:00, or 9:25 Macedonia Baptist Church parking lot east of Hiawassee or 10 am Ingle's in Clayton Ray Lovett 770-519-0210
Jan.17 9 AM C3	Testnatee Gap to Levelland Mt. on the AT and return. This 7.6 mile hike has spectacular view from Cowrock, Wolf Laurel Top and Levelland Mts. Meeting: Choestoe Baptist Church parking lot on Hwy 180 Jon Dulude 706-219-2662
Jan. 18- 21	SEFTC's fabulous Pigeon Forge/Smokies Winter Hike Event, Jan. 18-22 - many MHH hikers attending this. For more information: http://southeasternfoottrails.org/
Jan. 19 9AM B2	Leisure Hike - AT & BMT Middle Loop and on to Big Stamp Gap - We begin at the Springer Mountain Appalachian Trail parking lot and hike the AT for 0.9 mi. to the ridge of Rich Mountain, where we intersect the Benton MacKaye Trail and take that 2.2 miles to Big Stamp Gap. Total hiking miles is 3.1, with a modest car shuttle. Meet: Blairsville park and ride Needs Hike Leader
Jan. 19	No Maintenance trip this week. See you in Pigeon Forge.
Jan.24 9 AM B3	Stanley Gap Trail – 4.9 Miles, Start at Aska Adventure area, up over Rocky Mountain on the BMT, then on to Fall Branch Falls , 1400' elevation gain. Shuttle. Meet: Blue Ridge Food Lion Ken Cissna 813-310-6084
Jan.24 9 AM	Dicks Creek Gap south on the AT to Kelly Knob and return by way of Deep Gap Shelter for 9 miles.

D4	Meet: Macedonia Baptist Church Hiawassee. Steve Dennison 706-253-3938 sjd50@etcmail.com
Jan. 26 9 AM B3	Leisure Hike - Five-Mile Round-Trip on AT South of Winding Stair Gap - Yes, no shuttle, and we have a gradual ascent over a 550-foot elevation gain in the first mile to 4,400 feet with winter views as we hike along the ridge. We drop just slightly to a trail "platform" created by a roadbed with wooden steps, turn around, and hike back out the same way. (Should high altitude weather interfere, we will do a trail or two at Jackrabbit.) Meet: Hayesville Ingles Virginia Lane 706-745-8058
Jan. 26 9 AM	NC Trail Maintenance Day Meet: Ingles parking lot in Hayesville Bronco Burnsworth 315-591-3167
Jan. 31 9 AM C3 BB	Miller Trek This 6.5 mile loop is moderately difficult with an elevation change of 1,400 feet and some rough, rocky footing. Some nice winter views of Lake Chatuge. Trail maintained by MHH. Meet: Trailhead parking at Brasstown Valley resort. Candy Retter 706-897-5938
Jan. 31 9 AM D3	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. Meet: Blue Ridge Food Lion. Ginny Smith 706-258-8716 C
Feb. 2 9 AM B1	Leisure Hike - Boyd Gap to Ocoee Whitewater Center - This pleasant all-downhill 3.6-mile trek begins with the wonderful vista of Tennessee's 4,224-ft. Big Frog Mountain, and then includes hiking westward to the Ocoee Whitewater Center on the Boyd Gap and Old Copper Road Trails. Very short shuttle involved. Meet: Piggly Wiggly in Ducktown Ginny Smith 706-258-8716 C
FEB. 2 9 AM	NC Trail Maintenance Day Meet: Ingles parking lot in Hayesville Bronco Burnsworth 315-591-3167
Feb. 7 9 AM B3	Standing Indian Area. Rock Gap to Glassmine Gap on the AT for 5 miles. Beautiful views, rhododendron canopy, old shelter. Meet: Ingles parking lot in Hayesville. Ginny Smith 706-258-8716 C
Feb. 7 9 AM D3	Bartram Trail from Warwoman Dell to Pinnacle Knob and return for an 8.2 mile hike. The climb to the top from the Bartram trail has a new trail section. This makes the trail a little longer but dramatically better. Meet: Macedonia Baptist Church parking lot east of Hiawassee Needs Hike Leader
Feb. 9 9 AM B2	Leisure Hike - Raven Cliff Falls - Always popular, this trek off the Richard Russell Scenic Hwy. is 5.0 miles round-trip. The last couple hundred yards up to the falls hidden in the cliffs is the only fairly hard climb, and is a great place for lunch or snacks. Meet: Blairsville Park & Ride Candy Retter 706-897-9538
Feb. 9 9 AM	Georgia Trail Maintenance Day. Meet: Blairsville Park and Ride Bronco Burnsworth 315-591-3167
Feb.14 9 AM B3	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. Trail maintained by MHH. Meet: Ingles parking lot in Hayesville. Michael O'Brian 706-745-6260
Feb.14 9 AM C3	Bear Paw and Chestnut Mountain loop trails & 1330 connector opposite the Whitewater Center in the Ocoee Gorge, TN. A moderate 8.7 mile hike. Good winter views of gorge. Meet: Piggly Wiggly in Ducktown,Tn. Ginny Smith 706-258-8716 C
Feb. 16 9 AM A1	Leisure Hike - Other Non-Bicycle Trails at Jackrabbit - Most people now know only the 13-mile bicycle trails at the entrance to Jackrabbit Campground in NC north of Hiawassee, GA. Today hike the lesser-known much older loop trail over the little mountain at Jackrabbit, and your leader will throw in a mostly abandoned side loop also - all total, just under three miles. Trail maintained by MHH. Meet: Trailhead Hwy 75 to Jackrabbit recreation area, drive to the end of Jackrabbit Recreation area road: the trailhead parking is next to the boat ramp George Owen 706-374-4716
Feb. 16 9 AM	NC Trail Maintenance Day Meet: Ingles parking lot in Hayesville Bronco Burnsworth 315-591-3167
Feb. 21 10 AM B2	Cohutta's: New Hike for MHH: Pinhotti Trail. Start at Cohutta Overlook along Hwy. 52 east of Ellijay and down to Mulberry Gap. Mostly downhill 4.2 miles. 5 mile easy shuttle. Meet: Ellijay Food Lion. Carolyn & Tom Sewell 706-669-6406

Feb.21 9 AM D3	Classic Hike: Winding Stair Gap to Siler Bald and return. Approx. 8 miles. <u>Winter views outstanding.</u> Meet: Ingles Parking lot in Hayesville Steve Dennison 706-253-3938 sjd50@etcmail.com
Feb. 23 10 AM B2	Leisure Hike – Amadahy Trail at Carters Lake. Beautiful lakeside 5 mile loop with a rest/snack stop on a beautiful peninsula at the half way point. Lunch at Poole's BBQ in Ellijay after the hike. Meet: Ellijay Food Lion Mike Pilvinsky 706-273-2086
Feb. 23 9 AM	NC Trail Maintenance Day Meet: Ingles parking lot in Hayesville Bronco Burnsworth 315-591-3167
Feb. 28 9 AM B3	Benton MacKaye Trail from Hwy. 60 at Wilscot Gap to Skeenah Gap. This 5.3 mile section is constantly going up and down. Many of these short grades are steep. Shuttle required. Meet: Park & Ride in Blairsville Judie Kean 706-745-4998
Feb. 28 9 AM D3	Cohutta's: Hemp Top: this 8 mile hike will start at Dally Gap , join the BMT at Spanish Oaks, and pass Penitentiary trail intersection on to Hemp top where we will return via same trail. May see ruins of old fire tower atop Hemp top Mt. We will start hiking from Dally Gap. Trailhead distance from meeting point 15 miles paved plus 4 miles dirt Meet: Home Depot in Blue Ridge. Carolyn & Tom Sewell 706-669-6406
Mar. 2 9 AM A2	Leisure Hike - Hogpen Gap to Whitley Gap to Tesnatee Gap - We begin this 3.3 mile trek with a short 150-foot climb up Wildcat Mountain, then travel out the Wildcat ridge with several overlooks from which you can even see Stone Mtn. and downtown Atlanta when clear, and drop down into Whitley Gap with its shelter and excellent box spring. After we climb back to the ridge, we continue back to the main AT for a final rock vista into the 1,200-foot-deep Town Creek Gorge, then descend a bit under 500 feet to Tesnatee Gap. Very short shuttle. Meet: Blairsville Park and Ride. Virginia Lane 706-745-8058
Mar. 2 9 AM	Georgia Trail Maintenance Day. Meet: Blairsville Park and Ride Bronco Burnsworth 315-591-3167
Mar. 7 9 AM B2	Flat Creek Loop in Fannin County. This 5.8 mile loop hike begins at Deep Gap on Aska Road and is rated average difficulty. Meet: Food Lion Blue Ridge Howard Baggett howardeb@windstream.net
Mar. 7 9 AM D3	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. Candy Retter 706-897-9538
Mar. 9 9 AM B1	Leisure Hike - Jackrabbit Mountain Bike/Hiking Trails - This hike features the following trails: central loop, high point, and part of Yotee's Run - a bit over five miles. High Point has a sweeping eastward 180-degree vista at the top of a little climb. Loop, no shuttle. Meet: Jackrabbit Mountain Bike/Hiking Trailhead n. of Hiawassee Hwy 75 Bob & Sue Astley 404-702-0273
Mar. 9 9 AM	NC Trail Maintenance Day Meet: Ingles parking lot in Hayesville Bronco Burnsworth 315-591-3167
Mar 9 6 PM	Covered Dish Supper / Business Meeting Sharp Memorial Methodist Church Fellowship Hall in Young Harris. Bring a covered dish for 8. For info call : Candy Retter 706-835-1344 or candy.retter@gmail.com
Mar. 14 9 AM B4	Blood Mountain via the Byron Herbert Reece Trail and AT. A 5 mile round trip hike with 1,400 ft. of elevation change. Splendid views from the top. Meet: Choestoe Baptist Church parking lot on Hwy 180 Cathie Stallings 706-835-1639
Mar. 14 9 AM E4	Deep Gap to Fall Branch Falls on the Stanley Gap and Benton MacKaye Trails in Fannin County. 10.4 mile in and out hike, 1,200 foot elevation change in both directions. Meet: Food Lion in Blue Ridge Steve Dennison 706-253-3938 sjd50@etcmail.com
Mar. 16 9 AM B1	Select Trails at Amicalola Falls State Park - Most of us MHH hikers think either "Appalachian Trail Approach Trail" or "Hike Inn Trail" when thinking "Amicalola," but the state park itself offers other trail delights within the park boundary. Our morning walks today include: Visitor's Center to the falls bottom pool and back, and the trails of the west ridge including the paved West Ridge Falls Access Trail (wheelchair accessible to the main falls), and then a descent via the Spring Trail, Mountain Laurel Loop Trail (part), and Creek Trail. <u>Then it's time for lunch together at the lodge dining room.</u> After lunch we will trek out to the first overlook on the Hike Inn Trail and back (1.8 miles round-trip). Short shuttle. State Park

