

MOUNTAIN HIGH HIKERS CALENDAR

Winter 2018

Jan. 2 9 AM C3	<p>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 to carpool: hike leader will meet at the trailhead 9:25. Ken Cissna 813-310-6084</p>
Jan. 2 9 AM D4	<p>Smith Creek Trail from Unicoi State Park to Ana Ruby Falls and return. A moderate/strenuous 9 mile hike (≈ 5 hrs.) with lunch at the falls. MHH maintained trail. Meet: Macedonia Baptist Church parking lot Hiawassee. Ginny Smith 706-258-8716</p>
Jan. 4 9 AM	<p>NC Trail Maintenance Day Meet: Ingles parking lot in Hayesville Bronco Burnsworth 315-591-3167</p>
Jan. 4 9 AM B3	<p>Leisure Hike - L. Winfield Scott Loop & Woody Gap to Gooch Gap - This hike of about four miles is a new mixture: Walk around Lake Winfield Scott (flat - 0.7 mi.) on the way to a shuttle for the approximately three-mile hike with two vistas between Woody and Gooch gaps. (Federal pass/parking fee, L. W. Scott) Meet: Blairsville Park & Ride Ginny Smith 706-258-8716</p>
Jan. 9 9 AM C3	<p>Hogpen Gap to Wolf Laurel Top, back to Tesnatee Gap. With a side trip to a beautiful overlook toward Whitley Gap Shelter (6.6 miles). Short shuttle. Meet: Choestoe Baptist Church Linda & Bob Kaempfer 828-644-5836</p>
Jan. 9 9 AM D2	<p>Eagle Mountain, near Hiawassee: 9 mile loop with some steep climbing. Come climb the mountain that along with Bell Mountain dominates the skyline from Hiawassee and Hayesville. Up close views of Bell Mountain; great views of Lake Chatuge. The route follows old logging roads and receives no maintenance: wear long Pants Phyllis Meet: Macedonia Church east of Hiawassee Phyllis & Ken Jones 828-646-8925</p>
Jan. 11 9 AM B3	<p>Leisure Hike - BMT Downhill & Rhododendron Trail - Take the Benton MacKaye Trail downhill for 3.7 miles amidst towering big trees, then hike the Ocoee River Trail to the Whitewater Center - little over a total of five miles. Modest shuttle involved. Meet: Piggly Wiggly, Ducktown, TN Laurie Colombo 530-295-7639</p>
Jan. 11 9 AM	<p>NC Trail Maintenance Day Meet: Ingles parking lot in Hayesville Bronco Burnsworth 315-591-3167</p>
Jan.16 9 AM C3	<p>New Hike: Piney Knob Trail just outside of Murphy. A moderate hike of about 5 ½ miles. An elevation changes of 400 to 500 feet. Meet: Ingles in Murphy, NC. Pam & Richard Sullivan 706-374-5281</p>
Jan.16 9 AM C3	<p>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. Text the hike leader if you plan attend. Meet: Choestoe Baptist Church on Hwy 180 Carpool. Hike Leader will meet at the trailhead Stephen Gales 864-276-4763 (cell text please)</p>
Jan. 18 9AM B3	<p>Leisure Hike - Lower Miller Trek & Bottoms Trail - From the Brasstown Valley Lodge alternate trailhead in parking lot just east of lodge, connect to the lower part of the Miller Trek, hike to the trail "crossover," return downhill again on the Miller Trail, turn right into the "Bottoms Loop" - ultimately returning to the parking lot of trip origin. Trail maintained by MHH. Meet: Young Harris upper part of Brasstown Valley Lodge parking lot (<u>NOT at the official Miller Trek parking lot near U.S. 76</u>) George Owen 706-374-4716</p>
Jan. 18 9 am	<p>Georgia Trail Maintenance Day. Meet: Blairsville Park and Ride Bronco Burnsworth 315-591-3167</p>
Jan.23 9 AM B3	<p>Gooch Gap south to Justus Creek. Break at Gooch Shelter. 6 miles. Meet: Blairsville Park & Ride Sue & Bob Astley 404-702-0273 or 404-403-8425</p>
Jan.23 9 AM D4	<p>Dicks Creek Gap south on the AT to Kelly Knob and return. 9 miles. Text the hike leader if you plan to attend. Meet: Macedonia Baptist Church E of Hiawassee Carpool. Hike Leader will meet at the trailhead</p>

	text please)	Stephen Gales 864-276-4763 (cell
Jan. 24-28	SEFTC's fabulous Pigeon Forge/Smokies Winter Hike Event, Jan. 24-28 - many MHH hikers attending this. For more information: http://southeasternfoottrails.org/	
Jan. 25 9 AM B1	Leisure Hike - River Walk in Murphy - This 4.5 mile hike is a rather flat hike along the Valley and Hiwassee rivers. A loop or two occurs on the trail for variety's sake. Meet: Murphy, NC L&N Depot on Hiwassee St. in downtown. Sue & Bob Astley 404-702-0273	
Jan. 25 9 AM-	NC Trail Maintenance Day Meet: Ingles parking lot in Hayesville Bronco Burnsworth 315-591-3167	
Jan. 30 9 AM C3	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: Young Harris Trailhead parking at Brasstown Valley resort. Candy Retter 706-897-9538	
Jan. 30 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. Moderate Pace. Meet: Blue Ridge Food Lion. Judie Kean 706-745-4998	
Feb. 1 9 AM B2	Leisure Hike - Some Trails of Vogel - Three trails at Vogel State Park are featured. First is the mile walk around the lake and visit to the waterfall. Then we trek the nature trail loop, and finally hike a piece of the Coosa Backcountry Trail just to GA Hwy 180 and return - total mileage: little over four. Park pass or \$5 fee per car at Vogel Meet: Vogel State Park. Ginny Smith 706-258-8716	
FEB. 1 9 AM	NC Trail Maintenance Day Meet: Ingles parking lot in Hayesville Bronco Burnsworth 315-591-3167	
Feb. 6 9 AM B3	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. Meeting: Ellijay Food Lion Steve Dennison 706-299-6825	
Feb. 6 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 east of Hiawassee Hike Leader Needed or New Hike	
Feb. 8 9 AM B3/4	Leisure Hike - Toccoa River Swinging Bridge to Hwy. 60 - We first walk about a quarter-mile to the 260-ft. swinging bridge over the Toccoa River. This is followed by a 3.5-mile trek to Hwy. 60 for a total 3.8-mile hike. Going north from the river the climb for a mile up Tooni Mtn. is much more gradual than the other way going south. Shuttle of a little over three miles each way on Forest Service Rd. involved. Meet: Blairsville Park & Ride. Ken Cissna 813-310-6084	
Feb. 8 9 AM	Georgia Trail Maintenance Day. Meet: Blairsville Park and Ride Bronco Burnsworth 315-591-3167	
Feb.13 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 (3.5 hours). Steep uphill section. Wilderness area: group size rules apply. Trail maintained by MHH. Meet: Ingles parking lot in Hayesville. Tim Holby 828-361-4205	
Feb.13 9 AM C3	Unicoi Gap to Chattahoochee Gap and return on the AT. An 8.8 mile hike. Some rough, rocky footing. Side trip to Blue Mt. Shelter. Wilderness area: group size rules apply. Text the hike leader if you plan to attend. Meet:Macedonia Baptist Church east of Hiawassee Stephen Gales 864-276-4763 (cell text please)	
Feb. 15 9 AM B1	Leisure Hike - Jackrabbit Trails - We'll do the 3.1 mi. central loop and the 1.0 mi. Burnt Tree Peninsula - total mileage of 4.1 mi. on an easy hike. Meet: Trailhead Hwy 75 to Jackrabbit recreation area, Hiawassee. Marjorie Hornsby 828-415-1530	
Feb. 15 9 AM	NC Trail Maintenance Day Meet: Ingles parking lot in Hayesville Bronco Burnsworth 315-591-3167	

Feb. 20 9 AM C3	Lake Winfield Scott-Jarrard Gap- Slaughter Gap loop. This is a pleasant 6 mile hike with moderate ascents and descents. (\$5.00 or Golden Age Pass at Lake Winfield Scott). Wilderness area: group size rules apply. Meet: Choestoe Baptist Church on Hwy 180. Candy Retter 706-897-9538
Feb.20 9 AM D3	Classic Hike: Winding Stair Gap to Siler Bald and return. Approx. 9 miles. <u>Winter views outstanding.</u> Wilderness area: group size rules apply. Slower Paced. Meet: Ingles Parking lot in Hayesville Marjorie Hornsby 828-415-1530
Feb. 22 9 AM B3/4	Leisure Hike – Rock Gap to Standing Indian Backcountry parking – First mile is uphill gradually but steadily on the Appalachian Trail, then after some downhill we arrive at Glassmine Gap (total 2.6 on A.T.). The rest of the trip is 2.0 miles downhill on the Long Branch Trail. Short shuttle involved. Meet: Hayesville Ingles Virginia Lane 706-745-8058 or Cell 706-897-1785
Feb. 22	NC Trail Maintenance Day Meet: Ingles parking lot in Hayesville Bronco Burnsworth 315-591-3167
Feb. 27 9 AM B3	New Hike: Bartram Trail. Nantahala Gorge Duke Power Plant 1400 ft. elevation change to Jarett Mtn. 5.2 miles total. Partial old road hike with beautiful views. It's downhill on our return. Moderate Pace and frequent stops on the way to the top. Social time afterwards in Andrews for those wishing to join. Meet: Murphy, NC Ingles Hwy 19 Carolyn & Tom Sewell 706-669-4916
Feb. 27 9 AM D3	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 Mtn. We will start hiking from Dally Gap. Trailhead distance from meeting point 15 miles paved plus 4 miles dirt road. Meet: Home Depot in Blue Ridge. Ginny Smith 706-258-8716
Mar. 1 9 AM B2	Leisure Hike – Boyd Gap to Thunder Rock Campground - We initiate this hike at scenic Boyd Gap Parking with a great Vista of 4,224-ft. Big Frog Mountain, then begin hiking west on three trails that gradually descend and descend, mostly along the famous Ocoee River, venue of the 1996 Olympics river races. The trails include Boyd Gap, Old Copper Road (now just a trail), and the Rhododendron – ending at Thunder Rock Campground trail parking. Hiking distance is about 5 miles. Modest shuttle required. Meet: Ducktown, TN Piggly Wiggly Tim Holby 828-361-4205
Mar. 1 9 AM	Georgia Trail Maintenance Day. Meet: Blairsville Park and Ride Bronco Burnsworth 315-591-3167
Mar. 6 9 AM C4	Duncan Ridge Trail: 6.3 miles Wolfpen Gap to Mulky Gap or Reverse. First mile either direction has 800 ft. climb after that some up and down. This will be a key swap adventure led by 2 of our most experienced hike leaders. Meet: Blairsville Park and Ride Michael O'Brien 706-994-1569 & Richard Sullivan 706-374-5281
Mar. 6 9 AM D4	Black Rock Mountain State Park near Clayton. Hike the James E. Edmonds Loop Trail for 7.2 moderate to strenuous miles. Then the Tennessee Rock Trail for 2.2 moderate miles. 9.4 miles total. State park pass or current parking fee. Moderate pace. Meet: Macedonia Baptist Church east of Hiawassee 9 AM Steve Dennison 706-299-6825
Mar. 8 9 AM B3	Leisure Hike – BMT Across Sisson Property, Hwy. 515 to Boardtown Rd. – A tumbling cascade, the only Benton MacKaye Trail shelter in Georgia, a couple of small lakes, a chapel – it's all a trek of about four miles across private property with a mixture of woods and cabins. Some up and down is involved, including a couple steep ups for a few tenths of a mile, but the last mile is downhill predominately. Shuttle involved. Meet: Blue Ridge Home Depot parking nearest Dairy Queen Ken Cissna 813-310-6084
Mar. 8 9 AM	NC Trail Maintenance Day Meet: Ingles parking lot in Hayesville Bronco Burnsworth 315-591-3167
Mar. 13 9 AM C2	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. Wilderness area: group size rules apply. Parking fee required or Golden Age Pass. Meet: Choestoe Baptist Church parking lot on Hwy 180 Tim Holby 828-361-4205
Mar. 13 9 AM E4	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 Text the hike leader if you plan attend.

	Meet: Choestoe Baptist Church on Hwy 180 & Carpool. Hike Leader will meet at the trailhead 9:30 am Stephen Gales 864-276-4763 (cell text please)
Mar. 15 9 AM B2	Leisure Hike – Helen to Unicoi State Park Lodge for Lunch and Return – This trek of just under six miles total is always popular. The wide woods trail between the two ends has only very modest climbing, much fairly flat, and part of the time you are traveling along rushing Smith Creek. Meet: Choestoe Baptist Church parking lot on Hwy 180 to carpool (Hike Leader will not be at this location), or at the Helen trailhead parking lot behind the little hillside park downtown Helen at 9:40 to meet hike leader. Howard Baggett howardeb@windstream.net
Mar. 15 9 AM	NC Trail Maintenance Day Meet: Ingles parking lot in Hayesville Bronco Burnsworth 315-591-3167
Mar 15 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. 20 9 AM B3	Boyd Gap to Thunder Rock Campground - We initiate this hike at scenic Boyd Gap Parking with a great Vista of 4,224-ft. Big Frog Mountain, then begin hiking west on three trails that gradually descend and descend, mostly along the famous Ocoee River, venue of the 1996 Olympics river races. The trails include Boyd Gap, Trip to the Dam, Old Copper Road (now just a trail), and the Rhododendron – ending at Thunder Rock Campground trail parking. Hiking distance is about 6 miles. Modest shuttle required. Meet: Ducktown, TN Piggly Wiggly Tim Holby 828-361-4205
Mar. 20 8 AM E4	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 Irene Reiner 706-970-9822
Mar. 22 9 AM B1	Leisure Hike - Second Quarterly Hike to Bike/Hike Trails at Jackrabbit - Enjoy two pleasant interlocking loops, the Central Loop (3.1 mi.) and the Upper Ridge Loop (1.5), for a 4.6-mile total. Meet: Trailhead Hiawassee, Hwy 75 to Jackrabbit recreation area. Marjorie Hornsby 828-415-1530
Mar. 22	Georgia Trail Maintenance Day. Meet: Blairsville Park and Ride Bronco Burnsworth 315-591-3167
Mar. 27 9 AM B3	New Hike: Bartram Trail. Nantahala Gorge Duke Power Plant 1400 ft. elevation change to Jarett Mtn. 5.2 miles total. Partial old road hike with beautiful views. It's downhill on our return. Moderate Pace and frequent stops on the way to the top. Social time afterwards in Andrews for those wishing to join. Meet: Murphy, NC Ingles Hwy 19 Carolyn & Tom Sewell 706-669-4916
Mar. 27 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. Faster Paced Meeting: Choestoe Baptist Church on Hwy 180 Steve Dennison 706-299-6825
Mar. 29 9 AM B3/4	Leisure Hike – PARTLY NEW: Kimsey Creek Trail, Crossover Trail, Return on Park Ridge Trail – This loop out of Standing Indian Backcountry Parking we estimate is one side or the other of about five miles. The mileage or the relatively new Crossover Trail portion from Kimsey Creek is not on maps, and has a steep portion. The last couple of miles are downhill or flat. Meet: Ingles, Hayesville George Owen 706-374-4716
Mar. 29 9 am	NC Trail Maintenance Day Meet: Ingles parking lot in Hayesville Bronco Burnsworth 315-591-3167