

MOUNTAIN HIGH HIKERS CALENDAR

Winter 2020

❖❖ Trails maintained by MHH

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

Jan 2 9AM B1	Leisure Hike - Jackrabbit Mountain, NC Bike/Hiking Trails: Two Loops - We'll begin clockwise on the big Central Loop, at the first intersection take the Upper Ridge Trail clockwise, then return to the Central Loop for the remainder of our hike. Total: 4.6 miles, all pretty easy. Meet at USFS Jackrabbit Mtn. first parking lot on left Leader: Sue Astley 404-702-0273
Jan 2 9AM	NC / GA Trail Maintenance Day. Contact: Bronco Burnsworth 315-591-3167
Jan 7 9AM C3	Thunder Rock Loop Trail. Start at Thunder Rock Campground Parking area to Rhododendron, Bear Paw, and Chestnut Mtn Trails, then return on the Thunder Rock Express. 7 miles, no shuttle required. Meet at Piggly Wiggly parking lot in Ducktown. Leader: Evelin Yarns 828-837-7237
Jan 7 9AM D4	Dicks Creek Gap north to Plum Orchard Gap Shelter, in and out on the AT. 9 miles. Moderate with some steep climbs. Trail passes Dick's Creek Gap 2675 ft, Cowart Gap 2920 ft, Buzzard Knob 3760 ft, and Plum Orchard Gap 3090 ft. Meet: Macedonia Baptist Church parking lot east of Hiawassee NOTE: If you plan to do the long hike, please text or leave a voice mail message for hike leader. Leader: Steve Dennison 706-299-6825
Jan 9 9AM B2	Leisure Hike (PART NEW) - BMT's New Big Stamp Parking Lot to Three Forks - This is mostly northward on the Benton MacKaye Trail with a bit of Appalachian Trail included. From the new BMT parking lot completed fall 2019, we hike to the first AT/BMT crossing, take the AT a short distance to the next AT/BMT crossing, then turn right to continue the remainder of the hike on the BMT atop Rich Mountain down to Three Forks. Total: 4.2 miles, shuttle. Meet at Park and Ride, Blairsville (alternate: Three Forks at 9:45 - inform leader) Leader: George Owen 706-374-4716
Jan 9 9 AM	NC / GA Trail Maintenance Day. Contact: Bronco Burnsworth 315-591-3167
Jan 14 9AM B3##	Jack's Knob Trail from Jack's Gap to Chattahoochee River Headwaters is a 5.3 mile out and back trail located near Hiawassee, Georgia that features a great forest setting and is good for all skill levels. Meet at Choestoe Baptist Church parking lot on Hwy 180 Leader: Jerry Mason 404-435-0989
Jan 14 9AM D3	Classic Hike: Winding Stair Gap to Siler Bald and return. Approx. 9 miles. Winter views outstanding. Meet: Ingles Parking lot in Hayesville Leader: Don Muhleman 210-316-6614
Jan 16 9AM B1 to B2	Leisure Hike - Quartz Loop & Benton MacKaye Trail - First we hike the Tanasi Trails System (Ocoee River area) fairly easy Quartz Loop, then we return to the BMT trailhead on FS 221 to hike mostly downhill to Thunder Rock Campground parking, just over five miles. Shuttle. Meet at Piggly Wiggly, Ducktown, TN Leader: Tom and Carolyn Sewell 706-669-6406

Jan 16 9 AM	NC / GA Trail Maintenance Day. Contact: Bronco Burnsworth 315-591-3167
Jan 21 9AM C3##	Hogpen Gap to Wolf Laurel Top , back to Tesnatee Gap. With an optional side trip to a beautiful overlook toward Whitley Gap Shelter (6.6 miles). Some sections are steep. NOTE: If you plan to do this hike, please text or leave a voice mail message for hike leader. Meet at Hogpen Gap on Richard B Russell Scenic Hwy GA-348 Leader: Don Muhleman 210-316-6614
Jan 21 10AM C4	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 NOTE: If you plan to do the long hike, please text or leave a voice mail message for hike leader. Leader: Steve Dennison 706-299-6825
Jan 23 10AM B2	Leisure Hike –Two Jackrabbit Trails - the Central Loop Trail for 3.1 and off that the Sneaking Creek Trail Trail for 3.2 miles. 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
Jan 23 9 AM	NC / GA Trail Maintenance Day. Contact: Bronco Burnsworth 315-591-3167
Jan 28 9AM C3	Brush Creek Trail near the Ocoee Whitewater Center. 6.5 mile easy to moderate from Boyd Gap overlook with good views of the lake. Short shuttle required. Meet at Piggly Wiggly parking lot in Ducktown. Leader: Ken Cissna 813-310-6084
Jan 28 9AM D4	Gahuti Backcountry Trail in Fort Mountain State Park. An 8.2 mile moderate to strenuous hike with good fall views. State Park Pass or current parking fee. Meeting place: Ingles, Old Orchard Square, Ellijay near Burger King. NOTE: If you plan to do the long hike, please text or leave a voice mail message for hike leader. Leader: Steve Dennison 706-299-6825
Jan 30 9AM B1	Leisure Hike - Unicoi Lake & northern half of Unicoi-Helen Trail in GA - Hike the Unicoi Lake 2.2-mile trail, then from the state park tennis courts hike the Unicoi-Helen Trail on the upper loop part clockwise to the first Smith Creek Trail and return. Lunch at either Unicoi (if serving lunch that day) or drive to Helen for the German restaurant. Total mileage is about 4 mi. Meet at U.S. 19 & GA 180 toward Brasstown Bald intersection lot Leader: George Owen 706-374-4716
Jan 30 9 AM	NC / GA Trail Maintenance Day. Contact: Bronco Burnsworth 315-591-3167
Feb 4 9AM B2	Green Mountain Loop Trail in Fannin County, Aska area. A moderate hike of about 5 miles with good winter views of Lake Blue Ridge. Meet at Food Lion in Blue Ridge. Leader: Ken Cissna 813-310-6084
Feb 4 9AM 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. Option to return on the Approach Trail. Meet: Park and Ride in Blairsville Leader: Marjorie Hornsby 828-415-1530

Feb 6 9AM B3	Leisure Hike - Winding Stair Gap to Steps & Return - Yes, this total 5.0-mi. hike out and back has 550 feet of climb in the first mile, but it's mostly modest, topping the ridge at 4,400 ft. The rest is relatively easy, with downhill all the last part. Start at Winding Stair Gap parking, go 2.5 mi. to the turn-around at the steps on the old logging road crossing, and return - great winter vistas on top. Meet at Ingles, Hayesville, NC Leader: Marjorie Hornsby 828-415-1530
Feb 6 9 AM	NC / GA Trail Maintenance Day. Contact: Bronco Burnsworth 315-591-3167
Feb 11 9AM C3	The Miller Trek (Trail #46) at Brasstown Valley Resort. 6.5 mile loop is moderately difficult with an elevation change of 1,400 feet and some rough, rocky footing. Meet at Trailhead parking lot on service road at the resort. Leader: Don Muhleman 210-316-6614
Feb 11 9AM 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 Leader: Marjorie Hornsby 828-415-1530
Feb13 9AM B1	Leisure Hike - Boyd Gap to Thunder Rock Campground - This series of interlocking trails including the Boyd Gap, Old Copper Road, Rhododendron, and two short connectors runs from start to finish mostly along the Ocoee River whitewater paradise, including the USFS Ocoee Whitewater Center of the 1996 Olympics. Hike begins with the Boyd Gap awesome vista of 4,224-ft. Big Frog Mountain and the peaks of the surrounding wilderness. The trek is almost totally a gradual downhill walk! Those so desiring might choose to eat afterwards in nearby Copper Hill. Meet at Piggly Wiggly, Ducktown, TN Leader: Evelin Yarns 919-530-9640
Feb 13 9 AM	NC / GA Trail Maintenance Day. Contact: Bronco Burnsworth 315-591-3167
Feb 18 9AM C3##	Woody Gap over Big Cedar Mt. to Jarrard Gap on the AT, then down to Lake Winfield Scott for a total of 6.3 miles. Shuttle required. Meet: Choestoe Baptist Church parking lot on Hwy 180 Leader: Needs Hike Leader
Feb 18 9AM D3	Bartram Trail from Warwoman Dell to Pinnacle Knob and return for an 8.2 mile hike. Pass by two waterfalls. Meet: Macedonia Baptist Church east of Hiawasse Leader: Marjorie Hornsby 828-415-1530
Feb 20 9AM B1-2	NEW Leisure Hike - Burnett Gap to Reese Farm Trailhead - This is a pretty easy trek with only one quarter-mile uphill. Park and start at Burnett Gap, hike downhill on the Coosa Backcountry Trail for about a mile, then on a connecting trail and road to the lake at Vogel State Park. Hike half-way around the lake (includes waterfall at lake's north end) and pick up the Byron Herbert Reese-Vogel Trail to the parking trailhead next to Reese Farm. Length: ca. 3.5-4.0 mi. with modest shuttle. Meet at U.S. 19/GA 180 east toward Brasstown intersection parking south of Blairsville Leader: Kim Blankenship 770-880-8358
Feb 20 9 AM	NC / GA Trail Maintenance Day. Contact: Bronco Burnsworth 315-591-3167
Feb 25 9AM B3	Bear Hair Gap out of Vogel. Meet at Choestoe Baptist Church parking lot on Hwy 180 Leader: Candy Retter 706-897-9538
Feb 25	Woody Gap to Lake Winfield Scott via the AT. Woody Gap to Slaughter Gap, down the

9AM D3	Slaughter Creek Trail to Lake Winfield Scott for 10 miles. Shuttle required Meet: Choestoe Baptist Church parking lot on Hwy 180 Leader: Marjorie Hornsby 828-415-1530
Feb 27 9AM B1	Leisure Hike - River Greenway Trail at Murphy, NC & Lunch- Park at the old abandoned railway station in Murphy and enjoy a shady hike along the Hiwassee and Valley rivers. We'll hike out the new portion of trail toward Lowe's, and the leader can include other portions, especially coming back the riverside portion with pond cypresses. The group may elect to have late lunch nearby at one of the restaurants on Murphy's main street. Meet at old Murphy train station next to greenway parking lot Leader: Sue Astley 404-702-0273
Feb 27 9 AM	NC / GA Trail Maintenance Day. Contact: Bronco Burnsworth 315-591-3167
Mar 3 9AM B3	Wilscot Gap to Brawley Mtn. At the Brawley Mtn firetower we will walk down the forest service road back to Wilscot. 6.3 miles No shuttle. Meet at Blairsville Park & Ride Leader: Kim Blankenship 770-880-8358
Mar 3 9AM D4	Duncan Ridge Trail from Mulky Gap to Sarvis Gap and return. An 8.2 mile strenuous hike. Excellent winter views.. Meet: Blairsville Park and Ride NOTE: If you plan to do the long hike, please text or leave a voice mail message for hike leader. Leader: Steve Dennison 706-299-6825
Mar 5 9AM B1	Leisure Hike - NEW - Brush Creek Trail Shorter Loop - By using a couple of well-maintained old logging roads, and starting and ending off a parking area just a half-mile west of the Cherokee NF east entrance on U.S. 64, we offer you an undulating very modest hike of about 4 miles-plus/minus. There will be wonderful vistas of remote Ocoee No. 3 lake and the high mountains beyond. No shuttle. Consider lunch in nearby Copperhill. Meet at Piggly Wiggly, Ducktown, TN Leader: George Owen 706-374-4716
Mar 5 9 AM	NC / GA Trail Maintenance Day. Contact: Bronco Burnsworth 315-591-3167
Mar 10 9AM B3	BMT/AT to Springer Loop. Follow BMT to AT then up to top of Springer Mtn. Return via BMT trail. Optional side trips to AT Shelter and Owen's Overlook. 5 miles Meet: Blairsville Park and Ride Leader: Ken Cissna 813-310-6084
Mar 10 9AM D4	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 Hiawassee NOTE: If you plan to do the long hike, please text or leave a voice mail message for hike leader. Leader: Steve Dennison 706-299-6825
Mar 12 9AM B3-4	Leisure Hike - Woody Gap to Gooch Gap - Admittedly, this is a little tougher "leisure hike." However, we frequently schedule it. Start at Woody Gap, and mid-hike one has two little short climbs of a few hundred feet, both to great vistas on the Appalachian Trail. Other than that it's relatively modest. Possibly greet early thru-AT-hikers heading northward to Maine. Distance: 3+ mi. with modest shuttle. Meet at U.S. 19/GA 180 east toward Brasstown intersection parking south of Blairsville (or at either trailhead with contact in advance to leader) Leader: Marjorie Hornsby 828-415-1530
Mar 12	NC / GA Trail Maintenance Day.

9 AM	Contact: Bronco Burnsworth 315-591-3167
Mar 17 9AM B4	Bear Creek Loop. Hike the 7 mile moderate loop in the Cohutta Mtns and see the "famous" Gannett Poplar. Meet at Ellijay Park and Ride Leader: Linda Hiles 954-445-4358
Mar 17 9AM C3	Winding Stair Gap to Rock Gap and back. A 7.4 mile moderate hike on AT. Meet: Ingles parking lot in Hayesville Leader: Marjorie Hornsby 828-415-1530
Mar 19 9AM B2-3	Leisure Hike - First Day of Spring! - Rock Gap to Backcountry Information Center - Here's a chance to greet early A.T. through hikers going north. We begin at Rock Gap on the Appalachian Trail. Much of the first mile is a steady uphill for elevation gain of several hundred feet, then we cruise along the beautiful ridge top and down to Glassmine Gap at 2.6 mi. We then take the Long Branch Trail 2.0 miles downhill to the Backcountry Information Center. Total is 4.6 mi., with a short shuttle. Meet at Ingles, Hayesville, NC Leader: Kim Blankenship 770-880-8358
Mar 19 9 AM	NC / GA Trail Maintenance Day. Contact: Bronco Burnsworth 315-591-3167
Mar 24 9AM B3	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 Leader: Needs Hike Leader
Mar 24 9AM C3	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. Great views of Lake Chatuge and variety of hard woods. Meet: Jack Rabbit hike/bike trailhead Leader: Marjorie Hornsby 828-415-1530
Mar 26 9AM B1-2	Leisure Hike - PART NEW - BMT short section and Unicoi Turnpike Trail, TN - Come walk through history. From Unicoi Gap, TN near Coker Creek, we first hike north almost a mile on simply a sampling of the Benton MacKaye Trail before it begins seriously climbing toward Peels High Knob, then we turn around and return to Unicoi Gap. Subsequently we trek mostly downhill for 2.6 mi on the recently created Unicoi Turnpike Trail that in portions walks along the old wagon route that was the later 1830s "Trail of Tears" for the Creek and Cherokee nations of Native Americans removal to Oklahoma. An old Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camp is also along this trail. Come be a part of it all with a history-buff leader.. Meet at Piggly Wiggly, Ducktown, TN Leader: George Owen 706-374-4716
Mar 26 9 AM	NC / GA Trail Maintenance Day. Contact: Bronco Burnsworth 315-591-3167
Mar 27 12 PM	Covered Dish Lunch/ Business Meeting at Vogel State Park. Bring a covered dish for 8. For info contact : Tim Holby holbytim@gmail.com
Mar 31 9AM 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. Leader: Candy Retter 706-897-9538
Mar 31	Tesnatee Gap to Levelland Mountain on the AT and return. This 7.6 mile hike has

**9AM
C3**

spectacular views from Cowrock, Wolf Laurel Top and Levelland Mountains

Meet: Choestoe Baptist Church parking lot on Hwy 180.

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Leader: Steve Dennison 706-299-6825