

Newsletter of the Chattanooga Hiking Club

June 2020



**Club Meeting** 

The Chattanooga Hiking Club meets at 6:30 PM on the first Monday of even numbered months (except December) at the REI store at 2507 Lifestyle Way, behind the Embassy Suites off Shallowford Road.

# Next meeting – maybe Monday, October 5, 2020 (???)

# If perhaps you've forgotten to renew your membership, go to the website, under "About Us", then under "Renewal Form".

We've finally begun to tippy-toe out and try to do a little bit of hiking as a club! Carpooling is still a worry, but we're trying to pick hikes that are close enough that everyone can drive. We're getting back to the usual Wednesday routine, but the Saturday schedule will still be somewhat thin for a while. More hike leaders would be a big help on Saturdays!

**This just in...** The entire Smokies trail system has once again succumbed to the relentless boot pounding of another CHC member. Rick Glisson is the latest to accomplish the feat of hiking-them-all with a short ceremonial finishing hike followed by a celebratory picnic on May 31, 2020. Members joining Rick were Elaine and Tim Chomyn, Betsy Parson, Che Carico, Ken Smith, Barbara McCollum, Bill Needham, and Shelly Claiborne.



Pictures from Rick

**Reports from the Field** 

# N Chick Greenway/Spangler Farms Wednesday May 6, 2020

Our first attempt at a Wednesday hike seemed to go off quite well. We circled all around the property, staying safely separated from each other and from people we met along the way. Most stayed for an enjoyable picnic lunch in the shade - almost a bit chilly! Those venturing out to see if their legs still worked were Betsy Parson, Bill Kinnaman, Bob Shafto, Charlie Breeding, Delores Ladd, Merry and Diehl Boggs, Jennie Chandler, Joe Teringer, Joy Ward, Larry Parks, Patti Giles, Tom Long, Wayne Chambers, and John Rowland reporting.



Pictures from John

# Cedar Mountain Wednesday May 13, 2020

A few hikers met at the Cedar Mountain Trailhead near Nickajack Dam to take advantage of the well maintained trail which is a short drive from Chattanooga. When we arrived, we were surprised to find several vehicles at the lot, as well as a light sprinkle of rain which wasn't in the forecast. Never the less we proceeded around the loop counterclockwise. The light rain cooled things down and the thick canopy helped keep us relatively dry. Although the wildflower season had peaked earlier we noted trillium, dwarf iris and fire pink along the way. As we started the short ascent after a half hour stroll we were met by the other half of our CHC contingent. They had left a little earlier and took the counterclockwise option. In spite of the minor confusion we enjoyed the short stroll and camaraderie after weeks of Corona confinement. The early birds were Maureen, Tom, and Wayne. Those on schedule included Karen, Charlie, Joe, Boe, and Steve Barnes reporting.

# **Upcoming Outings**

# Prentice Cooper, Snoopers Rock Saturday June 6, 2020

Location: Chattanooga Driving time: 35 minutes one way Distance: 7.4 mi. Elevation gain: minimal, maybe 300-400 ft. Rating: Moderate Pace: Standard

Since we're kind of restarting the year, let's go back to our traditional New Year's hike. But this time there will be no one-way hike, and no car shuttle. We'll start at the Cumberland Trail parking area, drop down to Indian Rock House, then turn and follow the river to Snoopers Rock. We'll retrace our steps on the return trip. We can still meet at our usual rendezvous and car caravan for those who may not be sure of the driving directions. Contact John Rowland, jrowland\_1@hotmail.com or 423 802-7704.

#### Pine Log Creek Saturday June 20, 2020

Location: Rydal, GA Distance: 4.6, 7.2, or 10 mi. Elevation gain: approx. 800 ft. for 4.6 mi. Rating: Moderate Pace: Standard

Driving time: 1 hour from Chattanooga The Pine Log Creek Trail is a 4.6-mile double loop which winds through a beautifully rugged, rolling forest through shady pines and deciduous trees near Adairsville, GA. The hike's highlight is the remote, water-filled pond on Pine Log Creek's eastern loop, where crystal-clear, chilly water fills the remains of a historic rock quarry (built by the CCC) framed in giant, jagged rock outcrops. This is a perfect spot for lunch or snack. Hikers have three options: complete both loops, complete the loop and double up on the western loop, or complete both loops and double up on both the eastern and western loops for a total of approximately 10 miles. To learn more about the trail, here is a great article from Atlanta Trails: <u>Pine Log Creek Trail & Quarry - Atlanta Trails</u>. To register for the hike, contact hike leader Barbara McCollum at bpmccollum@yahoo.com

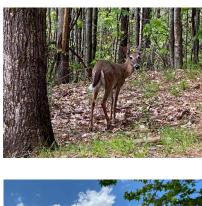
Social distancing will be adhered to and hikers will be expected to meet the hike leader at the trail head.



# **Reports from the Field**

#### Tim Chomyn, Rick Glisson Smokies May 16, 2020







Pictures from Rick

#### Stormy McGauley, Jenny Hopkins, Susan Basch Pinhoti May 17, 2020

Way 17, 2020





Pictures from Stormy

#### Enterprise South Wednesday May 20, 2020

Enterprise South has created a wonderful system of trails for "Our Town"! Now they have added a new short piece to the equestrian trail. To cover the entire 16 mile trail (which now includes the 3.5 miles of new) you must hike 16.5 miles. The configuration is a lollipop so the first 6.5 miles must be hiked 2 times. In and out distance choices are also there for you. The trail is called Summit Knob. It includes a nice bathroom, a kiosk, maps, plenty of parking, wide trail, and strong markers. Bill Kinnaman had said he had found a "nice new trail off of Hwy 58" and Elizabeth O'Conner said the trail had "saved her life during the virus closings". She walked there every day!! Google takes you right to the trailhead. Almost beating the rain today were: John Searcy, Susan Garrett, Wayne Chambers, Monty Simmons, Che Carico reporting, Elizabeth and Bill co-leading.

# **Reports from the Field**

Stormy McGauley, Jenny Hopkins, Susan Basch Chattanooga Connector May 21, 2020





Rick Glisson Smokies

May 23, 2020 (cont'd)





Pictures from Rick



Stormy McGa Chickamauga May 24, 2020

Pictures from Stormy

# Rick Glisson Smokies May 23, 2020



Stormy McGauley, Jenny Hopkins, Susan Basch Chickamauga Creek





Pictures from Stormy

Rick Glisson Smokies May 24, 2020





Pictures from Rick

**Reports from the Field** 

# **Outings Schedule**

06/06/20 Prentice Cooper, Snoopers Rock 06/20/20 Pine Log Creek, GA (plans for farther out still very vague...)

J Rowland B McCollum

# **Other Stuff**

#### We Built a Bridge!

Well, actually we only funded it! But still, surely it would be OK if we all wipe our brows and tell yarns about how much hard work it was. It's on the CT on the side of Signal Mountain between Signal Point and Rainbow Lake. There will soon be a plaque attached crediting our own CHC!





#### Wednesday Day Hikes - Che Carico - The Wednesday group hikes many of the same trails as the weekend hikers. Since a schedule is not published in advance, notification of each week's plan is sent out by email on Sunday or Monday. Please call Che at (423) 718-9271, leave your email address, and ask to be added to the group list; or email her at MidWeek@chatthiking.com and likewise ask to be added to the group list.

#### **Hike Difficulty Ratings**

The information below is provided as a guide only. Each hiker assumes the risks associated with hiking in the great outdoors, including the responsibility of paying any bills associated with rescue efforts or medical care. The wise hiker always carries water, food, and first aid items.

Easy (E): 6 miles or less; mostly level or only slight incline. Moderate (M): 6-10 miles with an elevation gain that will generally not exceed 350 feet per mile, with a total elevation gain of no more than 1000 ft.

Moderately Strenuous (MS): 6-10 miles in length, but include rocky trail conditions, tricky stream crossings, or elevation gain of more than 1000 ft but less than 2000 ft.

Strenuous (S): a distance of 10-14 miles or with more than 2000 ft total elevation gain, but no more than 3000 ft.

Extremely Strenuous (S+): Usually involves distances of more than 14 miles or more than 3000 ft in elevation gain. There might be very steep/rugged climbs, deep stream crossings, or unmaintained trails.

Pace: Standard pace is 2 miles an hour; less on steep or rugged terrain. Fast pace is 2.5 to 3 miles an hour or more and may not vary much regardless of terrain.

Attention: When calling to go on an outing, please specify exact number of people who will be attending. Do NOT just show up with a friend or family member unannounced! This puts your hike leader in an awkward position as most hikes involve some planning of transportation. Also we frequently hike in wilderness areas and other places where the number of hikers in a group is limited. If that is the case, and the hike is already full, you may be turned away!

Cancellations: Hike leaders are entirely at the own discretion regarding the weather. It is possible that a leader may decide that, due to weather conditions, they do not feel safe hiking on that day. Lightning kills many people every year and can strike hikers on a trail. Also many of the areas where we hike are prone to flash floods that can kill or injure. The leader will call, email, text, etc., if deciding to cancel before the day of the hike. In the event that the decision to cancel is made on the day of the hike, the leader will give you the courtesy of showing up at the designated meeting place to announce that the hike is cancelled.

# **Rock/Creek Discount Info**

Show your Chattanooga Hiking Club Membership Card, along with your ID at any Rock/Creek Store.

Chattanooga Hiking Club - 10% off one Item

\*Applies to one non-sale, in-stock item. Can not be combined with other discounts or promotions. Offer does not apply to gift cards, boats, boards, coolers, & electronics. In-store only.

#### **Club Officers and Support:**

President - Gary Petty (423) 488-5954 Vice President - Stormy McGauley (423) 505-4525 Treasurer - Jenny Hopkins Secretary - Susan Basch (706) 633-6159 Membership Database - Susan Basch (706) 633-6159 Outings - Barbara McCollum (770) 289-7143 Newsletter/Webmaster - John Rowland (423) 802-7704 Trail Maintenance - Steve Barnes (423) 339-3019 Boe Rudder (423) 400-1103 Midweek Outings - Cheryl Carico (423) 718-9271 Website: chatthiking.com (includes link to newsletter)