

LET'S GO!



FOURTH QUARTER 2025 Quarterly Hike Schedule



P.O. Box 68, Asheville, NC 28802 • www.carolinamountainclub.org • e-mail: cmcinfo@carolinamountainclub.org

HIKE RATINGS

First Letter	Second Letter
Distance	Elevation Gain
AA: Over 12 miles	AA: Over 2,000 ft.
A: 9.1-12 miles	A: 1,501-2,000 ft.
B: 6.1-9 miles	B: 1,001-1,500 ft.
C: Up to 6 miles	C: 1,000 ft. or less

If it's not possible to go on the regularly scheduled hike, it may be possible to accompany the leader when the hike is scouted. Hike cancellations are announced on the CMC website in the Breaking News box. Hike Leaders will announce a cancellation or significant change at least a few hours before the hike. Hikers that do not have internet access or live hours away: call the hike leader to ensure that you are informed about hike changes. See the Hike Schedule on the CMC website for more complete and timely information at www.carolinamountainclub.org.

TRAIL MAINTENANCE

All members are encouraged to participate in trail maintenance activities. Non-members are invited to try it a few times before deciding if they want to join the Club and be a regular part of a crew. We train and provide tools.

Below is a general schedule of work days. Exact plans often are not made until the last minute, so contact crew leaders for details. MST and AT section maintainers work on their own schedule.

Burnsville Monday Crew

John Whitehouse,
johnwhitehouse@icloud.com

Art Leob Monday Crew

Dan Sanford, sanford.danielj@gmail.com

Waynesville Wednesday Crew

Chris Werbylo, jcw402@aol.com

Asheville Thursday Crew

Dale Gerhardt, patchwrk18@gmail.com
Ken Hummel, kenhummel60@gmail.com
David Pizzolato, pizzolato957@gmail.com

Asheville Friday crew

Paul Curtin, pmcurtin@hotmail.com
Chris Werbylo, jcw402@aol.com

Pisgah Friday Crew

Don Cooper, dncpr47@gmail.com
Robert Bolt, otherob@inbox.com

Quarterly Saturday Crew

Les Love, leslove55@gmail.com
Chris Werbylo, jcw402@aol.com

Free Rangers Crew

John Busse, jfbusse@hotmail.com

Remote Overnight Crew

Paul Curtin, pmcurtin@hotmail.com

Section Rovers Crew

Jan Onan, janonan59@gmail.com

Wilderness Response Crew

Paul Dickens, psdicken@gmail.com

A.T. Section Maintainers Supervisor

Paul Curtin, pmcurtin@hotmail.com

MST Maintainers (South to North)

Oconaluftee River to Old Bald

Chris Werbylo, jcw402@aol.com

Old Bald to Hwy 215

Robert Bolt, otherob@inbox.com

Hwy 215 to Big Ridge O/L

Available

Big Ridge O/L to BRP Visitor Center

Les Love, leslove55@gmail.com

BRP Visitor Ctr to Greybeard O/L

John Busse, jfbusse@hotmail.com

Greybeard O/L to Black Mtn Campground

John Whitehouse,
johnwhitehouse@icloud.com

Secondary Trails Maintainers Supervisor

Les Love, leslove55@gmail.com

CHALLENGE PROGRAMS

A.T.-MST For hiking the 228 miles of the A.T. and MST on CMC maintained sections. Contact ATMST@CarolinaMountainClub.com

FH100 For hiking all 100 trails in the "100 Favorite Trails of the Smokies and Carolina Blue Ridge." Contact Steve Pierce, stevepierce50@gmail.com

LTC For hiking all 24 lookout towers in WNC. Contact LTC@carolinamountainclub.org

P400 For hiking every trail in Pisgah Ranger District. Contact P400@CarolinaMountainClub.org

SB6K For hiking all 40 peaks above 6000'. Contact SB6K@carolinamountainclub.org

WC100 For hiking to the 100 best waterfalls in the area. Contact w100@carolinamountainclub.org

YPC For hiking eight different Land Management areas with youth 17 and under. Contact Kay Shurtleff at kshurtleff@msn.com

900M For hiking every trail in GSMNP. Contact Steve Pierce, stevepierce50@gmail.com

LEISURE HIKES

Leisure hikes are designed to provide more hiking opportunities for beginners, youth, or anyone else looking for a shorter, slower-paced CMC hike. The hikes are open to CMC members as well as families and newcomers. Please contact the hike leader to reserve your space. If you have questions or are interested in leading a Leisure hike, please contact Jeff Wilcox at education@carolinamountainclub.org.

Saturday No. L2504-0586

Oct. 4

MST: Chestnut Cove

to Hard Times Trail

9:30 AM

Hike 3.8, Drive 15, 610 ft. ascent, Rated C-C, **AT-MST, P400**

Jeff Wilcox, 828-989-8755, jwilcox@unca.edu

Only Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26. This is a shortened version of hike #0586. We'll drop a car off where the Hard Times and Shut-In Trails meet at BRP MM 395, then park and start the hike at the Chestnut Cove overlook (MM 398.2). From there, we'll take the Mountains-to-Sea Trail back to our cars. We'll

NEXT CMC

COUNCIL MEETING

When: Tuesday, Oct. 7, noon-4 p.m.
Where: Reynolds Village YMCA, 3rd floor conference room
Info: Call Les at 828-230-1861 if you would like to attend. All CMC members are welcome.

SATURDAY WORKDAYS

The remaining Quarterly Saturday Trail Maintenance Workday for 2025 is September 27. We meet at 8:30 and return to Asheville by 3:00. Contact Les Love (leslove55@gmail.com, 828-230-1861) or Chris Werbylo (jcw402@aol.com) for details and where to meet.

be heading generally downhill but will have a modest 600' of elevation gain (and lose about 1100' on our descent).

Topo(s): Dunsmore Mtn., Skyland

Saturday No. L2504-0168 **Oct. 18**
Pink Beds Loop using
Barnett Branch Trail **10:00 AM**

Hike 4, Drive 80, 200 ft. ascent, Rated C-C,
P400

Bruce Bente, 828-692-0116,
cell: 828-567-9443, bbente@bellsouth.net

Only Meeting Place: Pisgah Forest Walmart parking (back of center aisles close to Taco Bell). Contact leader via email for reservation. This shorter version of hike #0168 includes numerous boardwalks over and around beaver habitat through a beautiful forest. Leaf color should be nice in mid-October. We will hike over the Barnett boardwalk to return instead of doing the complete loop.

Topo(s): Shining Rock

Saturday No. L2504-0778 **Nov. 1**
Bracken Mountain -
Brushy Creek Trails **9:30 AM**

Hike 3.2, Drive 60, 500 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
Marie Chamberlin, 678-492-6718,
marie.m.chamberlin@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.

Second Meeting Place: Pisgah Forest Walmart parking (back of center aisles close to Taco Bell) at 10:00 AM.

Contact leader for reservation. In this shortened version of hike #0778, we'll climb gradually from the trailhead along the Blue Trail up to where it intersects the Yellow Trail. From there, we'll turn around and head back down to the cars. Hopefully we'll still have plenty of fall colors along the trail!

Topo(s): Rosman, Shining Rock

Saturday No. L2504-0912 **Nov. 15**
Rattlesnake Lodge **10:00 AM**

Hike 3, Drive 15, 600 ft. ascent, Rated C-C,
AT-MST

Judy Magura, 828-606-1490,
quilter290@gmail.com and Jim Magura,
828-606-3989, jqs290@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Back parking lot of Folk Art Center. Contact leaders by email for reservation. The hike will start and end at the Bull Gap trailhead on Ox Creek Road, continuing on the MST to the Rattlesnake Lodge site, where we will point out the remains of the stables, pool and other features. We will stop for a snack break at the lodge site. We will then have time to view a few more remains, including the old spring--a great photo location. We'll return via the same route.

Saturday No. L2504-0602 **Dec. 6**
NC Arboretum **10:00 AM**

Hike 3.2, 250 ft. ascent, Rated C-C

Bobbi Powers, 828-667-5419,

bobbipowers23@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26. Contact leader for reservation. This version of hike #0602 starts at the NC Arboretum Education Center on the Carolina Mountain Trail to Bent Creek Road, where we will hike its lovely creekside trails. We will complete the loop by following Running Cedar Road to the Natural Garden Trail back to our starting point. A great winter hike!

Topo(s): Skyland

Saturday No. L2504-1015 **Dec. 20**
Fonta Flora - Copper Ridge Trail **9:30 AM**

Hike 4.1, Drive 45, 950 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
Jeff Wilcox, 828-989-8755, jwilcox@unca.edu

Only Meeting Place: River Ridge Market Place behind CVS off Exit 53B of I-40. Contact leader via email for reservation. This first-time CMC hike will cover a newly-completed section of the Flora Flora State Trail near Old Fort. We'll start uphill from the trailhead to the Copper Ridge Trail, then head east to its intersection with Camp Grier Rd. From there, we'll backtrack to the first intersection, but continue west to the trail terminus at US 70. The last half-mile will be on the road back to our cars.

WEDNESDAY HIKES

Wednesday hikes submitted by Brenda Worley, 828-684-8656, bjdworley@gmail.com. Driving distance is round trip from the first meeting place. Hikes assemble at the location described for that hike. Some hikes will have second meeting places as described in the schedule; start times vary. *Times listed are departure times – arrive early.*

Wednesday No. W2504-0112 **Oct. 1**
Black Balsam Knob, Tennent Mtn. via
Art Loeb, Shining Rock Ledge **8:00 AM**

Hike 5.5, Drive 80, 800 ft. ascent, Rated C-C,
P400, SB6K

George Shepherd, 405-596-2632,
Gsshepherd620@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.

Second Meeting Place: Pisgah Forest Walmart parking (back of center aisles close to Taco Bell) at 8:30 AM - but contact leader first.

Contact leader via email for reservation. This variation of Hike #0112 has been modified to eliminate walking on FS 816. From the parking lot at the end of FS 816, we will follow the Ivestor Gap Trail a short distance and then take the Art Loeb Spur Trail to access the Art Loeb Trail. We will first summit Black Balsam Knob and then Tennent Mountain for magnificent views. Tennent Mountain is named after Dr. Tennent, the first president of CMC. We continue to Ivestor Gap, turn left, and return on

the Ivestor Gap Trail back to our cars. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Topo(s): Shining Rock

Wednesday No. W2504-1016 **Oct. 8**
Two Waterfalls in

Jones Gap State Park **8:30 AM**

Hike 7.5, Drive 80, 1600 ft. ascent, Rated B-A
Adrianne Chang, 414-690-5424,
acjp9349@yahoo.com

First Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.

Second Meeting Place: Cracker Barrel Restaurant off Exit 53 of I-26 in parking lot close to I-26 at 8:45 AM - but contact leader first.

Contact leader via email for reservation. In Jones Gap State Park, we will hike to Rainbow Falls and then to Jones Gap Falls, enjoying scenic riverside paths to both of these falls. This hike is in-and-out. There is a \$6 per person charge to hike in Jones Gap State Park. Rainbow Falls is one of the 100 waterfalls on the Waterfall Challenge. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Wednesday No. W2504-0049 **Oct. 15**
Big Creek to Walnut Bottom **8:00 AM**

Hike 10.3, Drive 110, 1000 ft. ascent,
Rated A-C, **900M**

Mike Knies, 828-253-6114, knies06@att.net

Only Meeting Place: Home Depot off Exit 44 of I-40. Contact leader for reservation. Big Creek, a spectacular mountain stream in the Smokies, offers hikers an opportunity to slow down and appreciate the wild beauty of this section of the park. A comfortable roadbed meanders along rushing rapids, Mouse Creek Falls, huge boulders, and deep swimming holes. We will see much of the devastation of Helene, including the mangled remains of the steel bridge at Walnut Bottoms. A beautiful forest environment creates a truly special experience. This is a moderate in-and-out hike. NOTE: A parking pass for each vehicle is required in the GSMNP. For more information: <https://www.nps.gov/grsm/planyourvisit/fees.htm>. I-40 is single-lane each way for 6 miles, which will add a little time to the access and return.

Topo(s): Cove Creek Gap, Luftee Knob, Waterville

Wednesday No. W2504-0652 **Oct. 22**
A.T. - Devil Fork Gap
to Rocky Knob Rd. **8:30 AM**

Hike 6, Drive 80, 1300 ft. ascent, Rated C-B,
AT-MST

Judy Magura, 828-606-1490,
quilter290@gmail.com and Jim Magura,
828-606-3989, jqs290@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Publix at 165 Weaver Blvd. Weaverville lower end of parking lot off Exit 19 of I-26. Contact Judy for reservation. Be prepared for possible wet stream crossings.

This hike ventures into the Lamar Alexander Rocky Fork State Park near Flag Pond, TN. The first three miles of this hike are on the A.T. to Flint Gap shelter, then on to Flint Gap and the entry into the State Park. This route is also the path of a surprise attack on an Indian camp in the early 1800's. Car shuttle. This is hunting season; please wear orange.
Topo(s): Flag Pond

Wednesday No. W2504-1017 **Oct. 29**
Black Mountain Discovery Walk 9:00 AM
Hike 10.5, 800 ft. ascent, Rated A-C
Danny Bernstein, 828-450-0747,
dannyhiker@gmail.com and Maurice Frank,
404-441-5994, mauricefrank@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Black Mountain Town Square Pavilion next to the small restroom building. Contact Danny via email for reservation. Discover Black Mountain and Montreat on an easy walk on sidewalks and trails. See Lake Tomahawk, Montreat College and community, and a chapel with its famous fresco, a short hike on the unpaved Montreat Gate Trail, quiet wooded residential neighborhoods, village-to-village roads, and a coffee shop - this is a Camino, after all. A new Camino area to explore. And Roberta Flack??

Wednesday No. W2504-0904 **Nov. 5**
Thomas Divide - Indian Creek
Motor Trail Loop 8:00 AM
Hike 10, Drive 110, 2600 ft. ascent,
Rated A-AA, **900M**
Connie Corn, 828-684-1202,
cell: 828-674-0248, cornconnie@yahoo.com

Only Meeting Place: Food Lion - 35 Westridge Market Pl. Candler. Contact leader via email for reservation. For an interesting loop in the Smokies near Bryson City, we will take the Thomas Divide, Indian Creek, Deep Low Gap and the Indian Creek Motor Trails, then the Stone Pile Trail back to Thomas Divide to complete the loop. NOTE: A parking pass is required for each vehicle in the GSMNP. For more information: <https://www.nps.gov/grsm/planyourvisit/fees.htm>

Wednesday No. W2504-0504 **Nov. 5**
Lane Pinnacle from Bull Gap 8:00 AM
Hike 10.4, Drive 30, 2900 ft. ascent
Rated A-AA, **AT-MST**
Diane Saccone, 703-283-1068,
grdngrl54@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Back parking lot of Folk Art Center. Contact leader for reservation. This hike on the MST from Bull Gap includes a gentle climb through a system of switchbacks leading past the Rattlesnake Lodge site, and further ascends to Rich Knob and Wolfden Knob before arrival at our lunch spot just past Lane Pinnacle with incredible views. We will return to our cars via the same trail. This hike meets/exceeds the requirements of #83 of the

100 Favorite Trails. This is hunting season; please wear orange. If this part of the MST is still not open at the time of this hike, another hike will be announced.
Topo(s): Craggy Pinnacle

Wednesday No. W2504-1018 **Nov. 12**
Kephart Prong, Grassy Branch,
Dry Sluice, Bradley Fork
to Smokemont 8:00 AM

Hike 11.5, Drive 110, 2600 ft. ascent,
Rated A-AA, **900M**
Henry Kassell, 845-656-5528,
hkassell@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Food Lion - 35 Westridge Market Pl. Candler.

Second Meeting Place: Maggie Valley Post Office at 8:30 AM - but contact leader first. Contact leader via email for reservation. This is a new hike in the Great Smoky Mountains. All of the climb is before lunch at the junction of Grassy Branch and Dry Sluice Trails. Then it is downhill for six-plus miles to our cars at Smokemont. This hike follows Kephart Prong, Grassy Branch, Dry Sluice, and Bradley Fork Trails to Smokemont Campground. There is a six-mile car shuttle. NOTE: A parking pass is required for each vehicle in the GSMNP. For more information: <https://www.nps.gov/grsm/planyourvisit/fees.htm>

Wednesday No. W2504-0812 **Nov. 12**
Three Walls of
Looking Glass Rock 8:30 AM
Hike 4.6, Drive 70, 1900 ft. ascent, Rated C-A,
9400

Marie Chamberlin, 678-492-6718,
marie.m.chamberlin@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.

Second Meeting Place: Pisgah Forest Walmart parking (back of center aisles close to Taco Bell) at 9:15 AM.

Contact leader for reservation. Limit of 12 hikers. View Looking Glass Rock from a new perspective. This hike covers 3 in-and-out trails off FS 475B to the rock face. We may encounter a bonus - rock climbers. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Topo(s): Pisgah Forest

Wednesday No. W2504-0051 **Nov. 19**
Hickey Fork, White Oak Trail 8:30 AM
Hike 7.5, Drive 85, 1900 ft. ascent, Rated B-A
Tish Desjardins, 828-380-1452,
tishdesjardins8@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: 160 Zillico St. (USFS parking lot) off Exit 25 of I-26. Form carpools and meet the leader at the second meeting place.

Second Meeting Place: Corner of US 25/70 & NC 208 at 9:15 AM.

No registration needed for this hike. Starting at the footbridge over Hickey Fork, we'll do a

nice loop hike using two different trails and finishing on heavily rebuilt Hickey Fork Rd. This is hunting season; please wear orange.
Topo(s): White Rock

Wednesday No. W2504-0736 **Nov. 26**
Cove Creek Gap to
Taylor's Turnaround 8:30 AM
Hike 4.6, Drive 63, 750 ft. ascent, Rated C-C,
900M

George Shepherd, 405-596-2632,
Gsshepherd620@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Food Lion - 35 Westridge Market Pl. Candler.

Second Meeting Place: Pilot Truck Stop off Exit 24 of I-40 at 9:00 AM.

Contact leader via email for reservation. This is a shorter version of hike #0736 in the Cataloochee area of the Smokies. We will start at Cove Creek Gap and turn around at Taylor's Turnaround. This is an in-and-out hike. NOTE: A parking pass is required for each vehicle in the GSMNP. For more information: <https://www.nps.gov/grsm/planyourvisit/fees.htm>
Topo(s): Cove Creek Gap, Dellwood

Wednesday No. W2504-0282 **Dec. 3**
Black Mountain -
Avery Creek Loop 9:00 AM
Hike 10.6, Drive 80, 3000 ft. ascent,
Rated A-AA, **P400, WC100**

Thomas Butler, 361-484-3381,
butler.tom3381@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.

Second Meeting Place: Pisgah Forest Walmart parking (back of center aisles close to Taco Bell) at 9:30 AM.

Contact leader by email for reservation. We will climb up the Black Mtn. Trail, with a short in-and-out at Pressley Gap to view an old chimney. We'll continue over Black Mtn. and Clawhammer to Buckhorn Gap, then turn left and hike down the Buckhorn Gap Trail to Twin Falls. At the trail T-intersection is an in-and-out to the falls. On the return, we continue on Buckhorn Gap and Avery Creek Trails to FS 477, turning right and walking on FS 477 1/4 mile to the cars. Along the way, we'll have late fall views, ridge views, and have lunch with a beautiful view of Looking Glass Rock, while also seeing a few waterfalls. Short car shuttle. This is hunting season; please wear orange.
Topo(s): Pisgah Forest

Wednesday No. W2504-0863 **Dec. 10**
Palmetto Trail, Saluda Mtn.

Passage, Talisman Camp Section 9:00 AM
Hike 8, Drive 40, 1200 ft. ascent, Rated B-B,
Wilderness hike, limited to ten hikers, contact leader for reservation.

Suzanne Engelmann, 864-232-8001,
engel.sj77@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking

lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26. Form carpools and meet the leader at the second meeting place.

Second Meeting Place: Saluda Mountains Passage of the Palmetto Trail parking lot Anders Rd Zirconia NC at 9:30 AM.

Contact leader via email for reservation. This in-and-out hike will tackle a portion of the Saluda Mountain Passage of the Palmetto Trail that clings to the South Carolina/North Carolina state line, starting at Talisman Camp. We will climb into the Saluda Mountains and turn around after reaching the Heatherly Heights section. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Topo(s): Zirconia

Wednesday No. W2504-0492 **Dec. 10**

Annual Cookie Hike,

Bent Creek Ramble

to MST past Sleepy Gap 9:00 AM

Hike 7, Drive 10, 300 ft. ascent, Rated B-C,

P400

Keiko Merl, 828-231-2126, keikomerl@att.net

Only Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26. Contact leader via email for reservation. This is a moderate loop hike in the Bent Creek area. We will start from the parking area for Cold Knob Road (FS 479H off Bent Creek Road beyond Lake Powhatan). Using a variety of short sections of trails, we will hike up to the MST, follow it past Sleepy Gap, and descend by the Stambaugh Trail to the Lake Powhatan picnic area for lunch and a cookie feast. Bring cookies to share. The walk back to the cars in the afternoon is approximately 2 miles. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Topo(s): Asheville, Skyland

Wednesday No. W2504-0941 **Dec. 17**

Standing Indian Loop

8:00 AM

Hike 9.6, Drive 160, 1400 ft. ascent, Rated A-B
Henry Kassell, 845-656-5528,

hkassell@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Food Lion - 35 Westridge Market Pl. Candler.

Second Meeting Place: Waynesville Publix parking lot east end off Exit 102 of US 23/74 at 8:30 AM - but contact leader first.

Contact leader for reservation. This hike will begin at the Backcountry Information Center of Standing Indian Campground. We will hike alongside the scenic Nantahala River, then turn uphill along and occasionally crossing Park Creek to Penland Gap. We'll return on the ridgeline on Park Ridge Trail. There are several minor creek crossings on the Park Creek section, one of which may require a shallow step in water if there has been heavy rain. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Wednesday No. W2504-0676 **Dec. 24**

Hooker Falls P.L. #4 – circular

8:30 AM

Hike 9.5, Drive 75, 1200 ft. ascent, Rated A-B,

WC100

Danny Bernstein, 828-450-0747,

dannyhiker@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.

Second Meeting Place: Pisgah Forest Walmart parking (back of center aisles close to Taco Bell) at 9:00 AM.

Contact Danny for reservation and questions. This hike takes in waterfalls, lakes, and cemeteries in one wonderful place – DuPont State Recreational Forest. We will enjoy hiking in the open woods of early winter. This hike exceeds the requirement for #69 of the 100 Favorite Trails. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Topo(s): Standingstone Mtn.

Wednesday No. W2504-0625 **Dec. 31**

Devil's Courthouse -

Daniel Ridge Creek

8:30 AM

Hike 8.5, Drive 66, 2100 ft. ascent,

Rated B-AA, **SB6K, AT-MST**

Marie Chamberlin, 678-492-6718,

marie.m.chamberlin@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Food Lion - 35 Westridge Market Pl. Candler. Contact leader for reservation. Limit of 12 hikers. From Devil's Courthouse Overlook, we will proceed on the MST, do a steep descent on the Art Loeb and Farlow Gap Trails to Daniel Ridge Creek. Along the way, we'll view old mica mine tailings and waterfalls, then retrace our steps to the BRP/ALT intersection. This hike will feature a 360° mountain vista from Devil's Courthouse, a fabulous view of Pilot Mountain from Chestnut Bald overlook and Silvermine Bald. An in-and-out climb to Chestnut Bald will be offered for SB6K fans. Short car shuttle. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Topo(s): Sam Knob, Shining Rock

ALL-DAY WEEKEND HIKES

All-day weekend hikes submitted by Tom Butler, 361-484-3381, butler.tom3381@gmail.com. Driving distance is round trip from the first meeting place. All hikes assemble at the location described for that hike. Some hikes will have second meeting places, and starting times may vary.

Sunday No. A2504-0349

Oct. 5

Buck Spring Trail to Pisgah Inn

8:30 AM

Hike 12, Drive 67, 1400 ft. ascent, Rated A-B,

AT-MST, P400

Victor Zona, 248-767-2651,

victor.zona@sbcglobal.net

First Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26. Form carpools and meet leaders at the second

meeting place.

Second Meeting Place: Pisgah Forest Walmart parking (back of center aisles close to Taco Bell) at 9:00 AM.

Contact Vic Zona by email for reservation. This lovely hike is an out-and-back starting from the Buck Spring trailhead on US 276. The trail joins the MST, then gradually switchbacks up the mountain with a stronger grade toward the top. There are several easy creek crossings. We will have lunch behind the Pisgah Inn to enjoy the views and (hopefully) fall color! After lunch, we will reverse direction and return the same way back downhill to our cars.

Topo(s): Cruso, Shining Rock

Saturday No. A2504-0153

Oct. 11

Caney Bottom - Cove Creek

9:30 AM

Hike 6.7, Drive 80, 1300 ft. ascent, Rated B-B,

P400, WC100

Karen Lachow, 703-395-5879,

heyk127@hotmail.com

First Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.

Second Meeting Place: Pisgah Forest Walmart parking (back of center aisles close to Taco Bell) at 10:00 AM - but contact leader first.

Contact leader by email for reservation. Limit of 12 hikers. This is a pleasant walk in the valley below Looking Glass Rock. The trail follows a moderate grade as it wanders through the woods along a number of streams and cascades and features Cove Creek Falls as the main attraction. We will follow up with a 1.5 mile out-and-back to the lovely Tom Spring Falls at the end of the hike, also on the Waterfall Challenge. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Topo(s): Shining Rock

Sunday No. A2504-0762

Oct. 12

Mt. Cammerer from

Davenport Gap

8:00 AM

Hike 11.4, Drive 100, 3000 ft. ascent,

Rated A-AA, **LTC, 900M**

Mike Knies, 828-253-6114, knies06@att.net

Only Meeting Place: Home Depot off Exit 44 of I-40. Contact hike leader for reservation. This hike follows the A.T. from Davenport Gap to the historic fire lookout atop Mt. Cammerer. This is a strenuous hike, but the payoffs are a good workout and what Backpacker magazine calls the best Tennessee view in the Smokies. The approach and departure to the trailhead will be a bit slower due to the closure of one lane of Interstate 40 for 6 miles at Harmon Den. NOTE: A parking pass for each vehicle is required in the GSMNP. For more information: www.nps.gov/grsm/planyourvisit/fees.htm.

Topo(s): Waterville

Sunday No. A2504-0962

Oct. 19

Eastatoo Passage and

Raven Rock Trail

9:00 AM

Hike 7.8, Drive 130, 1588 ft. ascent, Rated B-A
Norm Sharp, 864-268-9409,
cell: 864-609-7182, norm.Sharp@att.net

First Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26. Form carpools and meet leader at second meeting place.

Second Meeting Place: Holly Springs Country Store at SC 11/US 178 intersection at 10:45 AM.

Contact leader for reservation. Limit of 15 hikers. From the second meeting place we drive 6.3 miles to the trailhead on Roy Jones Road off SC 11, then shuttle vehicles 5.2 miles to Keowee-Toxaway State Park. We will hike the 4.6-mile Palmetto Trail from the state park's informative Jocassee Gorges Visitor Center, crossing two suspension bridges that were rebuilt in late 2020 due to flooding damage. Along the way we will hike the park's three-mile Raven Rock Trail loop hike. The loop will take us to the scenic shores of Lake Keowee and a rock known as Party Rock, with a great view to the west. Car shuttle, less than 10 miles.

Saturday No. A2504-0931 **Oct. 25**
Brevard Discovery Walk **9:00 AM**

Hike 9.5, Drive 64, 600 ft. ascent, Rated A-C
Danny Bernstein, 828-450-0747,
dannyhiker@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.

Second Meeting Place: Pisgah Forest Walmart parking (back of center aisles close to Taco Bell) at 9:30 AM.

Contact the leader via email for reservation. Discover Brevard on an easy walk on sidewalks and trails. See the Silvermont Mansion, the old airport, Brevard College, the lively downtown, Brevard Music Center and, maybe, the famous white squirrels. What is St. Francis, the patron saint of nature, birds and animals, doing in the garden at the Silvermont Mansion? We will have a guest hiker who grew up in Brevard. Wear good sneakers or low boots. Bring water, lunch and snacks. We will stop for morning coffee – this is a Camino after all. Be aware of limited availability of restrooms, but I have identified several potential facilities we can use.



Caldwell Fork/Boogerman Loop in the Smokies, August 2025. Photo by Tom Butler.

Sunday No. A2504-0212 **Oct. 26**
Sassafras Mountain to
Drawbar Cliffs & Return **8:00 AM**

Hike 10.6, Drive 92, 1200 ft. ascent, Rated A-B
Kathy Cornn/Kyle, 828-458-1282,
katherinenkyle@gmail.com and
Michael Cornn, 828-458-1281,
mwcornn@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.

Second Meeting Place: Pisgah Forest Walmart parking (back of center aisles close to Taco Bell) at 8:45 AM.

On this variation of hike #0212, we will begin at Sassafras Mtn., South Carolina's highest peak, then follow the Foothills Trail to Drawbar Cliffs and return via the same trail. The views from Drawbar are fantastic. If you still have energy when you get back to the parking area, you can take a short trail to the peak of Sassafras Mountain, the highest peak in South Carolina.

Topo(s): Table Rock

Sunday No. A2504-0862 **Nov. 2**
Cove Creek Gap – Swag **8:00 AM**

Hike 11, Drive 62, 1900 ft. ascent, Rated A-A,
900M

Lorraine Bernhardt, 828-699-8857,
lsbernhardt50@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Home Depot off Exit 44 of I-40. First day of EST. Contact hike leader for reservation. Limit of ten hikers. This shorter version of hike #0862 will follow the Cataloochee Divide Trail, with great views of valleys and distant mountains to The Swag, and will return on the same trail.

Topo(s): Cove Creek Gap

Saturday No. A2504-0910 **Nov. 8**
Rocky Fork - Flint Creek **8:30 AM**

Hike 7.6, Drive 70, 1500 ft. ascent, Rated B-B
Judy Magura, 828-606-1490,
quilter290@gmail.com and Jim Magura,
828-606-3989, jqs290@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Publix at 165 Weaver Blvd. Weaverville lower end of parking lot off Exit 19 of I-26. Contact hike leader for reservation. This beautiful hike is a variation of hike #0910 that begins and ends at Lamar Alexander Rocky Fork State Park, TN. We start on Rocky Fork Road, which parallels gushing Rocky Fork Creek, then hike along the Flint Creek Trail to the junction with the A.T. access route. We will hike up to Flint Gap and explore the remains of the damage from Helene. We will continue 0.3 miles to Flint Shelter for lunch. We will return the same way in reverse to our cars. Much of the trail parallels Rocky Fork Creek with its numerous cascades tumbling through the deep gorge.

Sunday No. A2504-0142 **Nov. 9**
Jerry Miller Trail to A.T.

to Fork Ridge Trail **8:30 AM**

Hike 10, Drive 92, 2400 ft. ascent,
Rated A-AA, **AT-MST**
Tish Desjardins, 828-380-1452,
tishdesjardins8@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: 160 Zillico St. (USFS parking lot) off Exit 25 of I-26. Form carpools and meet leader at second meeting place.

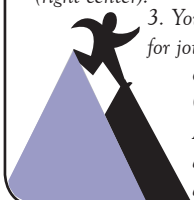
Second Meeting Place: Corner of US 25/70 & NC 208 at 9:15 AM.

No reservation needed. This moderate version of #0142 will go up the Jerry Miller Trail to Bearwallow Gap, then right on the A.T. to Big Firescald Knob for lunch and exceptional views. After lunch, we will retrace our route back to our cars. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

How to join the CMC

1. Go to www.carolinamountainclub.org
2. Click on **Join** (top left) or **Join CMC!** (right center).

3. You will see instructions for joining online or via mail. or ... write to us at
CMC, PO Box 68,
Asheville, NC 28802
and we'll mail you an application



Topo(s): Greystone

Sunday No. A2504-0428 **Nov. 16**

Cane River Gap to Little Butt 8:30 AM

Hike 7.5, Drive 52, 2200 ft. ascent, Rated B-AA

Brian Murphy, 703-593-6702, bkmurphy2@gmail.com and Susan Murphy, 703-507-7668, susan.m.murphy.6@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: 160 Zillicoa St. (USFS parking lot) off Exit 25 of I-26.

Second Meeting Place: Publix at 165 Weaver Blvd. Weaverville lower end of parking lot off Exit 19 of I-26 at 9:00 AM.

Contact leader by email for reservation. Big Butt Trail from Cane River Gap to Little Butt has been cleared of all the downed trees from Hurricane Helene. Come check out the awesome work completed by the CMC maintenance crews! This hike begins with a steep 1200-foot ascent to the ridgeline, then continues along the top of the ridge with a few gradual ups-and-downs. After Big Butt, we will follow the narrow ridgeline with good views to our lunch spot at Little Butt, which has a great view of the Black Mountain range across the valley. We will return to our cars via the same route. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Topo(s): Mt. Mitchell

Saturday No. A2504-0598 **Nov. 22**

Pink Beds to Soapstone Ridge 8:30 AM

Hike 6.7, Drive 80, 1200 ft. ascent, Rated B-B, **P400**

Karen Schultz, 312-241-3329, schultz.karenj@gmail.com and Ken Scharmann, 847-772-4693, kennethscharmann@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.

Second Meeting Place: Pisgah Forest Walmart parking (back of center aisles close to Taco Bell) at 9:00 AM.

Contact Karen for reservation. From the Pink Beds parking lot, we will hike part of the Pink Beds Loop, hike the Barnett Branch Trail up to Rich Mountain on the Black Mountain Trail for lunch and views to the north and south. We will go down Club Gap to FS 477 and return up US 276 to the Pink Beds parking lot. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Topo(s): Shining Rock

Sunday No. A2504-0595 **Nov. 23**

Lake Imaging P.L. #4 - 3

Waterfalls and 3 Lakes 8:30 AM

Hike 9.6, Drive 85, 1180 ft. ascent, Rated A-B, **WC100**

Henry Kassell, 845-656-5528, hkassell@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.

Second Meeting Place: Pisgah Forest Walmart parking (back of center aisles close to Taco

Bell) at 9:00 AM.

Contact leader for reservation. This hike begins at Lake Imaging parking lot and finishes at Hooker Falls parking lot. We will visit Lake Imaging, Grassy Creek Falls, Lake Dense, Lake Alford, High Falls, and Triple Falls. This hike has a short bushwhack through open woods and a scramble up a rock face to the summit of Johanna's Mountain, where we will lunch and take in the incredible views. There is a short road walk back to the cars that is included in the mileage. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Topo(s): Standingstone Mtn.

Sunday No. A2504-0563 **Nov. 30**

Palmetto Trail, Poinsett

Reservoir Passage 9:30 AM

Hike 6.6, Drive 67, 1200 ft. ascent, Rated B-B Suzanne Engelmann, 864-232-8001, engel.sj77@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26. Form carpools and meet the leader at second meeting place.

Second Meeting Place: Saluda Visitor Center 20 W. Main Street at 10:00 AM - but contact leader first.

Contact leader by email or cell for reservation. This new variation of hike #0563 will begin from the Poinsett Reservoir Passage trailhead at the Orchard Lake Campground in Saluda, NC. We will hike along a beautiful trail through pristine watershed wilderness with good fall mountain views. With luck we may sight the peregrine falcons that nest here.

Topo(s): Saluda

Sunday No. A2504-0396 **Dec. 7**

Thompson Ridge and Pilot Rock 8:00 AM

Hike 8.8, Drive 50, 2100 ft. ascent,

Rated B-AA, **AT-MST, P400**

Kristen Friedman, 203-253-0813, Kristenwho62@yahoo.com

Only Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26. Contact leader for reservation. Start on MST at the Buck Springs Gap Overlook parking area and go by the old Buck Spring Lodge site to the Pilot Rock intersection. Left on Pilot Rock Trail down 3.2 miles to FS 1206. Right on road one mile to Thompson Creek trailhead. Go up Thompson Ridge to Pilot Rock Trail. Go right a short distance to the Laurel Mtn. Connector Trail. Go left on the connector to the Laurel Mtn. Trail, then left on Laurel Mtn. Trail back to the MST and to the Buck Springs Gap parking area. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Topo(s): Cruso

Saturday No. A2504-0550 **Dec. 13**

Paris Mtn. 9:30 AM

Hike 8.7, Drive 130, 2000 ft. ascent, Rated B-A Marcia Bromberg, 860-798-9905, mwbromberg@yahoo.com

First Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.

Second Meeting Place: Cracker Barrel Restaurant off Exit 53 of I-26 in parking lot close to I-26 at 10:00 AM.

Contact leader by email for reservation. Limit of 15 hikers. This shorter variation of hike #0550 will take us around the perimeter of Paris Mtn. State Park in South Carolina. We'll hike along a beautiful stream, visit two lakes and, at our highest point, visit the site of a former fire tower. One section is very rocky; another is a steep downhill, so hiking poles are recommended. Luckily for us, it is hikers only on Saturdays, so no dodging bicycles! NOTE: \$6/person admission fee; \$3.75 for SC seniors.



Photo op at Fork Ridge Meadow in Middle Prong, August 2025. Photo by Tom Butler.

Topo(s): Paris Mtn.

Sunday No. A2504-0554 **Dec. 14**
Bent Creek River Park #1 -
MST – Arboretum **10:00 AM**
Hike 8.7, 1400 ft. ascent, Rated B-B, **P400**
Kelly O'Rourke, 434-249-5176,
kellyleann@comcast.net

Only Meeting Place: Bent Creek River Park off NC 191 1610 Brevard Rd. Asheville. Contact hike leader for reservation. We will hike from the Bent Creek River Park through the Arboretum and Bent Creek area on Bent Creek, Homestead, Small Creek, Deerfield Connector and Stambaugh Trails to the MST, then turn downhill on the MST and Hard Times Road back through the Arboretum and under NC 191 to our cars. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Topo(s): Asheville, Skyland

Sunday No. A2504-0489 **Dec. 21**
Bad Fork - Trace Ridge Loop **8:30 AM**
Hike 8.0, Drive 60, 2000 ft. ascent,
Rated B-AA, **P400**
Henry Kassell, 845-656-5528,
hkassell@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.

Second Meeting Place: Ingles on NC 191/280 at N end of parking lot in front of Pardee Urgent Care (Mills River) at 9:00 AM.

Contact leader for reservation. This pleasant winter hike will start at Trace Ridge trailhead, go up the Trace Ridge Trail, cross the BRP and follow the MST to Ferrin Knob and a scenic lunch stop. After lunch, we'll hike down the Bad Fork Trail and a side trail back to the trailhead. At the trailhead, we will see how the forest is recovering after being logged in 2014. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Topo(s): Dunsmore Mtn.

Saturday No. A2504-0551 **Dec. 27**
Fish Hatchery - Davidson
Campground via Cat Gap **8:00 AM**
Hike 10, Drive 70, 2050 ft. ascent,
Rated A-AA, **P400, WC100**
Marie Chamberlin, 678-492-6718,
marie.m.chamberlin@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26. Form carpools and meet leader at second meeting place

Second Meeting Place: Pisgah Forest Walmart parking (back of center aisles close to Taco Bell) at 8:30 AM - but contact leader first.

Contact leader for reservation. Limit of 12 hikers.. This will be a moderately-paced hike on the Art Loeb Trail and Cat Gap Trail, with lunch atop Chestnut Knob. 6-mile car shuttle. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Topo(s): Pisgah Forest, Shining Rock

Sunday No. A2504-0280 **Dec. 28**
North Slope and Art Loeb Trails **9:00 AM**
Hike 7.5, Drive 60, 1600 ft. ascent, Rated B-A, **P400**

Thomas Butler, 361-484-3381,
butler.tom3381@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.

Second Meeting Place: Pisgah Forest Walmart parking (back of center aisles close to Taco Bell) at 9:30 AM.

Contact leader by email for reservation. From the Davidson River Campground, we will go in a counterclockwise direction. We will start by hiking along the river, then turn uphill to meet the North Slope Connector. We will climb up, then turn onto the Art Loeb Trail and follow it back down to the trailhead. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Topo(s): Pisgah Forest

HALF-DAY SUNDAY HIKES

Newcomers are welcome, but non-members MUST call the leader before the hike to determine the requirements. Half-day hikes submitted by Lee Silver, 828-668-7147, mhsrunning@yahoo.com. Driving distance is round trip from the first meeting place. Hikes assemble at the location described for that hike. Some hikes will have second meeting places, and starting times may vary. *Times listed are departure times – arrive early.*

Sunday No. H2504-0219 **Oct. 5**
Flat Creek Trail **9:00 AM**
Hike 5.2, Drive 95, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated C-C, **900M**

Deborah Desocio, 919-306-0876,
DebKayKin@GMail.com

Only Meeting Place: Home Depot off Exit 44 of I-40. Leisurely-paced high-elevation hike in Great Smoky Mtns. Natl. Park. Hike from Heintooga Ridge Rd. (BRP milepost 458) to the picnic area and back to the road. A beautiful area with a nice waterfall. NOTE: A parking pass for each vehicle is required in the GSMNP. For more information: www.nps.gov/grsm/plan-yourvisit/fees.htm.

Topo(s): Bunches Bald

Sunday No. H2504-0630 **Oct. 12**
Bent Creek River Park #2-
Shut-in & Hardtimes Rd. **9:30 AM**
Hike 4.4, 800 ft. ascent, Rated C-C, **P400**
George Shepherd, 405-596-2632,
Gsshepherd620@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Bent Creek River Park off NC 191 1610 Brevard Rd. Asheville. Contact leader by email for reservation. Limit of 10 hikers. This is a variation on hike #0630. This Bent Creek loop hike will start at Bent Creek River Park, cross under NC 191 and go up the MST

(Shut-in Trail) to the point it meets the Hard Times Road, then return to exit the Arboretum and walk back to the cars. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Topo(s): Skyland

Sunday No. H2504-1013 **Oct. 19**
Boyd Branch P.L. #6 -
Boyd Logging Rd. **10:30 AM**

Hike 4.2, Drive 10, 800 ft. ascent, Rated C-C, **P400**

Carroll Koeplinger, 828-231-9444,
cakoep29@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26. Contact leader via email for reservation. No limit on the number of hikers. This new CMC hike in Bent Creek will begin at the parking area just before Boyd Branch Rd. off Bent Creek Rd. We will take the Boyd Branch Trail, then continue on the Boyd Logging Rd. and Little Hickory Trail to Ingles Field Gap. Our descent will either be on the same route, or on Ingles Field Gap and Connector Trails, followed by Boyd Branch Road and Trail back to our cars. Topo(s): Dunsmore Mtn.

Sunday No. H2504-1014 **Oct. 26**
Soco Gap to Heintooga Road **9:00 AM**
Hike 5.3, Drive 70, 780 ft. ascent, Rated C-C, **AT-MST**

Deborah Desocio, 919-306-0876,
DebKayKin@GMail.com

First Meeting Place: Home Depot off Exit 44 of I-40. Form carpools and meet leader at second meeting place.

Second Meeting Place: BRP Soco Gap Overlook at MM 455 at 10:00 AM.

Contact leader via email for reservation. Limit of 10 hikers. Starting at Soco Gap Overlook, we will leisurely hike on the MST through a high-elevation ecosystem, encountering a fairly gentle set of ascents/descents along the way. We will exit the forest at Docks Gap, crossing under the Blue Ridge Parkway to follow a forest service road leading to Heintooga Rd. As part of this hike, I will be offering a brief 'Forest Immersion' exercise to enhance our hiking experience and heighten awareness of the forest surroundings. Car shuttle. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Sunday No. H2504-0022 **Nov. 2**
Beaver Dam to Chestnut Cove
on the MST **10:00 AM**
Hike 5.4, Drive 20, 866 ft. ascent, Rated C-C, **AT-MST, P400**
Bobbi Powers, 828-667-5419,
bobbipowers23@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26. First day of EST. Contact leader by email for reservation. Limit of 10 hikers. After a steep climb to the top of Ferrin Knob, it's a gentle

1570-foot descent. There should be late fall leaf color allowing for some views, and it's a nice walk in the woods. Car shuttle. This is hunting season; please wear orange.
Topo(s): Dunsmore Mtn.

Sunday No. H2504-1003 **Nov. 9**
Rattlesnake & Copperhead

Mountains in Montreat 10:00 AM
Hike 5.5, Drive 35, 1148 ft. ascent, Rated C-B
Karen Lachow, 703-395-5879,
heyk127@hotmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Ingles off Exit 64 of I-40 (Black Mountain). Contact leader by email for reservation. Limit of 12 hikers. This is a shortened version of hike #1003, featuring Copperhead and Rattlesnake Mountains on the east side of Montreat. We will start off with the somewhat steep climb on the Lookout Mountain Trail, then go a short way onto the Old Trestle Road before turning sharply onto the Old Mitchell Toll Road. At the junction, we'll go over and up to Copperhead Mountain with its scenic 360-degree views, then cross over to Rattlesnake Mountain with its 360-degree views and colorful rock formations. Leaving this area, we will return to and follow the Old Mitchell Toll Road, which hugs the outer edge of Lookout and Brushy Mountains. Reaching Sourwood Gap, we'll then follow the Old Mitchell Toll Road which hugs the other side of the mountains back to the trailhead. We'll hope for some late season foliage color and long-distance views. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Sunday No. H2504-0296 **Nov. 16**
Folk Art Center to

Visitor Center and return 10:00 AM
Hike 5, 500 ft. ascent, Rated C-C, **AT-MST**
Judy Magura, 828-606-1490,
quilter290@gmail.com and Jim Magura,
828-606-3989, jqs290@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Back parking lot of Folk Art Center. Contact Judy by email for reservation. This enjoyable out-and-back hike will begin at the Folk Art Center, home of the Southern Appalachian Craft Guild. We will hike on the Mountain-to-Sea Trail to the Blue Ridge Parkway Visitor Center, which features exhibits that showcase the natural and cultural history of the area.

Sunday No. H2504-0812 **Nov. 23**
Two Walls of

Looking Glass Rock 10:30 AM
Hike 2.7, Drive 70, 930 ft. ascent, Rated C-C,
P400

Dennis Bass, 828-367-7792,
cell 828-367-8619, dbass3607@gmail.com
First Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26. Form carpools and meet leader at second meeting place.

Second Meeting Place: Pisgah Ranger Station off US 276 at 11:15 AM.

Contact hike leader via email for reservation. Limit of 15 hikers. This is a shortened version of hike #0812. View Looking Glass Rock from a new perspective. This hike covers two in-and-out trails off FS 475B to the rock face. Note that there is a fair amount of elevation gain over a short distance. We will pause on the drive back to view Slick Rock Falls. We may encounter a bonus – rock climbers. This is hunting season; please wear orange.
Topo(s): Pisgah Forest

Sunday No. H2504-0587 **Nov. 30**
Catawba Falls River

and Ridge Loop 9:30 AM
Hike 3.6, Drive 40, 853 ft. ascent, Rated C-C,
WC100

Kris Medic, 812-371-1031,
krismedic@sbcglobal.net
Only Meeting Place: Ingles off Exit 64 of I-40 (Black Mountain). Contact leader by email for reservation. Limit of 10 hikers. Catawba Falls reopened to the public in summer 2024, following more than two years of repairs. The new loop trail has beautiful bridges, boardwalks, and a staircase (on the River Trail) leading to the lower and upper falls. We will go up the River Trail with great views of the falls and an amazing stair system with 580 steps. We will see the upper falls and complete the loop by way of the Ridge Trail. This is hunting season; please wear orange.
Topo(s): Black Mtn.

Sunday No. H2504-0573 **Dec. 7**
Devils Courthouse from NC 215 10:00 AM

Hike 4.7, Drive 70, 750 ft. ascent, Rated C-C,
AT-MST, P400
Lee Belknap, 828-674-3631,
rivergypsy@sprintmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Home Depot off Exit 44 of I-40. Contact leader via email for reservation. Limit of 15 hikers. We will hike east from the parking area off NC 215 through patches of mountain laurel and a dense pine cluster on the MST, crossing over the Blue Ridge Parkway tunnel on a connector trail to Devils Courthouse. There we will pause for a snack to enjoy 360-degree mountain views before returning. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Topo(s): Sam Knob

Sunday No. H2504-0732 **Dec. 14**
Eastatoo Creek Heritage

Preserve - Twin Falls 9:30 AM
Hike 5.6, Drive 88, 1200 ft. ascent, Rated C-B,
WC100

Thomas Butler, 361-484-3381,
butler.tom3381@gmail.com
First Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.

Second Meeting Place: Pisgah Forest Walmart parking (back of center aisles close to Taco Bell) at 10:15 AM.

Contact leader via email for reservation. This moderate out-and-back hike will visit a beautiful, hidden gorge with a waterfall in the Eastatoo Creek Heritage Preserve, on a spur off the Foothills Trail in SC. The Eastatoo (pronounced "EAST-a-toe") Creek Trail is relatively easy for most of the way, but drops precipitously down into the gorge for its last half mile to a platform with a view of the narrows. Switchbacks make the going a bit easier, and stairs are provided where the trail descends/ascends more steeply. Return by same route. This is hunting season; please wear orange.
Topo(s): Eastatoo Gap

Sunday No. H2504-0325 **Dec. 21**
Tanyard Gap to Rich Mountain 10:00 AM

Hike 5.5, Drive 61, 1350 ft. ascent, Rated C-B,
AT-MST, LTC

Judy Magura, 828-606-1490,
quilter290@gmail.com and Jim Magura,
828-606-3989, jqs290@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Publix at 165 Weaver Blvd. Weaverville lower end of parking lot off Exit 19 of I-26. Contact leader via email for reservation. Limit of 12 hikers. A moderate hike with great views from Rich Mountain fire tower near Hot Springs. From Tanyard Gap, hike north on the A.T. 2.4 miles to a short, steep side trail (wooden sign on the left) leading to the tower. The fire tower is open, enabling hikers to climb to the top for views. We will retrace our steps southbound on the A.T. to return. This hike is #42 of the 100 Favorite Hikes. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Topo(s): Hot Springs

Sunday No. H2504-0379 **Dec. 28**
Bear Branch Loop Trail 9:30 AM

Hike 5, Drive 40, 500 ft. ascent, Rated C-C,
P400

Marie Chamberlin, 678-492-6718,
marie.m.chamberlin@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.

Second Meeting Place: Ingles on NC 191/280 at N end of parking lot in front of Pardee Urgent Care (Mills River) at 10:00 AM.

Contact leader for reservation. Limit of 12 hikers. We will park at the Trace Ridge trailhead and walk a short distance up to Wash Creek Horse Camp. The loop starts there and follows Bear Branch Trail to Seniard Mtn. Rd.



Further
information about
regulations is available at www.carolinamountainclub.org

HIKING INFORMATION: CMC hikes are open to all and we welcome guests. Non-members need to call or email the hike leader to introduce themselves and find out more about the hike. Hikes may be canceled by the leader due to adverse weather or dangerous roads. Minors are welcome on CMC hikes, if accompanied by a responsible adult. Pets are not allowed on CMC hikes.

Hikers will carpool from the meeting places to the trailhead and back. Passengers are expected to contribute 10 cents per mile towards the driver's operating expenses. Some CMC hikes require reservations. Check the hiking schedule to determine whether a reservation is required, and if so, call or e-mail the leader to reserve your space.

Hike leaders have the right to reject participants who are not properly equipped for the hike or who are unlikely to be able to complete the hike. All hikers are expected to follow the leader's instructions. No one should get ahead of the leader, or lag behind the sweep, without specific permission. Hikers should obtain the leader's permission if they wish to leave the hike before its completion.

CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT: CMC's website (www.carolinamountainclub.org, click on Hiking) has a full list of day hiking needs. Most critical are water, footwear, rain gear and a first aid kit. Carry at least two quarts of liquid (water, Gatorade, juice) for a full day hike, no matter what time of year. Hiking boots are recommended for all hikes. They should be broken in before the hike. Weather changes quickly in the mountains. Even if there is no sign of rain in the morning, you need to be prepared for an afternoon shower. Your first aid kit should include any personal medication, including allergy medication, if needed. Wear layered clothing – you'll want to take layers off during a strenuous climb or as the day proceeds, then put them back on in cooler conditions.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR SAFETY: Each CMC member and guest agrees to accept personal responsibility for his or her own safety and for the safety of accompanying minors. The Club cannot ensure the safety of any participant on hikes or trail maintenance activities. Each participant agrees to hold harmless and free from blame event leaders and the CMC, its officers and members, for any accident, injury or illness which might be sustained from participating in Club hikes and other activities.

CONSERVATION: CMC works with other organizations concerned about the protection of our natural heritage to protect trails and the hiking experience in our hiking area. Phone the Councilor for Conservation for details.

MEMBERSHIP: Everyone is eligible for CMC membership by joining and paying dues. To join online or by paper application, go to www.carolinamountainclub.org and click on the green Join button just below the Member Login. Choose either Join CMC online or CMC application form (pdf). Don't have internet access? Mail a note to the CMC address requesting an application form be mailed to you. Annual dues are \$20 for individuals and \$30 for families. Hikers are expected to join CMC after participating in a few hikes. Some trail maintenance activities are only open to members.

CAROLINA MOUNTAIN CLUB OFFICERS

President: Les Love, president@carolinamountainclub.org
Vice-President: Karen Schultz, cmcvp@carolinamountainclub.org
Secretary: Eva Blinder, secretary@carolinamountainclub.org
Treasurer: Michel Claes, treasurer@carolinamountainclub.org

Immediate Past President:

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Councilor at Large:

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Councilor at Large:

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