



FOURTH QUARTER 2026 Quarterly Hike Schedule



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

HIKE RATINGS

First Letter Distance	Second Letter 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 A.T. section maintainers work on their own schedule.

Burnsville Monday Crew

John Whitehouse,
johnwhitehouse@icloud.com

Art Loeb 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, lesrlove55@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, lesrlove55@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, lesrlove55@gmail.com

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

TRAIL RUNNING HIKES

Trail Running hikes submitted by Karen Lachow. Trail Running hikes are designed to provide opportunities for experienced trail runners to join a group on unpaved forest and mountain trails with varied terrain. Hikes assemble at the location and time described for that hike. Driving distance is roundtrip from the first meeting place. Please contact the hike leader to reserve your space.

Sunday No. R2604-0112 **Nov. 1**

**Black Balsam Knob,
Tennent Mtn. via Ivestor Gap
and Art Loeb Trails**

9:00 AM

Hike 8.8, Drive 80, 1250 ft. ascent, Rated B-B,
P400, SB6K

Paul Scalese, 570-878-5465,
pscalese15@gmail.com and John Ribes,
843-412-9925, Johnribes@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: BRP French Broad
Overlook at MM 393.8.

Contact the hike leaders for reservation. This group trail run will offer 2 options, a shorter loop of 4.4 miles with 750-ft. ascent and a longer loop of 8.8 miles with 1,250-ft. ascent. Both groups will begin promptly from the Black Balsam parking lot at the end of FS 816 at 10:00am. We will start on the Ivestor Gap Trail, then follow the Art Loeb Trail (ALT), up and over Tennent Mountain and to the summit of Black Balsam Knob. The shorter loop will return to the trailhead via the 0.4 mile Art Loeb Spur Trail. For those wanting more of a challenge, the longer loop will continue on the ALT and the MST, until it connects with the

NEXT CMC COUNCIL MEETING

When: Tuesday, October 6, 1 p.m.-4 p.m.

Where: CMC Headquarters, 18 Business
Park Circle, Arden, NC

Info: Contact Karen at president@carolinamountainclub.org if you would like to attend. All CMC members are welcome to attend.

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 Marie Chamberlin at marie.m.chamberlin@gmail.com

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

Little Sam Trail. From the Little Sam Trail, we will make a left onto Flat Laurel Creek, and then a right onto the Sam Knob Trail until it leads back to the parking area. Participants are assumed to have prior trail running experience. Runners should be prepared with proper hydration, layering, and footwear with good traction. Topo(s): Shining Rock

LEISURE HIKES

Leisure hikes submitted by Jeff Wilcox. 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.

Saturday No. L2604-1004 **Oct. 3**
Cold Knob #2 - Explorer Loop
and Chestnut Cove **10:30 AM**
 Hike 2.6, Drive 10, 290 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 by email for reservation. This shortened version of CMC hike #1004 should be a pleasant early autumn hike through Bent Creek on well-maintained trails with little elevation gain.

Saturday No. L2604-0030 **Oct. 17**
Buck Spring Gap to Pisgah Inn
and Little Bald Mountain **9:00 AM**
 Hike 2.7, Drive 35, 500 ft. ascent, Rated C-C,
AT-MST

Barton Paschal, 828-545-6795,
 bartonpaschal@gmail.com

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

Second Meeting Place: BRP Buck Spring Gap Overlook near Buck Spring Lodge site (BRP MM 407.6) at 9:30 AM - but contact leader first.

Contact hike leader via email for reservation. Limit of 12 hikers. The hike follows a one-mile section of MST referred to as Buck Spring Nature Trail. En route we will hike a northern hardwood forest, visit the former location of Buck Spring Lodge and an overlook on Little Bald Mtn. with long-range views of Pink Beds Valley. The leader will identify sites of interest on numbered posts along the trail. An optional add-on is a one-mile hike out and back to Buck Spring Dam's pump house ruins. Topo(s): Dunsmore Mtn.

Saturday No. L2604-1022 **Nov. 7**
Richmond Hill **10:00 AM**
 Hike 2.6, Drive 5, 250 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
 Judy Magura, 828-579-0321,

quilter290@gmail.com and Jim Magura,
 828-579-1099, jqs290@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: 160 Zillico St. (USFS parking lot) off Exit 25 of I-26. Join us for a leisurely hike through Richmond Hill Park. There are 2.6 miles of easy hiking trails with an elevation gain of 250 ft. The park features rolling hills with river bluffs and hardwoods of oak, maple and sweet gum, creating a peaceful urban oasis. A great fall hike since the trail will reveal the western edge of the French Broad River. The park has restrooms and plenty of parking. A popular disk golf course is adjacent to the hiking trails.

Saturday No. L2604-0942 **Nov. 21**
Rice Pinnacle loop **10:30 AM**
 Hike 2.6, Drive 8, 320 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 by email for reservation. This shortened variation of CMC Hike #0942 loops through the Rice Pinnacle area of Bent Creek.

Saturday No. L2604-0296 **Dec. 19**
Folk Art Center to Blue Ridge
Parkway Visitor Center **10:00 AM**

Hike 3.4, 450 ft. ascent, Rated C-C, AT-MST
 Jeff Wilcox, 828-989-8755, jwilcox@unca.edu
Only Meeting Place: BRP Visitor Center at MM 383. An enjoyable late fall hike on the MST. We'll meet at the BRP Visitor Center and shuttle to the Folk Art Center. From there, we'll hike back to the Visitor Center, crossing over the Swannanoa River and under I-40. Toward the end of the hike, there is a shortcut that could cut the hike distance down to 2.8 miles. Short car shuttle.

WEDNESDAY HIKES

Wednesday hikes submitted by Judy Magura. 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.*

Friday No. W2604-1019 **Oct. 2**
Stool Mountain Trail at
Table Rock State Park **8:00 AM**

Hike 5.4, Drive 112, 1500 ft. ascent, Rated C-B
 Brenda Worley, 828-606-7297,
 bjdworley@gmail.com

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

Second Meeting Place: Highlands Sq. Shopping Center - 250 Highlands Square Dr.,

Hendersonville by Red ATM at 8:30 AM.

Contact hike leader by email for reservation. The Stool Mountain Trail is a new trail in Table Rock State Park, just to the side of Table Rock. A less technical trail than Table Rock, it is still a strenuous hike, gaining over 1,500 feet in elevation over 2.7 miles as it climbs through stream valleys, boulder fields, and rock overhangs to the summit of Stool Mountain. The trail features spectacular views of Table Rock itself, the South Carolina piedmont below, and Table Rock Reservoir. We will see evidence of the Table Rock fire which burned almost 16,000 acres in April 2025. NOTE: \$6 admission fee per person. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Wednesday No. W2604-0337 **Oct. 7**
Shining Rock from
Black Balsam #1 **8:00 AM**

Hike 11, Drive 60, 1500 ft. ascent, Rated A-B,
Wilderness hike, limited to ten hikers, contact leader for reservation. P400, SB6K

Bob Smith, 828-696-6185,
 wncnites@gmail.com and Vonnie Gamble,
 410-375-7764, ygamble99@yahoo.com

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

Second Meeting Place: BRP Cold Mountain Overlook at MM 412 at 8:30 AM.

Contact leaders via email for reservation. We will take the ALT from FS 816 to Shining Rock (6040 ft.), then climb Black Balsam (6214 ft.) and Tennent Mtn. (6040 ft.) and Grassy Cove Top (6040 ft.) along the way. This will be your chance to bag four SB6K peaks while enjoying beautiful views covering the area from Pilot Mtn. to Cold Mtn. We'll return via the Ivestor Gap Trail to get a different perspective on the same area.

Topo(s): Sam Knob

Wednesday No. W2604-0578 **Oct. 14**
Flat Laurel Creek,
Little Sam Knob, MST Loop **8:00 AM**
 Hike 7, Drive 60, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated B-C,
AT-MST

Judy Magura, 828-579-0321,
 quilter290@gmail.com and Jim Magura,
 828-579-1099, jqs290@gmail.com

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

Second Meeting Place: BRP Cold Mountain Overlook at MM 412 at 8:30 AM - but contact leader first.

Contact hike leaders by email for reservation. This is a pleasant loop trail in the Pisgah Ranger District with views of Sam Knob, Fork Ridge, and Flat Laurel Creek. At times it feels like you're in an ancient forest. We'll walk down NC 215 and start hiking on the Flat Laurel Creek and Little Sam Trails, then take

the MST to NC 215, with a side trip to Devils Courthouse. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Topo(s): Sam Knob

Friday No. W2604-1007 **Oct. 16**
Winding Stair Gap
to Siler Bald via the A.T. 8:00 AM

Hike 8.9, Drive 150, 1800 ft. ascent,

Rated B-A, **AT-MST**

Sharon Smith, walterssharon204@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Food Lion - 35 Westridge Market Pl., Candler. Form carpools and meet leader at the trailhead. Driving directions: I-40 W, US 23 S, US 64 W to Winding Stair Gap.

Contact leader via email for reservation. Enjoy this in-and-out hike near Franklin, NC. Generally considered a challenging route, it takes an average 4-1/2 hours to complete. This is a popular trail for hiking, camping and backpacking. We may see a few southbound thru hikers. The trail is blazed and easy to follow. This is deer hunting season; please wear orange.

Wednesday No. W2604-0782 **Oct. 21**
Thomas Divide – Smokemont 8:00 AM

Hike 10.5, Drive 125, 1400 ft. ascent,

Rated A-B, **900M**

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

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 for reservation. A scenic fall hike on the Thomas Divide and Newton Bald Trails down to Smokemont. We will see good fall leaf color along the way. There is a 4000-ft. descent. Car shuttle. 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): Clingmans Dome, Smokemont

Wednesday No. W2604-0205 **Oct. 28**
Waterrock Knob from Soco Gap 8:00 AM

Hike 9, Drive 65, 1950 ft. ascent, Rated B-A,

AT-MST, SB6K

Danny Bernstein, 828-450-0747,

dannyhiker@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Food Lion - 35 Westridge Market Pl., Candler. Contact hike leader by email for reservation. This hike starts from Soco Gap at an elevation of 4,400 feet and heads steadily up to Waterrock Knob at close to 6,400 feet. We will be hiking the MST eastbound, and will enjoy the view as we eat our lunch at the top. This section of the MST was completed by CMC in 2016. Expect to be impressed by the work that went into building this trail. We will visit Howard's Bridge, Piet's Place and talk about these CMC trail giants. We will return on the same trail. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Topo(s): Hazelwood

Wednesday No. W2604-0219 **Oct. 28**
Flat Creek Trail 8:30 AM

Hike 5.2, Drive 104, 1000 ft. ascent,

Rated C-C, **900M**

Donna Lanning, 828-606-7956,

dblanning@bellsouth.net

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

Contact hike leader by email for reservation. Limit of 10 hikers. A 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 trailhead. A beautiful area with a possible wet creek crossing. Beautiful view from the path below the picnic area. 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

Wednesday No. W2604-0330 **Nov. 4**
Raven Cliff Falls 8:30 AM

Hike 8.5, Drive 95, 1450 ft. ascent, Rated B-B,

WC100

Karen Lachow, 703-395-5879,

heyk127@hotmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26. Contact the leader via email for reservation. This hike in Caesars Head State Park in S.C. begins by exploring the short trail near the Visitor Center with tremendous views and a walk through Devil's Kitchen, a narrow, one-person-wide rock chasm. We will then drive one mile back to the Raven Cliff Falls trailhead for a pleasant hike up and down trails to the pedestrian suspension bridge over the top of a beautiful 250-ft. waterfall. On the return, we'll take a short detour to view the falls from the platform on the other side of the valley. \$3 per person park fee. It is hunting season; please wear orange.

Topo(s): Table Rock

Wednesday No. W2604-0802 **Nov. 4**
Grassy Rd. - Sycamore Cove Loop 8:30 AM
Hike 5.3, Drive 50, 700 ft. ascent, Rated C-C, **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: Pisgah Forest Walmart parking (back of center aisles close to Taco Bell) at 9:00 AM - but contact leader first.

Contact the hike leader for reservation. We will do a loop hike using several of the shorter trails off the Black Mountain Trail including Grassy Rd, Thrift Cove and Sycamore Cove. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Topo(s): Pisgah Forest

Wednesday No. W2604-1023 **Nov. 11**
Noland Divide Trail to Lonesome

Pine Overlook and Return 8:00 AM

Hike 6.8, Drive 150, 2200 ft. ascent,

Rated B-AA, **900M**

Barton Paschal, 828-545-6795,

bartonpaschal@gmail.com

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

Contact the hike leader via email for reservation. The Noland Divide Trail begins as a steady climb along the southern boundary of Great Smoky Mountains National Park. As we climb, we will experience expansive views of the southern Smoky Mountains. There is a short spur trail to the Lonesome Pine Overlook. The overlook offers commanding views of the Nantahala Mountains across the Tuckasegee River Valley, as well as Bryson City almost directly below. This is our lunch spot, and we will take the same trail back to our cars. NOTE: A parking pass is required for each vehicle in the GSMNP. For more information: www.nps.gov/grsm/planyourvisit/fees.htm.

Wednesday No. W2604-0548 **Nov. 18**
Sams Gap to Big Bald 8:00 AM

Hike 13, Drive 50, 3300 ft. ascent,

Rated AA-AA+, **AT-MST**

Thomas Butler, 361-484-3381,

butler.tom3381@gmail.com

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

Contact the leader by email for a reservation.

This challenging hike offers a wonderful, classic view on top at our lunch spot. We will follow the A.T. north from Sams Gap to Big Bald, then reverse direction to our starting point. Beautiful views and steep climbs along the way! This hike is #46 of the 100 Favorite Trails. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Topo(s): Sams Gap

Wednesday No. W2604-0295 **Nov. 18**
Pump Gap Loop 9:00 AM

Hike 4, Drive 80, 1079 ft. ascent, Rated C-B,

AT-MST

George Shepherd, 405-596-2632,

Gsshepherd620@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 9:15 AM.

Contact leader for reservation. A variation of CMC hike #0295, this is a loop hike heading north on the A.T. up Lovers Leap, along the ridge above Hot Springs to Pump Gap, down the Pump Gap Trail to Silvermine Campground and back to the parking area. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Topo(s): Hot Springs

Wednesday No. W2604-0350 **Nov. 25**
Guion Farm P.L. #1 -
Wintergreen Falls 9:00 AM
Hike 5, Drive 70, 500 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
Bruce Bente, 828-567-9443,
bcb28791@gmail.com

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

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

Contact hike leader for reservation. This variation of hike #0350 is a leisurely-paced loop hike down old logging roads through some beautiful forest. We'll stop at an old cemetery and take a side trail down to a beautiful waterfall. This is hunting season; please wear orange. Topo(s): Standingstone Mtn.

Wednesday No. W2604-0242 **Dec. 2**
Sam Knob - Devils Courthouse 8:30 AM
Hike 8.3, Drive 60, 1500 ft. ascent, Rated B-B,
P400, SB6K
Susan Murphy, 703-507-7668,
susan.m.murphy.6@gmail.com and
Brian Murphy, 703-593-6702,
bkmurphy2@gmail.com

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

Second Meeting Place: BRP Cold Mountain Overlook at MM 412 at 9:00 AM - but contact leader first.

Contact the hike leaders via email for reservation. From FS 816 we will ascend Sam Knob (6040 ft.) with its 360-degree views, then hike through high meadows on the Flat Laurel and Little Sam Trails. We then return via the MST across FS 816 and up to the summit of Black Balsam (6214 ft.), then down to our cars. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Topo(s): Sam Knob

Wednesday No. W2604-1015 **Dec. 2**
Fonta Flora - Copper Ridge Trail 9:30 AM
Hike 5.5, Drive 45, 950 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
David Angelus, 312-315-4588,
david.angelus@comcast.net and
Dianne Bienick, 773-269-1626,
cell: 773-259-1626, Dbienick@comcast.net

First Meeting Place: Ingles off Exit 64 of I-40 (Black Mountain).

Second Meeting Place: Copper Ridge Trailhead parking lot, 1530 Old US 70 W, Old Fort, NC at 10:00 AM.

Contact the leaders for reservation. This modification of CMC hike #1015 will cover a section of the Fonta Flora, a State Trail near Old Fort, and traverse part of Camp Grier. We'll start uphill from the trailhead to the Copper Ridge Trail, then head east to its intersection with the Camp Grier Trail. From there, we'll hike down the tree-lined switchback trail to the

riverside picnic area for lunch along Garrett Creek. After lunch, we will return to our cars at the trailhead on the Copper Ridge Trail. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Wednesday No. W2604-0611 **Dec. 9**
Big Ivy - Walker Ridge Loop 8:00 AM
Hike 8, Drive 35, 1700 ft. ascent, Rated B-A
Marie Chamberlin, 678-492-6718,
marie.m.chamberlin@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Publix at 165 Weaver Blvd. Weaverville, lower end of parking lot off Exit 19 of I-26. Contact the leader via email for reservation. Limit of 12 hikers. On this variation of hike #0611, we'll begin by hiking down the steep Staire Creek Trail from FS 63, then up the Walker Creek Trail and across the road to continue up on the Perkins Trail to the Laurel Gap Trail. After a 2-mile stroll on this meadow-like trail, we'll head downhill on the Bear Pen Trail to return to our cars. These trails are rocky and steep in spots. There are several stream crossings on this hike. We walk near lovely creeks on some of the trails. This is deer hunting season; please wear orange.

Topo(s): Barnardsville

Wednesday No. W2604-0492 **Dec. 9**
Annual Cookie Hike, Bent Creek Ramble to MST past Sleepy Gap 9:00 AM
Hike 7, Drive 10, 1200 ft. ascent, Rated B-B,
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 the 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 two miles. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Topo(s): Asheville, Skyland

Wednesday No. W2604-0492 **Dec. 9**
Annual Cookie Hike, Shorter Version, Bent Creek Ramble to MST past Sleepy Gap 11:00 AM
Hike 2, Drive 10, 300 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
Gail Lamb, 828-275-4500,
glamb46@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26. Contact the leader for reservation. This is a shorter version of the Annual Cookie Hike. We will start on the Lake Powhatan Connector and hike to the picnic area to meet the other group for lunch and to share cookies. After lunch we will return to the cars on the same trail. Don't

forget to bring cookies. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Topo(s): Asheville, Skyland

Wednesday No. W2604-0845 **Dec. 16**
Trombatore - Bearwallow Trails 8:00 AM
Hike 7.5, Drive 30, 1900 ft. ascent, Rated B-A
Thomas Butler, 361-484-3381,
butler.tom3381@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Ingles at 1865 Hendersonville Rd., Skyland Plaza (Arden)

Second Meeting Place: Bearwallow Gap trailhead at 8:30 AM - but contact leader first.

Contact the leader for a reservation. Due to limited parking at the trailhead, the second meeting place should only be used for hikers coming from areas south. The Trombatore trailhead is marked with a prominent signboard and is located across the road from the Bearwallow Mountain trailhead. From Bearwallow Gap, we will first hike the Trombatore Trail to a beautiful meadow with long-distance views, then return past the Gap and up to Bearwallow Mountain with its great views. We will return on the gravel access road.

Topo(s): Bat Cave

Wednesday No. W2604-0325 **Dec. 16**
Tanyard Gap to Rich Mountain 9:00 AM
Hike 5.5, Drive 61, 1350 ft. ascent, Rated C-B,
AT-MST, LTC

Bev MacDowell, 828-777-5806,
bevmacdowellhappy@gmail.com

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

Second Meeting Place: Tanyard Gap parking area (off US 70/25 near Hot Springs) at 9:30 AM - but contact leader first.

Contact the leader via email or text for reservation. This moderate in-and-out hike features great views from the Rich Mountain fire tower near Hot Springs. We follow the A.T. north from Tanyard Gap, then take a short side trail to the fire tower and return via the A.T. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Topo(s): Hot Springs

Wednesday No. W2604-0997 **Dec. 23**
Biltmore Lake #2 10:00 AM
Hike 6.5, 876 ft. ascent, Rated B-C
Kris Medic, 812-371-1031,
krismedic@sbeglobal.net

Only Meeting Place: Biltmore Lake Clubhouse near flagpole.

Contact the leader by email for reservation. Limit of 10 hikers. Navigate to 80 Lake Drive and park on the street. Beginning at the Biltmore Lake Clubhouse flagpole (restrooms available) we'll walk the Lake Loop counterclockwise to the Pink Beds Trail, navigate a few streets and stairs to get to the trailhead on Scott Mountain and enter Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy land. We'll walk a forest road with lake and mountain views to the power

line cut, and back down to the Biltmore Lake community, where we'll take the Appalachian Morning Trail back to our start. This hike includes brief neighborhood street connections as well as some Enka history. This is hunting season; wear orange.

Wednesday No. W2604-1024 **Dec. 30**
Henry Trail **9:00 AM**

Hike 3, Drive 66, 800 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
Norm Sharp, 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 the second meeting place.

Second Meeting Place: Cracker Barrel Restaurant off Exit 53 of I-26 in parking lot close to I-26 at 9:30 AM.

Contact hike leader for reservation. This new section of South Carolina's Palmetto Trail is off Gap Creek Road and is part of the Mountain Bridge Wilderness Area. Despite the relatively short distance (three miles roundtrip), it is a steady uphill hike with 800-ft. elevation gain. There will be great views in the winter. The Henry Passage will eventually be part of the Gap Creek Passage of the Palmetto Trail, which will ultimately link to the Saluda Mountains and Middle Saluda Passages at Jones Gap State Park, expanding opportunities for outdoor recreation and regional trail connectivity. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

ALL-DAY WEEKEND HIKES

All-day weekend hikes submitted by Karen Lachow. 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.

Saturday No. A2604-0097 **Oct. 3**
Cat Gap - Long Branch - Cemetery Loop **8:00 AM**

Hike 8, Drive 30, 1200 ft. ascent, Rated B-B,
P400

Marielle DeJong, cell: 828-553-7027,
maredejong4@gmail.com and
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: Fish Hatchery - Pisgah Forest at 8:45 AM.

Contact Marielle for reservation. Limit of 15 hikers. This is what age 80 looks like! Join us for a hike celebrating longtime CMC member Danny Bernstein's milestone birthday. For this variation of CMC hike #0097, we will be hiking about 8 miles in the Pisgah Ranger District of Pisgah National Forest in honor of Danny's 8 decades. This lollipop hike begins on Cat Gap Loop, climbing to Picklesimer Fields area before turning onto Long Branch Trail. Long Branch Trail partially follows an old wagon road through a variety of forest types. Eventually the trail reaches the McCall Cemetery, which has graves dating back to the 1800s.

Topo(s): Shining Rock

Sunday No. A2604-0525 **Oct. 4**
Corn Mill Shoals P.L. #2 - Cedar Rock **10:00 AM**

Hike 6.5, Drive 60, 400 ft. ascent, Rated B-C,
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 10:30 AM - but contact leader first.

Contact hike leader via email for reservation. This hike is a pleasant variation of CMC hike #0525 up and over the granite slabs of Big Rock and Cedar Rock. From Corn Mill Shoals parking lot we will take Big Rock Trail and Cedar Trail to Little River Trail, adding in a loop on Burnt Mountain Trail. We will snack at the river and return on Corn Mill Shoals Trail.

Topo(s): Standingstone Mtn.

Saturday No. A2604-0209 **Oct. 10**
Buckwheat Knob - Coontree Loop **8:30 AM**
Hike 8, Drive 60, 2200 ft. ascent, Rated B-AA,
P400

Kelly O'Rourke, 434-249-5176,
kellyleann@comcast.net

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 - but contact leader first.

Contact hike leader by email for reservation. Climb along beautiful Coontree Creek through open forest up to Saddle and Bennett Gaps and on to Buckwheat Knob; then return via Coontree Gap (opposite side of loop). This hike fulfills the requirements for hike #62 of the 100 Favorite Trails.

Topo(s): Shining Rock

Sunday No. A2604-0644 **Oct. 11**
Mingus Mill semi-circular **8:00 AM**

Hike 10.5, Drive 110, 2800 ft. ascent,
Rated A-AA, **900M**

Jim Ervin, 828-444-4134,
ervingarden@bellsouth.net

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 hike leader by email for reservation. Limit of 12 hikers. From the Smokemont Campground in Great Smoky Mountain National Park, this hike begins with a 4.7-mile, 2,800 ft. climb up to Newton Bald, a former bald with good views from the ridge top. We will follow the Mingus Creek Trail along the ridge, then descend along the creek. If the group wants, we will hike past the Mingus Mill and visit the Enloe Slave Cemetery. Note: A parking pass for each vehicle is required in GSMNP. For more info: <https://www.nps.gov/grsm/planyour-visit/fees.htm>. Short car shuttle.

Topo(s): Smokemont

Sunday No. A2604-0175 **Oct. 18**
Waterrock Knob, Yellow Face, Blackrock Mtn **8:00 AM**

Hike 7, Drive 80, 2400 ft. ascent, Rated B-AA,
SB6K

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

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

Second Meeting Place: Rest area beyond Waynesville on US 23/74 at 8:30 AM - but contact leader first.

Contact hike leader by email for reservation. This scenic hike offers three SB6K peaks and outstanding views in the full glory of fall color. We will summit Waterrock Knob from the parking lot. After returning to the parking lot we cross over the Blue Ridge Parkway and hike a rough trail along the ridge line to Yellowface and on to Blackrock Mountain for lunch, then return the same way. Don't be fooled - this hike is more challenging than the distance implies. Rock scrambling and technical hiking are required. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Topo(s): Addie

Saturday No. A2604-0203 **Oct. 24**
Tanyard Gap to Lovers Leap **8:30 AM**

Hike 8.3, Drive 70, 790 ft. ascent, Rated B-C,
AT-MST

Judy Magura, 828-579-0321,
quilter290@gmail.com and Jim Magura,
828-579-1099, 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 by email for reservation. We will take the A.T. south from Tanyard Gap in the Hot Springs area to Lovers Leap and

How to join the CMC

Go to www.carolinamountainclub.org
Click Become a Member
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



return. Expect a moderate hike through beautiful woods and views from Lovers Leap. This is hunting season; please wear orange.
Topo(s): Hot Springs

Sunday No. A2604-0337 **Oct. 25**
Shining Rock from
Black Balsam #1 **8:00 AM**

Hike 11, Drive 60, 1500 ft. ascent, Rated A-B, *Wilderness hike, limited to ten hikers, contact leader for reservation.* **P400, SB6K**
Victor Zona, 248-767-2651, victor.zona@sbc-global.net

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

Second Meeting Place: BRP Cold Mountain Overlook at MM 412 at 8:30 AM - but contact leader first.

Contact hike leader by email for reservation. We will take the ALT from the Big Sam parking lot at the end of FS 816 to Shining Rock (6040 ft.), first climbing Black Balsam (6214 ft.), then onto Tennent Mtn. (6040 ft.) and Grassy Cove Top (6040 ft.) along the way. This will be your chance to bag four SB6K peaks while enjoying beautiful views and hopefully the fall leaf colors. After lunch on Shining Rock, we will return to our cars via the Ivestor Gap Trail. This hike is #49 of the 100 Favorite Trails. This is hunting season; please wear orange.
Topo(s): Sam Knob

Sunday No. A2604-0909 **Nov. 1**
Asheville Camino del Norte Walk **9:00 AM**
Hike 10, 500 ft. ascent, Rated A-C
Karen Schultz, 312-241-3329, schultz.karenj@gmail.com and Ken Scharmann, 847-772-4693, kennethscharmann@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Montford North Star Academy 90 Montford Ave., Asheville.
Contact Karen by email for reservation. Limit of 10 hikers. Meeting place is next door to the Asheville Visitor Center. PLEASE do not park at the Visitor Center. Walk the Asheville Camino del Norte, a 10-mile easy walk on sidewalks and trails. See North Asheville, University of North Carolina at Asheville and the Botanical Gardens. Have a café con leche at the historic Grove Park Inn. The hike simulates a short day on the Camino. Wear good sneakers or low boots. Bring water, snacks and lunch. We will stop for morning coffee, but feel free to bring your own food.

Saturday No. A2604-0330 **Nov. 7**
Raven Cliff Falls **8:00 AM**
Hike 8, Drive 90, 1450 ft. ascent, Rated B-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 8:30 AM - but contact leader first.
Contact hike leader by email for reservation. We begin by exploring the short trail near the Visitor Center with tremendous views, then drive to the Raven Cliff trailhead. Raven Cliff Trail is wide with moderate ups and downs. After turning onto Gum Springs Trail we descend to the Middle Saluda River, sometimes steeply, but assisted by steps. The river, with its suspension bridge, makes for a nice lunch spot, and is also our turn-around spot. On the return we will take the 1/2-mile spur to the falls overlook. Raptor migration continues through the end of November, so it is possible we will see them. The park has a \$3 entrance fee. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Topo(s): Table Rock

Sunday No. A2604-0533 **Nov. 8**
Looking Glass Overlook to
Cold Mtn. Overlook **8:30 AM**

Hike 5.2, Drive 70, 1550 ft. ascent, Rated C-A, **AT-MST, P400**

Kristen Friedman, unknown, kristenwho62@yahoo.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.

Contact hike leader for reservation and let her know which of the meeting places you will use. Hikers should choose the meeting place that is convenient to them; form carpools and each group drive directly to the BRP Cold Mountain Overlook, MM 411.9. From there, we will have a 5-mile car shuttle. Do not drive from the Outlets to the Pisgah Forest Walmart. We will leave some vehicles at the trail end (Cold Mountain Overlook) and drive the other vehicles to the trailhead (Bridges Camp Gap) to begin the hike. This will be a pleasant ramble along the MST from Bridges Camp Gap to Pigeon Gap and the Cold Mountain Overlook. We can expect nice views from some of the overlooks on the parkway. Please note that though this hike is lower-mileage, overall ascent is 1550 feet, including one fairly steep, consistent ascent to the top of Green Knob, followed by a quite steep descent. Car shuttle. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Topo(s): Shining Rock

Sunday No. A2604-0119 **Nov. 15**
Charlies Bunion from
Newfound Gap and return **8:00 AM**

Hike 8, Drive 135, 2400 ft. ascent, Rated B-AA, **SB6K, 900M**
Donna Lanning, 828-606-7956, dbanning@bellsouth.net

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 the leader by email for reservation. Limit of 10 hikers. This scenic in-and-out hike will follow the A.T. from Newfound Gap to a spectacular lunch spot at Charlies Bunion. This hike is #27 of the 100 Favorite Trails. NOTE: A parking pass for each vehicle is required in the GSMNP. For more information: <https://www.nps.gov/grsm/planyourvisit/fees.htm>.
Topo(s): Clingmans Dome

Saturday No. A2604-0910 **Nov. 21**
Rocky Fork - Flint Creek **8:30 AM**

Hike 7.8, Drive 80, 1860 ft. ascent, Rated B-A
Les Love, 828-230-1861, leslove55@gmail.com and Catherine Love, catmlove2@gmail.com

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

Contact hike leader for reservation. This in-and-out, creek-side hike showcases the Rocky Fork State Park and one of its links to the A.T. We will follow the Flint Creek Trail up to Flint Gap on the A.T., then return to the park entrance where we will take the side trail up to Whitehouse Cliffs for a full view of the Rocky Fork watershed. This hike fulfills the requirement for #45 of the 100 Favorite Trails. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Sunday No. A2604-0205 **Nov. 22**
Waterrock Knob from Soco Gap **8:00 AM**
Hike 9, Drive 77, 1950 ft. ascent, Rated B-A, **AT-MST, SB6K**

Kathy Cornn/Kyle, 828-458-1282, katherinenkyle@gmail.com and Michael Cornn, 828-458-1281, mwcornn@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 hike leader by email for reservation. This hike starts at Soco Gap with an elevation of 4400 feet and heads steadily up to Waterrock Knob at close to 6400 feet. We will enjoy the view as we eat our lunch at the top. This section of the MST was completed by CMC in 2016. Expect to be impressed by the work that went into building this trail. We will visit Howard's Bridge, Piet's Place and some big oak, spruce and maple trees. We will return on the same trail. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Topo(s): Hazelwood

Sunday No. A2604-0421 **Nov. 29**
Canebrake Trail **8:30 AM**

Hike 11, Drive 90, 1900 ft. ascent, Rated A-A
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 9:00 AM - but contact leader first.

Contact the leader by email for reservation. This hike will start at the Frozen Creek Rd. parking lot in Gorges State Park and go down the Canebrake Trail to the pedestrian bridge on the Foothills Trail. We will have a scenic view of the lake while having lunch on the rocks where the Toxaway River enters Lake Jocassee. Return via the same route. The trail is an old logging road. Our hike back will have a steady but moderate incline.

Topo(s): Reid

Sunday No. A2604-0437 **Dec. 6**
Slate Rock Creek, Pilot Cove 8:00 AM
Hike 7.4, Drive 60, 1340 ft. ascent, Rated B-B, **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 8:30 AM - but contact leader first.

Contact hike leader for reservation. This is a variation of CMC hike #0437. Form carpools and meet the hike leader at the second meeting place. This is a lollipop hike starting at Yellow Gap Road parking area near the Wolf Ford Horse Camp. We will walk the road 3/4 mile to Pilot Rock Trail, quickly turn onto the Pilot Connector to Pilot Cove Rd, then to Slate Rock Creek Trail, Pilot Cove Loop (where we will have lunch on Slate Rock), Slate Rock Creek Trail and back to the road via to Pilot Cove Rd, Pilot Connector, and Pilot Rock Trail. Slate Rock, a smaller and less well-known pluton, has terrific 180-degree views. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Topo(s): Shining Rock

Saturday No. A2604-0092 **Dec. 12**
Heartbreak Ridge / Star Gap 9:00 AM
Hike 6.8, Drive 80, 1650 ft. ascent, Rated B-A

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

Only Meeting Place: Ingles off Exit 64 of I-40 (Black Mountain).

Contact the leader by email for reservation. This shortened and modified version of hike #0092 will be on the Star Gap Trail. We will hike (at a moderate pace) the Star Gap Trail to Jarrett Creek and return on the same trail. We will have the option of hiking to Bernard's Rock Overlook or possibly a short distance beyond Jarrett Creek. The 1650' ascent/descent is moderate with only a couple of short steep sections. Option on the way back to stop at Andrews Geyser (which may or may not be operating) and read the historical marker commemorating the people who built the railroad track to the top of the mountains. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Topo(s): Old Fort

Sunday No. A2604-0640 **Dec. 13**
Walker's Knob - Montreat 8:30 AM

Hike 8, Drive 40, 1800 ft. ascent, Rated B-A
Lorraine Bernhardt, 828-699-8857,
lsbernhardt50@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Ingles off Exit 64 of I-40 (Black Mountain).

Contact hike leader for reservation. We will hike the Graybeard Trail up to Walker's Knob and back. The hike is a steady 1800 ft. climb with a wonderful view of Montreat and Black Mountain Valley from Walker's Knob. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Topo(s): Montreat

Sunday No. A2604-0420 **Dec. 20**
Allen Gap to Tanyard Gap 8:30 AM

Hike 8.8, Drive 60, 2100 ft. ascent,
Rated B-AA, **AT-MST, LTC**
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 the second meeting place.

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

No reservation needed. Contact leader by phone only. This will be a moderately-paced hike. This is one of the prettiest sections of the A.T. in our area. We will take a side trip to the Rich Mountain fire tower and visit the Spring Mountain Shelter. Car shuttle. Please bring enough cars so that all hikers can be safely belted in for the car shuttle. This hike is #42 of the 100 Favorite Trails. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Topo(s): Hot Springs

Sunday No. A2604-0492 **Dec. 27**
Cold Knob P.L. #1 - 8:30 AM
MST past Sleepy Gap

Hike 7, Drive 10, 952 ft. ascent, Rated B-C, **P400**

Judy Magura, 828-579-0321,
quilter290@gmail.com and Jim Magura, 828-579-1099, jqs290@gmail.com

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 hike in Bent Creek Experimental Forest. The route is: uphill on FS 479H; R onto Explorer Loop; R onto Chestnut Cove and unnamed trail to MST; L onto MST; L onto Stambaugh Trail; L onto Deerfield Connector; R onto Small Creek; Lunch at Campground; L onto Homestead; L onto Pine Tree Loop; R onto Explorer Connector; R onto Explorer Loop; R onto FS 479H to trailhead. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Topo(s): Asheville, Skyland

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. 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. H2604-0324 **Oct. 4**
Hard Times P.L.#2 - 9:00 AM

Pine Tree Loop
Hike 5, Drive 10, 600 ft. ascent, Rated C-C, **P400**

Connie Corn, 828-674-0248,
cornconnie@yahoo.com

Only Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26. Contact hike leader for reservation. Limit of 12 hikers. A pleasant, moderate loop hike in the Bent Creek Experimental Forest, starting at Hard Times trailhead and using parts of Homestead Trail, Small Creek Trail, Deerfield Loop, Pine Tree Loop, L on South Ridge Rd., R on Sleepy Gap Trail, R onto Explorer Loop, R on connector to Pine Tree Loop and then R along FS 479 and L across bridge to follow road.

Topo(s): Skyland

Sunday No. H2604-0951 **Oct. 11**
Deep Creek Waterfalls Loop 10:00 AM

Hike 6, Drive 124, 915 ft. ascent, Rated C-C, **WC100, 900M**

Karen Lachow, 703-395-5879,
heyk127@hotmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Food Lion - 35 Westridge Market Pl., Candler. Contact hike leader via email for reservation. Limit of 15 hikers. This lovely hike is a loop beginning from Deep Creek Campground entrance of GSMNP. We will hike along the water and visit 3 waterfalls, following the Deep Creek Trail, Juney Whank Falls Loop Trail, Loop Trail and Indian Creek Trail. Trails are very well-maintained by the NPS, with impressive bridges over all the creek crossings. Deep Creek is located near Bryson City, over an hour's drive each way. Expect a late afternoon return to Asheville. This hike meets the requirements of hike #18 of the 100 Favorite Trails. NOTE: A parking pass for each vehicle is required in the GSMNP. For more information: <https://www.nps.gov/grsm/plan-yourvisit/fees.htm>.

Sunday No. H2604-0553 **Oct. 18**
Montreat Loop #4 - 10:00 AM

Lookout Rock
Hike 5, Drive 40, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
Judy Magura, 828-579-0321,
quilter290@gmail.com and Jim Magura,

828-579-1099, jqs290@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Ingles off Exit 64 of I-40 (Black Mountain). Contact hike leader via email for reservation. This hike begins with a moderately steep ascent of approximately 900 ft. and a short rock scramble on the Lookout Trail up to Lookout Rock, where we will stop to take in the long-range views. We will continue on with a gentle climb on the Mt. Mitchell Toll Rd. to Buck Gap and return on the Old Trestle Rd. This is a variation of CMC hike #0553 and is an extended version of #81 of the 100 Favorite Trails.

Topo(s): Montreat

Sunday No. H2604-0022

Oct. 25

Beaver Dam to Chestnut Cove

Overlook on the MST

10:30 AM

Hike 4.8, Drive 30, 460 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. Contact leader via email for reservation. Limit of 10 hikers. Fall colors should be at peak on this hike in a mostly deciduous tree section of the MST. We will climb Ferrin Knob and have lunch at the ruins of the old fire tower. From there, it is mostly downhill for a descent of 1245 ft., sometimes steeply but mostly gentle ups and downs. We'll also have a leader-supplied snack break at some interesting boulders. Count on ~ 3 hours for this hike. Car shuttle.

Topo(s): Dunsmore Mtn.

Sunday No. H2604-0350

Nov. 1

Guion Farm P.L. #1 -

Wintergreen Falls

1:00 PM

Hike 5, Drive 70, 500 ft. ascent, Rated C-C

Bruce Bente, cell: 828-567-9443, bcb28791@gmail.com

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

Second Meeting Place: Pisgah Forest Walmart parking (back of center aisles close to Taco Bell) at 1:30 PM.

Contact hike leader for reservation. This variation of CMC hike #0350 is a leisurely-paced loop hike down old logging roads through beautiful forest. We'll stop at an old cemetery, and take a side trail down to a beautiful waterfall.

Topo(s): Standingstone Mtn.

Sunday No. H2604-0325

Nov. 8

Tanyard Gap to Rich Mountain

10:00 AM

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

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

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

Contact leader via email for reservation. Limit of 12 hikers. This moderate in-and-out hike features great views from the Rich Mountain fire tower near Hot Springs. We follow the A.T. north from Tanyard Gap, then take a short side trail to the fire tower, and return via the A.T. This hike is #42 of the 100 Favorite Trails.

Topo(s): Hot Springs

Sunday No. H2604-0346

Nov. 15

Folk Art Center to

Haw Creek Overlook

10:00 AM

Hike 5, 850 ft. ascent, Rated C-C, **AT-MST**

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

Brian Murphy, 703-593-6702,

bkmurphy2@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Back parking lot of Folk Art Center. This favorite moderate hike on the Mountains-to-Sea Trail goes through a beautiful section of forest and up to Lunch Rock just above Haw Creek Overlook. We will have lunch on the rocks with great views of the Haw Creek Valley and Asheville.

Topo(s): Oteen

Sunday No. H2604-0812

Nov. 22

Two Walls of Looking

Glass Rock

10:30 AM

Hike 2.7, Drive 70, 930 ft. ascent, Rated C-C,

P400

Dennis Bass, 828-367-8619, dbass3607@gmail.com

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

Second Meeting Place: Pisgah Ranger Station off US 276 at 11:15 AM - but contact leader first.

Contact hike leader via email for reservation. Limit of 15 hikers. View Looking Glass Rock from a new perspective. This hike covers two in-and-out trails off FS 475B to the rock face. It is a shortened version of CMC hike #0812. 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.

Topo(s): Pisgah Forest

Sunday No. H2604-0896

Nov. 29

Mingus Creek Trail

9:00 AM

Hike 5, Drive 120, 800 ft. ascent, Rated C-C,

900M

Danny Bernstein, 828-450-0747, dannyhiker@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Food Lion - 35 Westridge Market Pl., Candler. Contact the leader via email for reservation. In Great Smoky Mountains National Park, see the historic Mingus Mill and learn about the history of former residents. Visit an African-American cemetery and a settler cemetery. A pleasant walk with lots of interesting surprises along the way. This is hike #17 of the 100 Favorite Trails. NOTE: A parking pass

for each vehicle is required in the GSMNP. For more information: <https://www.nps.gov/grsm/planyourvisit/fees.htm>.

Topo(s): Smokemont

Sunday No. H2604-1013

Dec. 6

Boyd Branch P.L. #6 -

Boyd Logging Rd.

10:30 AM

Hike 4.2, Drive 4, 800 ft. ascent, Rated C-C, **P400**

Carroll Koepplinger, 828-231-9444, cakoe29@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26. Contact leader by 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.

Sunday No. H2604-0453

Dec. 13

Max Patch Loop

10:00 AM

Hike 4.4, 800 ft. ascent, Rated C-C, **AT-MST**

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

Brian Murphy, 703-593-6702, bkmurphy2@gmail.com

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

Second Meeting Place: Old Spring Creek School building on NC 209 in Spring Creek at 10:30 AM - but contact leader first.

Contact hike leader via email for reservation. Limit of 10 hikers. We will drive to Max Patch parking area, then hike up to the top to join the A.T. After enjoying the views we will head south on A.T. to pick up Buckeye Ridge Trail, loop around back to A.T. to top of Max Patch, then return to cars. Awesome 360-degree, panoramic views from summit of Max Patch make this a favorite hike.

Topo(s): Lemon Gap

Sunday No. H2604-0845

Dec. 20

Trombatore Trail

10:00 AM

Hike 5.2, Drive 35, 1300 ft. ascent, Rated C-B

Donna Lanning, 828-606-7956, dblanning@bellsouth.net

First Meeting Place: Ingles at 2901 Hendersonville Rd. (Fletcher NC). Form carpools and meet hike leader at second meeting place.

Second Meeting Place: Trombatore trailhead at 10:30 AM - but contact leader first.

Contact hike leader for reservation. Limit of 10 hikers. The trailhead is marked with a prominent signboard for Bearwallow and Trombatore. We will hike the Trombatore

Trail to a beautiful meadow with beautiful long-distance views, then return to the gap.
Topo(s): Bat Cave

Sunday No. H2604-0942

Dec. 27

**Rice Pinnacle P.L. #3 -
Corvair Trail**

9:00 AM

Hike 5.5, Drive 10, 600 ft. ascent, Rated C-C,
P400

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

Only Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26. No registration required. Contact hike leader via email or text if you have any questions. This is a pleasant hike through the woods of the Bent Creek area. No steep hills and good trail conditions. We will do a loop in the Rice Pinnacle area, including Corvair, Neighborhood, Ledford and Wolf Branch Trails.



Thomas Divide, November 2025.

Photo by Tom Butler.

*Further
information about
regulations is available at [www.
carolinamountainclub.org](http://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

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