

# LET'S GO!



## SECOND QUARTER 2025 Quarterly Hike Schedule



P.O. Box 68, Asheville, NC 28802 • [www.carolinamountainclub.org](http://www.carolinamountainclub.org) • e-mail: [cmcinfo@carolinamountainclub.org](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:johnwhitehouse@icloud.com)

#### **Art Leob Monday Crew**

Madison Evans,  
[madison.evans2023@gmail.com](mailto:madison.evans2023@gmail.com)  
Dan Sanford, [sanford.danielj@gmail.com](mailto:sanford.danielj@gmail.com)

#### **Waynesville Wednesday Crew**

Chris Werbylo, [jcw402@aol.com](mailto:jcw402@aol.com)

#### **Asheville Thursday Crew**

Dale Gerhardt, [patchwrk18@gmail.com](mailto:patchwrk18@gmail.com)  
Ken Hummel, [kenthummel60@gmail.com](mailto:kenthummel60@gmail.com)  
David Pizzolato, [pizzolato957@gmail.com](mailto:pizzolato957@gmail.com)

#### **Asheville Friday crew**

Paul Curtin, [pmcurtin@hotmail.com](mailto:pmcurtin@hotmail.com)  
Chris Werbylo, [jcw402@aol.com](mailto:jcw402@aol.com)

#### **Pisgah Friday Crew**

Don Cooper, [dncpr47@gmail.com](mailto:dncpr47@gmail.com)  
Robert Bolt, [otherob@inbox.com](mailto:otherob@inbox.com)

#### **Quarterly Saturday Crew**

Les Love, [leslove55@gmail.com](mailto:leslove55@gmail.com)  
Chris Werbylo, [jcw402@aol.com](mailto:jcw402@aol.com)

#### **Free Rangers Crew**

John Busse, [jfbusse@hotmail.com](mailto:jfbusse@hotmail.com)

#### **Remote Overnight Crew**

Paul Curtin, [pmcurtin@hotmail.com](mailto:pmcurtin@hotmail.com)

#### **Section Rovers Crew**

Jan Onan, [janonan59@gmail.com](mailto:janonan59@gmail.com)  
Madison Evans,  
[madison.evans2023@gmail.com](mailto:madison.evans2023@gmail.com)  
Dale Gerhardt, [patchwrk18@gmail.com](mailto:patchwrk18@gmail.com)

#### **Wilderness Response Crew**

Paul Dickens, [psdicken@gmail.com](mailto:psdicken@gmail.com)

#### **AT Section Maintainers Supervisor**

Paul Curtin, [pmcurtin@hotmail.com](mailto:pmcurtin@hotmail.com)

#### **MST Maintainers (South to North)**

**Oconaluftee River to Old Bald**  
Chris Werbylo, [jcw402@aol.com](mailto:jcw402@aol.com)  
**Old Bald to Hwy 215**

Robert Bolt, [otherob@inbox.com](mailto:otherob@inbox.com)  
**Hwy 215 to Big Ridge O/L**

Joseph Bange, [joseph.bange@gmail.com](mailto:joseph.bange@gmail.com)

#### **Big Ridge O/L to BRP Visitor Center**

Les Love, [leslove55@gmail.com](mailto:leslove55@gmail.com)

#### **BRP Visitor Ctr to Greybeard O/L**

John Busse, [jfbusse@hotmail.com](mailto:jfbusse@hotmail.com)

#### **Greybeard O/L to Black Mtn Campground**

John Whitehouse,  
[johnwhitehouse@icloud.com](mailto:johnwhitehouse@icloud.com)

#### **Secondary Trails Maintainers Supervisor**

Les Love, [leslove55@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:stevepierce50@gmail.com)

**LTC** For hiking all 24 lookout towers in WNC. Contact [LTC@carolinamountainclub.org](mailto:LTC@carolinamountainclub.org)

**P400** For hiking every trail in Pisgah Ranger District. Contact [P400@CarolinaMountainClub.org](mailto:P400@CarolinaMountainClub.org)

**SB6K** For hiking all 40 peaks above 6000'. Contact [SB6K@carolinamountainclub.org](mailto:SB6K@carolinamountainclub.org)

**WC100** For hiking to the 100 best waterfalls in the area. Contact [w100@carolinamountainclub.org](mailto:w100@carolinamountainclub.org)

**YPC** For hiking eight different Land Management areas with youth 17 and under. Contact Kay Shurtleff at [kshurtleff@msn.com](mailto:kshurtleff@msn.com)

**900M** For hiking every trail in GSMNP. Contact Steve Pierce, [stevepierce50@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:education@carolinamountainclub.org).

Saturday No. L2502-0046 **April 19**

**Boyd Branch P.L. #5 -**

**Pine Tree Loop 9:30 AM**

Hike 3.8, Drive 15, 400 ft. ascent, Rated C-C

Jeff Wilcox, 828-989-8755, [jwilcox@unca.edu](mailto:jwilcox@unca.edu)

**Only Meeting Place:** Asheville Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.

Contact hike leader via email for reservation.

### NEXT CMC

### COUNCIL MEETING

**When:** Tuesday, May 20, 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 Quarterly Saturday Trail Maintenance Workdays for 2025 are April 26, June 7, August 16 and September 27. We meet at 8:30 and return to Asheville by 3:00. Contact Les Love ([leslove55@gmail.com](mailto:leslove55@gmail.com), 828-230-1861) or Chris Werbylo ([jcw402@aol.com](mailto:jcw402@aol.com)) for details and where to meet.

This loop hike in Bent Creek is a shortened version of CMC Hike #46. Beginning at the intersection of FS 479 and Boyd Branch Road, we will pass by Lake Powhatan and then meander along the Deerfield Loop and Pine Tree Loop Trails.

Topo(s): Dunsmore Mtn.

Friday No. L2502-0101 **May 9**  
**Laurel River Trail 9:30 AM**

Hike 4, Drive 60, 350 ft. ascent, Rated C-C

Judy Magura, 828-606-1490,  
quilter290@gmail.com

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

**Second Meeting Place:** Corner of US 25/70 & NC 208 at 10:00 AM.

Please contact the leader via email for reservation and which meeting place you will use. In this shortened version of CMC hike #101, we will hike along a beautiful stream toward the French Broad River, featuring whitewater, big rocks and surrounding high cliffs. Interesting flora, as over 250 species of vascular plants have been identified along this trail. Parts of the trail are rocky – hiking boots/shoes are recommended.

Topo(s): Hot Springs

Saturday No. L2502-0767 **June 21**  
**Lookout Mountain in Montreat 9:30 AM**

Hike 3.3, Drive 30, 850 ft. ascent, Rated C-C  
Jeff Wilcox, 828-989-8755, jwilcox@unca.edu

**First Meeting Place:** River Ridge Market Place behind CVS off Exit 53B of I-40.

**Second Meeting Place:** Ingles off Exit 64 of I-40 (Black Mountain) at 9:45 AM.

Contact hike leader via email for reservation. A hike up to Lookout Mountain via Lookout Road, Rainbow Road, Old Mitchell Toll Road and Hickory Ridge Trail. Return on Lookout Trail. A highlight of this hike is the spectacular views of the Seven Sisters mountain range from Lookout Rock. The return trail has a very steep but short downhill section.

Topo(s): Montreat

## 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. W2502-1001 **April 2**  
**Big Creek, Crestmont Logging Co**

**and the CCC 8:00 AM**  
Hike 6, Drive 110, 900 ft. ascent, Rated C-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. This new hike in Big Creek explores the sites of the former Crestmont Logging Company and the Civilian Conservation Corps. We will see the remains, including bridges, cisterns, railroad tracks, homesites and building detritus of many kinds.

Wednesday No. W2502-0863 **April 2**  
**Saluda Mountains Passage**

**of the Palmetto Trail 8:30 AM**  
Hike 8, Drive 85, 1400 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 the second meeting place.

**Second Meeting Place:** Saluda Mountains Passage of the Palmetto Trail parking lot Anders Rd Zirconia NC at 9:45 AM.

Contact leader for reservation. This is a variation of Hike #863. We will hike an in-and-out on the Saluda Mountains Passage of the Palmetto Trail. This trail runs along the ridge defining the northern perimeter of the Poinsett Watershed, a 19,000-acre pristine wilderness, and the border between the Carolinas.

Topo(s): Zirconia

Wednesday No. W2502-0049 **April 9**  
**Big Creek and Baxter Creek**

**Wildflower Hike 8:00 AM**  
Hike 6, Drive 110, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated C-C,

**900M**

Adrienne Chang, 414-690-5424,  
acjp9349@yahoo.com

**First Meeting Place:** Home Depot off Exit 44 of I-40.

**Second Meeting Place:** Pilot Truck Stop off Exit 24 of I-40 at 8:30 AM - but contact leader first.

Contact leader for reservation. Expect a slower hike because of the many wildflowers we will see. For this reason, we will not hike all the way to Walnut Bottom. A comfortable roadbed meanders along rushing rapids, Mouse Creek Falls, huge boulders and deep swimming holes. We will turn around after hiking to the first bridge, return to the trailhead and then hike partway up the Baxter Creek Trail to see additional wildflowers. Beautiful forest and early wildflower environment make for a special experience - so bring your camera to this moderate in-and-out hike.

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

Wednesday No. W2502-1002 **April 16**  
**Elk Pasture Gap to Stony Fork 8:30 AM**

Hike 4.8, Drive 20, 950 ft. ascent, Rated C-C  
Barton Paschal, 828-545-6795,

bartonpaschal@bellsouth.net

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

**Second Meeting Place:** Stony Fork Park, Pisgah Highway at 8:45 AM - but contact leader first.

Contact the leader for reservation. We begin this new hike at Elk Pasture Gap, heading south 0.65 mi on the MST to the social trail that runs along Chestnut Ridge. This is the former cattle trail that Pinchot and Schenck rode horses up to get to Big Creek in 1895. We take Chestnut Ridge Trail down to the intersection with Upper Chestnut Creek Trail, go left to the upper terminus of Stony Fork Trail to Upper Stony Fork waterfall, and then back onto Upper Chestnut Creek Trail to its terminus on Pisgah Highway (NC-151). 5-mile car shuttle.

Wednesday No. W2502-0869 **April 16**  
**Balsam Mountain Preserve 8:30 AM**

Hike 10, Drive 70, 1200 ft. ascent, Rated A-B

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

828-508-5656, rhhike@gmail.com

**Only Meeting Place:** Food Lion - 35 Westridge Market Pl. Candler. Email Danny for a reservation. Walk the grounds of Balsam Mountain Preserve, a gated community in a 3000-acre nature preserve near Sylva. We'll hike with a resident who will show us their trails, camping area and stream. Then we **\*\*may\*\*** visit the nature center, where we'll see how they work with birds of prey and local snakes. Because this hike is on private property, it may not be repeated.

Topo(s): Hazelwood

Wednesday No. W2502-0239 **April 23**  
**Bee Tree Gap to Craven Gap 8:00 AM**

Hike 10.2, Drive 30, 1800 ft. ascent, Rated A-A, **AT-MST**

Claudette Roberge, 860-205-4473,  
Croberge0329@gmail.com

**Only Meeting Place:** Back parking lot of Folk Art Center. Contact leader for reservation. An MST hike with good views, varied forest terrain, and many wildflowers. We will hike over Lane Pinnacle, past the Rattlesnake Lodge site, and then do an easy 4-mile segment with little elevation change. Car shuttle. Another hike will be substituted if this area of the MST is still not cleared by the hike date.

Topo(s): Craggy Pinnacle

Wednesday No. W2502-0216 **April 23**  
**Sams Gap to Devil Fork Gap**

**on the A.T. 8:15 AM**  
Hike 9, Drive 90, 1900 ft. ascent, Rated B-A,

**AT-MST**

Tish Desjardins, 828-380-1452,  
tishdesjardins8@gmail.com

**First Meeting Place:** 160 Zillicoa 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 9:00 AM.

No reservation needed. This section of the A.T. features nice views into Tennessee from the ridgeline, traversing a series of knobs along an unusual section of the TN-NC state line where Tennessee is east of N.C. and the southbound hiker is actually traveling north. This time of year we expect to see many wildflowers. Car shuttle. Please bring enough cars to shuttle hikers. Remember to check Breaking News for changes or cancellation.

Topo(s): Sams Gap

Wednesday No. W2502-0346 **April 30**

**Folk Art Center to Haw Creek**

**Overlook and Beyond 8:30 AM**

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

Brenda Worley, 828-684-8656,

cell: 828-606-7297, bjdworley@gmail.com

**Only Meeting Place:** Back parking lot of Folk Art Center. Contact leader for reservation. This favorite moderate hike on the Mountains-to-Sea Trail rewards hikers with great views of the Haw Creek Valley. Expect a slower hike because of the many spring wildflowers we expect to see. 2.5-mile car shuttle. This hike is #78 of the 100 Favorite Trails with a little added.

Topo(s): Oteen

Wednesday No. W2502-0584 **May 7**

**Butter Gap Loop 8:30 AM**

Hike 11, Drive 90, 2000 ft. ascent, Rated A-A,

**P400**

Bob Smith, 828-696-6185,

wcrites@gmail.com and Vonnice 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:** Pisgah Forest Walmart parking (back of center aisles close to Taco Bell) at 9:00 AM.

Contact leaders by email for reservation. Come out and explore the newly-rehabbed Butter Gap Trail with an additional 2-mile section built by professional trail builders. We'll follow the Butter Gap Trail through the beautiful Grogan Creek watershed and Picklesheimer Fields, hike the new section, part of the Art Loeb Trail, and down the Cat Gap Trail. A great spring hike with streams, waterfalls, views and maybe some wildflowers. This hike is #59 of the 100 Favorite Trails.

Topo(s): Rosman

Wednesday No. W2502-0588 **May 7**

**Coontree Loop Extended 9:00 AM**

Hike 6.1, Drive 60, 1555 ft. ascent, Rated B-A,

**P400**

Jan Onan, 828-606-5188,

janonan59@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:** Pisgah Forest Walmart parking (back of center aisles close to Taco Bell) at 9:30 AM.

Contact leader for reservation. Limit of 10 hikers. This hike has a few minor variations from the original hike #588. We will hike up the left leg of Coontree Loop and then left onto Bennett Gap Trail; at the Perry Cove Trail intersection, we'll turn right and continue down Perry Cove Trail, then turn right on Perry Cove Road and hike to a short bushwhack uphill to Bennett Gap Trail onto the right leg of Coontree Loop and back down the trail to our cars. This hike satisfies the requirements of #62 of the 100 Favorite Trails.

Topo(s): Shining Rock

Wednesday No. W2502-0944 **May 14**

**Black Mountain Trail to Club Gap 8:00 AM**

Hike 9.7, Drive 51, 3100 ft. ascent,

Rated A-AA+, **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:** Pisgah Forest Walmart parking (back of center aisles close to Taco Bell) at 8:30 AM.

Contact leader for reservation. This hike begins at the Pisgah Forest Maintenance parking lot and follows the Black Mountain and Club Gap Trails. We will climb to beautiful views of the surrounding mountains and continue on to Club Gap and down to FS 477. Car shuttle. This hike fills the requirement for #66 of the 100 Favorite Trails.

Wednesday No. W2502-0089 **May 14**

**Lemon Gap to Max Patch 8:00 AM**

Hike 11, Drive 100, 1800 ft. ascent, Rated A-A,

**AT-MST**

Diane Saccone, 703-283-1068,

grdngrl54@gmail.com

**Only Meeting Place:** Home Depot off Exit 44 of I-40. Contact leader for reservation. On this classic hike we'll see the Roaring Fork Shelter, built by CMC, as we travel along a beautiful section of the A.T. We will begin at Lemon Gap, have lunch on top of Max Patch with its scenic 360-degree views, and then return to our cars at Lemon Gap. This hike is #40 of the 100 Favorite Trails.

Topo(s): Hot Springs

Wednesday No. W2502-0308 **May 21**

**Ox Creek Rd. to Rich Knob 8:00 AM**

Hike 8.2, Drive 30, 1850 ft. ascent, Rated B-A,

**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 for reservation. Follow MST from Ox Creek Rd. to Rich Knob via Rattlesnake Lodge and return via the same trail. Expect great views and possibly some late-spring wildflowers. Another hike will be substituted if this area of the MST is not cleared by the hike date.

Topo(s): Craggy Pinnacle

Wednesday No. W2502-045 **May 28**

**Trombatore - Bearwallow Trails 8:30 AM**

Hike 7.5, Drive 30, 1900 ft. ascent, Rated B-A

Karen Schultz, 312-241-3329,

schultz.karenj@gmail.com and

Ken Scharmann, 847-772-4693,

kennethscharmann@gmail.com

**First Meeting Place:** Ingles on US 74-A 225 Charlotte Hwy (Reynolds).

**Second Meeting Place:** Bearwallow Gap trailhead at 9:00 AM - but contact leader first.

Contact Karen Schultz via email for reservation. Due to limited parking at the trailhead, the second meeting place should only be used for hikers coming from Hendersonville or areas south. The trailheads are marked with a prominent signboard and are located across the road from each other at 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 same trail. The Trombatore Trail portion of this hike is currently a substitute for Favorite Hike #77 High Windy, which is on private land and difficult to obtain permission to hike.

Topo(s): Bat Cave

Wednesday No. W2502-0337 **June 4**

**Shining Rock from 8:00 AM**

**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*

Thomas Butler, 361-484-3381,

butler.tom3381@gmail.com and Josh Kelly,

828-779-8273, joshkellybotanist@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:** Juke Box Junction, 6306 Pigeon Rd., Canton, NC at 8:30 AM.

Contact Tom Butler for a reservation. Josh Kelly, a botanist with Mountain True, will accompany us. We will take the ALT from FS 816 to Shining Rock (6040 ft.), climbing Black Balsam (6214 ft.), 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. This hike is #49 of the 100 Favorite Trails.

Topo(s): Sam Knob

Wednesday No. W2502-0101 **June 4**  
**Laurel River Trail** **8:30 AM**

Hike 7.5, Drive 60, 350 ft. ascent, Rated B-C  
George Shepherd, 405-596-2632,  
Gsshepherd620@gmail.com

**Only Meeting Place:** 160 Zillicoa St. (USFS parking lot) off Exit 25 of I-26. Contact leader for reservation. Hike along the beautiful Laurel River to the French Broad River, with whitewater, big rocks, and surrounding high cliffs. Parts of the trail are rocky – hiking boots/shoes are recommended. Return via the same trail. This hike is #43 of the 100 Favorite Trails.

Topo(s): Hot Springs

Wednesday No. W2502-0548 **June 11**  
**Sams Gap to Big Bald** **8:00 AM**

Hike 13, Drive 50, 3300 ft. ascent,  
Rated AA-AA+, **AT-MST**  
Diane Saccone, 703-283-1068,  
grdngrl54@gmail.com

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

**Second Meeting Place:** Publix at 165 Weaver Blvd. Weaverville; lower end of parking lot off Exit 19 of I-26 at 8:15 AM.

Contact leader for reservation. For this challenging classic hike, 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.

Topo(s): Sams Gap

Wednesday No. W2502-0566 **June 18**  
**Roans in Bloom** **8:00 AM**

Hike 6, Drive 130, 1300 ft. ascent, Rated C-B,  
**AT-MST, SB6K**

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

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

**Second Meeting Place:** Ingles on US 19E at far right side (Burnsville) at 8:30 AM - but contact leader first.

Contact leader for reservation. This is a beautiful A.T. hike with some of WNC's finest views. Expect to see flame azaleas, rhododendrons and possibly Gray's lilies in bloom. From Carvers Gap, we'll go north past Grassy Ridge Bald (6160 ft.) to a scenic overlook for lunch, then return to Carvers Gap by the same route. Option at the end to drive up to the gardens area (small fee to enter) and walk 1/2 mile to see the vista from Roan High Bluff (6287 ft.). This hike is #100 of the 100 Favorite Trails.

Topo(s): Bakersville, Carvers Gap

Wednesday No. W2502-0035 **June 18**  
**Looking Glass Rock** **9:00 AM**

Hike 5.8, Drive 60, 1800 ft. ascent, Rated C-A,  
**P400**

Bev MacDowell, 828-777-5806,  
bevmacdowellhappy@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:** Pisgah Forest Walmart parking (back of center aisles close to Taco Bell) at 9:30 AM.

Contact leader for reservation. Limit of 12 hikers. A moderate, well-graded trail leads to the top of this pluton and then downhill to the first viewpoint, with beautiful views of the mountains. After visiting the west-facing face, we'll hike downhill, turn right, and pass the helicopter pad to the second viewpoint. In-and-out hike. This hike is #56 of the Favorite Trails.

Topo(s): Shining Rock

Wednesday No. W2502-0516 **June 25**  
**Lakeshore Loop** **8:00 AM**

Hike 10.3, Drive 145, 1600 ft. ascent,  
Rated A-A, **900M**

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

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

**Second Meeting Place:** Waynesville Publix parking lot east end off Exit 102 of US 23/74 at 8:30 AM.

Contact leader for reservation. We will start at the tunnel at the end of the Lakeshore Drive and hike Lakeshore, White Oak Branch, Forney Creek, and Goldmine Trails. Learn the history of the infamous Road to Nowhere, settlement and logging along Forney Creek and the development of Lake Fontana. This hike is #19 of the 100 Favorite Trails.

Topo(s): Noland Creek

## ALL-DAY WEEKEND HIKES

All-day hikes submitted by Karen Lachow, 703-395-5879, heyk127@hotmail.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. A2502-0089 **April 6**  
**Lemon Gap to Max Patch** **8:00 AM**

Hike 11, Drive 100, 1800 ft. ascent, Rated A-A,  
**AT-MST**

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

**Only Meeting Place:** Home Depot off Exit 44 of I-40. Contact leader by email for reservation. Max Patch has a group limit of 10. On this classic hike we'll see the Roaring Fork Shelter, built by CMC, as we travel along a beautiful section of the A.T. We will begin at Lemon Gap, have lunch on top of Max Patch with its scenic 360-degree views, then return to our cars at Lemon Gap. This hike is #40 of the 100 Favorite Trails.

Topo(s): Hot Springs

Saturday No. A2502-0934 **April 12**  
**Big Creek to Bee Branch**

**and Return** **9:30 AM**

Hike 7, Drive 32, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated B-C,  
**P400**

Brenda Worley, 828-684-8656,  
cell: 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 leader at second meeting place.

**Second Meeting Place:** Ingles on NC 191/280 at N end of parking lot in front of Pardee Urgent Care (Mills River) at 9:45 AM.

Contact leader by email for reservation. On this variation of hike #934, we ascend Big Creek Trail for 2.5 mi., then bushwhack a half mile up Bee Branch to Lower Bee Branch Falls. We hope to see a variety of trillium and other wildflowers along the way. Bring hiking poles and wear hiking shoes appropriate for fording the creek several times. We will return to the Hendersonville Reservoir and our cars on FS 142 via the same route.

Sunday No. A2502-0216 **April 13**  
**Sams Gap to Devil Fork Gap**

**on the A.T.** **8:15 AM**

Hike 8.5, Drive 80, 1900 ft. ascent, Rated B-A,  
**AT-MST**

Tish Desjardins, 828-380-1452,  
tishdesjardins8@gmail.com

**First Meeting Place:** 160 Zillicoa 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 9:00 AM.

No reservation needed. This section of the A.T. features nice views into Tennessee from the ridgeline, traversing a series of knobs along an unusual section of the TN-NC state line where Tennessee is east of N.C. and the southbound hiker is actually traveling north. Car shuttle. Please bring enough cars to shuttle hikers. Remember to check Breaking News for changes or cancellation.

Topo(s): Sams Gap

Sunday No. A2502-0983 **April 20**  
**Noland Creek** **8:30 AM**

Hike 10.2, Drive 140, 900 ft. ascent, Rated

A-C, **900M**

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

**Only Meeting Place:** Food Lion - 35 Westridge Market Pl. Candler. Contact leader by email for reservation. Noland Creek Trail in Great Smoky Mountains National Park is famous for its quiet walk along the creek and its many historical artifacts. The trailhead is off Lake Shore Road out of Bryson City, NC. We will walk on an old road and pass a homestead, a power plant (1930s style), a picnic site where we will have lunch and a large cemetery. On our return, we will continue the hike out and back past where we parked to campsite #66 to see a finger of Fontana Lake. See <https://friendsofthesmokies.org/blog/trails-forever-hikes-july-2024-recap-noland-creek-trail/> for more information. NOTE: A parking tag for each vehicle is required in the GSMNP. For more information: <https://www.nps.gov/grsm/planyourvisit/fees.htm>.

Saturday No. A2502-0863 **April 26**  
**Saluda Mountains Passage of the Palmetto Trail 8:30 AM**  
Hike 8, Drive 85, 1400 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 at the first meeting place and meet leader at the second meeting place.

**Second Meeting Place:** Saluda Mountains Passage of the Palmetto Trail parking lot Anders Rd Zirconia NC at 9:45 AM.

Contact leader by email for reservation. This is a variation of Hike #863. We will hike an in-and-out on the Saluda Mountains Passage of the Palmetto Trail. This trail runs along the ridge that defines the northern perimeter of the Poinsett Watershed, a 19,000-acre pristine wilderness and the border between the Carolinas.  
Topo(s): Zirconia

Sunday No. A2502-0845 **April 27**  
**Trombatore - Bearwallow Trails 8:00 AM**  
Hike 7.5, Drive 30, 1900 ft. ascent, Rated B-A  
Lorraine Bernhardt, 828-699-8857,  
lsbernhardt50@gmail.com

**First Meeting Place:** Ingles on US 74-A 225 Charlotte Hwy (Reynolds). Form carpools and

meet leader at second meeting place.

**Second Meeting Place:** Bearwallow Gap trailhead at 8:30 AM.

Contact leader by email for reservation. Due to limited parking at the trailhead, second meeting place should only be used for hikers coming from areas south. The trailheads are marked with a prominent signboard and are located across the road from each other at the Bearwallow Mountain trailhead. From Bearwallow Gap, we will first hike the Trombatore Trail to Blue Ridge Meadows, a grassy bald with good views. We will then return past the Gap and up to Bearwallow Mountain with its cows and excellent long-distance views. We will return on the same trail. Note: Due to potential road closures in Gerton, an alternate meeting place in Arden or Fletcher may be designated by the leader before the hike.

Topo(s): Bat Cave

Sunday No. A2502-0770 **May 4**  
**Burningtown Gap to Wayah Bald on the A.T. 8:00 AM**  
Hike 10, Drive 150, 2000 ft. ascent, Rated A-A,  
**AT-MST, LTC**

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

**First Meeting Place:** Home Depot off Exit 44 of I-40.

**Second Meeting Place:** Haywood County Rest Area 19500 Great Smoky Mtn. Expy. (US 23/74) Waynesville NC at 8:30 AM - but contact leader first.

Limit of 10 hikers. Contact leader by email for reservation. After a very pretty drive to the trailhead along the Nantahala River, this in-and-out hike starts at Burningtown Gap and runs south on the Appalachian Trail to the top of Wayah Bald (5342'). Views from the Wayah Bald stone fire tower are outstanding and a series of plaques mounted on the railings identify the peaks visible in the distance.

Topo(s): Wayah Bald

Saturday No. A2502-0244 **May 10**  
**Firescald Knob 9:30 AM**  
Hike 6, Drive 95, 1600 ft. ascent, Rated C-A,  
**AT-MST**

Marcia Bromberg, 828-505-0471,  
cell: 860-798-9905, mwbromberg@yahoo.com

**Only Meeting Place:** 160 Zillicoa St. (USFS parking lot) off Exit 25 of I-26. Contact the hike leader by email for reservation. We'll begin this hike by enjoying the views from Jones Meadow, once the site of the Viking Mountain Resort. Then we'll take a short access trail to the A.T. and backtrack to enjoy the views into North Carolina from Whiterock Cliff. Returning to the A.T. and heading north we'll enter a beautiful area of mossy rocks. After a mile or so, we'll begin climbing to the top of the world on a trail that is one of the CMC's great accomplishments, enjoying magnificent views into North

Carolina and Tennessee and stopping to honor Howard McDonald for his trail-building leadership. We'll return on the A.T. alternate trail that was once the main trail and now serves as a bad weather alternative. If we're lucky, we'll see numerous wildflowers along the way.

Topo(s): Greystone

Sunday No. A2502-0589 **May 11**  
**Shut-in Trail and Lake Powhatan loop 8:30 AM**

Hike 11.0, Drive 10, 1600 ft. ascent, Rated A-A,  
**AT-MST, P400**  
Marielle DeJong, 828-553-7027,  
maredejong4@gmail.com

**Only Meeting Place:** Bent Creek River Park off NC 191 1610 Brevard Rd. Asheville. Contact leader by email for reservation. The first 5 miles of this loop hike are on the Shut-In section of the MST from NC 191 outside the NC Arboretum to Sleepy Gap. Expect a steady climb to start, with some flatter ridges and climbs along the way. After a break at Sleepy Gap, we will descend to Lake Powhatan on a series of trails. The walk out on Old Bent Creek Road through the NC Arboretum is broken up by forest trails along Bent Creek to the entrance of the Arboretum, and then a short walk to our cars. This hike is #75 of the 100 Favorite Trails. NOTE: the hike may be modified depending on conditions and the accessibility of the trails due to the hurricane.  
Topo(s): Asheville

Saturday No. A2502-0513 **May 17**  
**Craven Gap to Rattlesnake Lodge 8:30 AM**  
Hike 8.8, Drive 10, 1600 ft. ascent, Rated B-A,  
**AT-MST**

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

**First Meeting Place:** Back parking lot of Folk Art Center. Form carpools and meet leaders at the second meeting place.

**Second Meeting Place:** BRP Craven Gap parking lot at MM 377.4 at 8:45 AM.

Contact the hike leaders by email for reservation. This is a pleasant walk in the woods along the MST from Craven Gap to Rattlesnake Lodge with its ruins and CMC history. If we're lucky, there will be a lot of wildflowers. We will return via the same trail back to our cars at Craven Gap. This exceeds the requirement for hike #83 of the 100 Favorite Trails. NOTE: the hike may be modified or changed depending on conditions and the accessibility of the trails and Blue Ridge Parkway due to the hurricane.

Topo(s): Craggy Pinnacle

Sunday No. A2502-0935 **May 18**  
**Smokemont to Cabin Flats 8:00 AM**  
Hike 10.5, Drive 110, 963 ft. ascent, Rated A-C,  
**900M**

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

### How to join the CMC

1. Go to [www.carolinamountainclub.org](http://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



**First Meeting Place:** Home Depot off Exit 44 of I-40.

**Second Meeting Place:** Maggie Valley Post Office at 8:30 AM - but contact leader first.

Contact the leader by email for reservation. Limit of 12 hikers. We begin the hike at the Bradley Fork trailhead at the upper end of Smokemont Campground in Great Smoky Mountain National Park. We will hike 4 miles on the Bradley Fork Trail within sight and sound of Bradley Fork. At the junction with the Cabin Flats Trail where Bradley Fork makes a hard right, we'll take the Cabin Flats Trail one mile to Campsite #49 on Bradley Fork. After a stream-side lunch, we will return on the same trails. We'll hope to see wildflowers along the way. An optional side trip to Chasteen Creek Cascades will be offered. NOTE: A parking tag for each vehicle is required in the GSMNP. For more information: <https://www.nps.gov/grsm/planyourvisit/fees.htm>.

Sunday No. A2502-1003 **May 25**

**Rattlesnake & Copperhead Mtns.**

**to Pot Cove in Montreat**

**8:30 AM**

Hike 9, Drive 35, 1759 ft. ascent, Rated B-A  
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. This new hike will meander over ridge lines offering a number of scenic overlooks featuring Copperhead and Rattlesnake Mountains on the east side of Montreat. Beginning at the Lookout Mountain Trailhead, we will follow the trail to the Old Mitchell Toll Road, where we will detour over and up to Copperhead Mountain with its scenic 360-degree views, then cross over to Rattlesnake Mountain with its 360-degree

views. Leaving this area we will return to the Old Mitchell Toll Road, which hugs the outer edge of Lookout and Brushy Mountains. Reaching Sourwood Gap we'll continue on through the bear camp to Pot Cove. The return will take us on the Old Trestle Road and East Ridge Trail back down to the trailhead.

Saturday No. A2502-0775

**May 31**

**Stargazing/Hiking**

**Weekend at PARI**

**9:00 AM**

Drive 86, Rated C-C, Kathy Cornn/Kyle, 828-458-1282, katherinenkyle@gmail.com  
Contact Kathy Kyle/Cornn at [cmccamporee@gmail.com](mailto:cmccamporee@gmail.com) to register or with questions. Cost is \$160 per person. Limited to 15 people. Hike Saturday and Sunday in the area near Pisgah Astronomical Research Institute (PARI) located in Rosman off NC 215. One-night stay in dorm-style lodging at PARI. A guided tour of the observatory and guided stargazing with PARI's telescopes will be offered Saturday night. Includes dinner Saturday night and breakfast Sunday morning. Bring lunches and snacks for Saturday and Sunday hikes. Hikes for Saturday and Sunday in the area will be determined soon. Carpooling possibilities will be sent to participants closer to the date of the event.

Sunday No. A2502-0267

**June 1**

**Horsepasture River**

**8:00 AM**

Hike 8, Drive 60, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated B-C,  
**WC100**

Thomas Butler, 361-484-3381,  
[butler.tom3381@gmail.com](mailto: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 the leader by email for reservation. Come to see the Gorges State Park area. We will hike upstream alongside the Horsepasture River to see the four waterfalls - Rainbow, Turtleback, Drift and Stairway. This is as good as it gets, all top-rated waterfalls and all entirely different. Chance to swim if it's warm enough. This hike is #13 of the 100 Favorite Trails.  
Topo(s): Reid

Sunday No. A2502-0282

**June 8**

**Black Mountain -**

**Avery Creek Loop**

**9:00 AM**

Hike 10.6, Drive 80, 3000 ft. ascent,  
Rated A-AA, **P400, WC100**

Michael Cornn, 828-458-1281,  
[mwcornn@gmail.com](mailto:mwcornn@gmail.com) and Kathy Cornn/Kyle,  
828-458-1282, katherinenkyle@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 leaders 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 on 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 - Avery Creek Trails to FS 477, turning right and walking on FS 477 1/4 mile to the cars.

Topo(s): Pisgah Forest

Saturday No. A2502-0563

**June 14**

**Poinsett Reservoir Passage**

**of the Palmetto Trail**

**9:30 AM**

Hike 6.6, Drive 67, 1200 ft. ascent, Rated B-B



*The 2023 CMC hike Roans in Bloom. Photos by Karen Schultz.*

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:** Orchard Lake Campground, 460 Orchard Lake Rd, Saluda, NC at 10:00 AM.

Contact the hike leader by email or cell for reservation. This new variation of hike #563 will begin from the Poinsett Reservoir Passage trailhead at the Orchard Lake Campground in Saluda, NC. We will hike over the mountain ridges along the northern boundary of the unique Poinsett Watershed, a pristine 19,000-acre natural environment. This section of the Palmetto Trail is along the North and South Carolina borders before its descent down the Blue Wall into South Carolina. This hike will not continue down the Blue Wall.

Topo(s): Saluda

Sunday No. A2502-0501

**June 15**

**Strawberry Gap Extended**

**9:00 AM**

Hike 8.3, Drive 19, 1800 ft. ascent, Rated B-A  
Karen Schultz, 312-241-3329,  
schultz.karenj@gmail.com and Ken Scharmann,  
847-772-4693, kennethscharmann@gmail.com

**Only Meeting Place:** Ingles on US 74-A 225 Charlotte Hwy (Reynolds). Contact Karen Schultz by email for reservation. This is a longer variation of #501. This trail was opened September 2022 by Conserving Carolina and is the newest trail to be completed in the Upper Hickory Nut Gorge trail network. About halfway up the trail, a rock outcrop known as Ferguson Peak offers sweeping views. We will reach the Blue Ridge Pastures after three miles and enjoy views of the Hickory Nut Gorge, Little Pisgah Mountain and distant views of the highest mountains in the eastern United States. We will continue on the Trombatore Trail and down to Brush Creek, where we will have lunch, then return to the cars on the same trail.  
Topo(s): Bat Cave

Sunday No. A2502-0924

**June 22**

**Rocky Fork - Headwaters Trail -  
Blockstand Loop**

**8:30 AM**

Hike 11, Drive 70, 1300 ft. ascent, Rated A-B  
John Beaudet, 423-483-0306,  
bodaciousat@gmail.com

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

**Second Meeting Place:** Rocky Fork State Park parking area at 9:15 AM.

Contact the leader by email for reservation. This is a variation of hike #924, exploring backcountry trails in Rocky Fork State Park. The hike is a loop that begins on the Rocky Fork Trail, then turns up the White Oak Flats Trail. We'll then hike the full length of the Headwaters Trail with

its backcountry streams and campsite, then wind around on the ridge of the Blockstand Creek Trail down to its junction with the Flint Creek Trail. Continuing on the Flint Creek Trail, we will rejoin the Rocky Fork Trail and return to the trailhead. This hike fulfils the requirements for hike #45 of the 100 Favorite Trails.

Saturday No. A2502-0646

**June 28**

**Mount Noble Lookout Tower**  
Hike 8, Drive 110, 1800 ft. ascent, Rated B-A,  
**LTC, 900M**

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

**First Meeting Place:** Home Depot off Exit 44 of I-40.

**Second Meeting Place:** Maggie Valley Post Office at 8:30 AM - but contact leader first.

Contact the leader by email for reservation. This rarely-led hike starts from the Oconaluftee Indian Village in Cherokee, where we will hike up the steep Mt. Noble Trail to its lookout tower, climbing approximately 1600 feet in 2.6 miles. After enjoying the views, we'll walk the gravel Adams Creek Rd. and a half-mile manway up to the GSMNP boundary. There we'll intersect the Mingus Creek Trail and descend to its end, with a visit to Mingus Mill. Car shuttle. Note: A parking tag for each vehicle is required in the GSMNP. For more information: <https://www.nps.gov/grsm/planyourvisit/fees.htm>.

Topo(s): Smokemont

Sunday No. A2502-0428

**June 29**

**Cane River Gap to Little Butt**

**8:30 AM**

Hike 7.5, Drive 52, 2200 ft. ascent, Rated B-AA  
Becky Smucker, 828-231-2198,  
bjsmucker@gmail.com

**Only Meeting Place:** 160 Zillicoa St. (USFS parking lot) off Exit 25 of I-26. Contact the leader by email for reservation. Big Butt Trail from Cane River Gap to Little Butt has been cleared of all the downed trees from the hurricane. Come check out the awesome work completed by the maintenance crews! This hike begins with a steep 1200-ft. ascent to the ridgeline, then continues along the top of the ridge with a few gradual ups-and-downs. After Big Butt, we'll 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.

Topo(s): Mt. Mitchell

Sunday No. A2502-0997

**June 29**

**Biltmore Lake #2**

**9:00 AM**

Hike 6, Drive 10, 722 ft. ascent, Rated C-C  
Kris Medic, 812-371-1031,  
krismedic@sbcglobal.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:** East end of Enka-Candler Public Library parking lot 1404 Sand Hill Rd. Candler at 9:30 AM.

Contact the leader by email for reservation. Beginning at the trailhead behind the Enka-Candler Library, we'll follow private Biltmore Lake community trails such as the Lake Loop and the Appalachian Morning Trail to old logging roads on Scott Mountain, in a section now protected by Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy. We'll enjoy long-range mountain and lake views as we walk the mountainside, then descend to complete the Lake Loop, returning to the trailhead. This hike includes brief neighborhood sidewalk and street connections between well-maintained trails, as well as some Enka area history. Virtually all of the climbing in this hike takes place in the first third of the distance.

## 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. H2502-0324

**April 6**

**Hard Times P.L. #2 -**

**Pine Tree Loop**

**10:00 AM**

Hike 5, Drive 15, 600 ft. ascent, Rated C-C,  
**P400**

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

**Only Meeting Place:** Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26. Contact hike leader via email for reservation. 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, South Ridge Rd., Sleepy Gap Trail, Explorer Loop, Pine Tree Loop and then along FS 479. There is a short, steep off-trail scramble in the middle of the hike.

Topo(s): Skyland

Sunday No. H2502-0959

**April 13**

**Richard L Hoffman Trail -**

**Bailey Mountain Preserve**

**10:30 AM**

Hike 5.5, Drive 60, 1500 ft. ascent, Rated C-B  
Karen Lachow, 703-395-5879,  
heyk127@hotmail.com

**Only Meeting Place:** 160 Zillicoa St. (USFS parking lot) off Exit 25 of I-26. Contact hike leader via email for reservation. The hike begins with a scenic ascent through the Smith property

pasture. This open area is home to a wide range of biodiversity. As the trail enters the forest, hikers are greeted with a swinging bench that looks back over the Heritage Farmstead. This is a great spot to catch your breath for a moment before beginning more challenging climbs. The 2.3-mile trail to the summit winds upward, continuing deeper into the forest for an 1100-ft. climb over a series of switchbacks. The trails are well marked with some breathtaking views. We will detour on the return via a different trail that is laced with spicebushes, and we'll hope to see many wildflowers. We will rejoin the original trail that we started on to end the hike and have time to explore the farm and the three unique barns on the property before leaving. Optional time to hang out after the hike in Mars Hill to enjoy a coffee, get an ice cream or explore the town.

Sunday No. H2502-0767 **April 20**  
**Lookout Mountain Loop**  
**in Montreat 11:30 AM**  
 Hike 5.2, Drive 8, 1040 ft. ascent, Rated C-B  
 Lee Silver, 828-668-7147, cell: 828-442-6549,  
 mhsrunning@yahoo.com

**Only Meeting Place:** Ingles off Exit 64 of I-40 (Black Mountain). Contact hike leader via email for reservation. A modification of hike #767, this loop hike will start steeply uphill on the Lookout Trail, then will turn onto Old Trestle Rd. and will include the Buck Gap and East Ridge Trails. We will return on Rainbow Road after an optional 0.4 mile round trip side trip to Lookout Mountain.  
 Topo(s): Montreat

Sunday No. H2502-0490 **April 27**  
**Bull Gap to just past**  
**Lunch Rock on MST 10:30 AM**  
 Hike 5.4, Drive 14, 800 ft. ascent, Rated C-C,  
AT-MST

Bobbi Powers, 828-667-5419,  
 bobbipowers23@gmail.com  
**Only Meeting Place:** Lower parking lot of Folk Art Center. Limit of 15 hikers. Contact hike leader via email for reservation. This part of the MST is a lush wildflower habitat in spring. Our goal will be spotting several dozen varieties of bloomers if our timing is right. Short car shuttle.  
 Topo(s): Craggy Pinnacle, Oteen

Sunday No. H2502-0588 **May 4**  
**Perry Cove and**  
**Bennett Gap Loop 11:00 AM**  
 Hike 5, Drive 65, 1350 ft. ascent, Rated C-B,  
P400

Lee Belknap, 828-674-3631,  
 rivergypsy@sprintmail.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 11:30 AM - but contact leader first. Contact hike leader via e-mail for reservation. Limit of 15 hikers. This hike will start at the southern end of the Bennett Gap Trail on Avery Creek Road below the horse stables and go a short distance up Bennett Gap before taking a shortcut over to Perry Cove FS road. We'll head down that road to the Perry Cove Trail. This will bypass the walk on Avery Creek Road. This will take us up the back side of Coontree Mountain to the Bennett Gap Trail. We'll hike a quarter mile north to a viewpoint; then we'll backtrack and continue south on Bennett Gap Trail back to the trailhead.  
 Topo(s): Shining Rock

Sunday No. H2502-0349 **May 11**  
**Buck Spring Trail from US 276 10:00 AM**  
 Hike 6, Drive 67, 450 ft. ascent, Rated C-C,  
AT-MST, P400

Marcia Bromberg, 828-505-0471,  
 cell: 860-798-9905, mwbrromberg@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 10:30 AM - but contact leader first. Contact leader via email for reservation. This lovely out-and-back hike starts from the Buck Spring trailhead on US 276. About a mile in, the trail joins the MST. There are several easy creek crossings, and we should expect to see numerous wildflowers along the way. We'll hike in about three miles and have lunch before retracing our steps.  
 Topo(s): Cruso, Shining Rock

Sunday No. H2502-0479 **May 18**  
**Kagle Mtn. 10:00 AM**  
 Hike 5, Drive 65, 700 ft. ascent, Rated C-C,  
P400

Carroll Koeplinger, 828-231-9444,  
 cakoe29@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 leader via email for reservation. This in-and-out hike is a shorter version of hike #479. It will start from Cathey's Creek Rd. and will follow an overgrown forest road and a scenic no-name trail to lunch at the new Butter Gap shelter. Return via the same trails.  
 Topo(s): Rosman

Sunday No. H2502-0009 **May 25**  
**Ox Creek Road to**  
**Rattlesnake Lodge 9:30 AM**  
 Hike 5.4, Drive 15, 700 ft. ascent, Rated C-C,  
AT-MST  
 Judy Magura, 828-606-1490,  
 quilter290@gmail.com and Jim Magura,

828-606-3989, jqs290@gmail.com  
**First Meeting Place:** Lower parking lot of Folk Art Center. Form carpools at both meeting places and meet hike leaders at Ox Creek Road (750 feet off BRP MM 375.6). Park on the side of the road.

**Second Meeting Place:** Ox Creek Road (750 feet off BRP MM 375.6) at 9:45 AM. Meet at 160 Zillicoa St. (USFS parking lot) off Exit 25 of I-26 if BRP is closed. Popular in-and-out hike to historic site. Unusually fine switchbacks. Contact hike leader via email for reservation. This is a perfect time of year to see the many wildflowers along the trail. Popular in-and-out hike to historic sites on the MST. We will do a 1-mile loop down the Tanbark Tunnel Trail, back up to the MST and return to our cars.  
 Topo(s): Craggy Pinnacle

Sunday No. H2502-0369 **June 1**  
**Buckeye Gap - Bearpen Gap 12:00 PM**  
 Hike 5, Drive 80, 850 ft. ascent, Rated C-C,  
AT-MST, P400

Bruce Bente, 828-692-0116, cell: 828-567-9443, bbente@bellsouth.net  
**Only Meeting Place:** Home Depot off Exit 44 of I-40. Contact leader via email for reservation. We will start by hiking a high-altitude MST section that leads through a lush forest of spruce and birch where the forest floor is covered with mosses and ferns. There is a section with steep, rocky downhill steps, so hiking poles are recommended. Two-mile car shuttle.  
 Topo(s): Sam Knob

Sunday No. H2502-1000 **June 8**  
**Ledford Branch P.L. #1 - Loop 10:00 AM**  
 Hike 4.7, Drive 15, 837 ft. ascent, Rated C-C,  
 Carroll Koeplinger, 828-231-9444,  
 cakoe29@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 Bent Creek hike will begin at the Ledford Branch parking area on Ledford Branch Road, then take an unnamed trail, loop around to Ledford Trail, then back to Ledford Branch Road and return to the parking area. Topo(s): Dunsmore Mtn.

Sunday No. H2502-0802 **June 15**  
**Grassy Rd. -**  
**Sycamore Cove Loop 9:00 AM**  
 Hike 4.6, Drive 50, 500 ft. ascent, Rated C-C,  
P400

Jan Onan, 828-606-5188,  
 janonan59@gmail.com  
**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:** Pisgah Forest Walmart parking (back of center aisles close to Taco

Bell) at 9:30 AM.

Contact leader via email for reservation. Limit of 10 hikers. We will park at the Art Loeb trailhead parking and walk along the road to the far trailhead to start the hike. We will hike up Sycamore Cove to Grassy Road and return on the Sycamore Cove Trail back to the Art Loeb trailhead parking. Topo(s): Pisgah Forest Topo(s): Pisgah Forest

Sunday No. H2502-0054

**John Rock**

Hike 4, Drive 65, 900 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.

**Second Meeting Place:**

Fish Hatchery - Pisgah Forest at 12:30 PM - but contact leader first.

Contact leader via email

**June 22 12:00 PM**

for reservation. This in-and-out hike goes up Old Horse Cove Trail to the top of John Rock. At the top there is a great view of Looking Glass Rock and the Fish Hatchery. Topo(s): Shining Rock

Sunday No. H2502-0062

**Daniel Ridge Trail Loop**

Hike 5, Drive 70, 800 ft. ascent, Rated C-C, **P400, WC100**

Claudette Roberge, 860-205-4473, Croberge0329@gmail.com

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

**June 29**

**9:00 AM**

Form carpools and meet the leader at the second meeting place.

**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. This shortened version of Hike #62 is a moderate (but not easy) loop hike that has lots to "C": Creeks, Chasms, and a Cool Cascade finale. This hike is #55 of the 100 Favorite Trails.

Topo(s): Shining Rock



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](http://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](http://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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