



Carolina Mountain Club  
P.O. Box 68  
Asheville, NC 28802

Return Service Requested

**Chance Meeting on the Trail** – You never know who will show up on a CMC hike. Recently on a hike we heard a new hiker being called Dykeman. He was Dykeman Stokely, the son of Wilma Dykeman and the nephew of Jerome Dykeman. The late Wilma Dykeman was the distinguished author of area novels *The Tall Woman*, *The Far Family*, and others, as well as *The French Broad*, a history of this area that should be required reading for anyone living here. Her brother Jerome was the CMC historian in the 1950s and has a website full of club lore, photographs and great information about CMC and WNC history. Dykeman is a publisher living in Newport, Tennessee. He was given our hike schedule by an old family friend, Bernard Elias. Dykeman said he had a great time and hoped to join us again on the trail. Photo by Stuart English.

## Still time to enter photo contest

Deadline for entries in the CMC member photo contest is October 1. Since some of the more technical rules were relaxed in July, it is even easier to enter.

For example, you may send your digital pictures into the contest just as they come from your camera...no fiddling with image sizes now. All you need to do is rename your picture with your name and category as in this example: gMcNabb\_wildlife.

jpg, for identification and category purposes.

A complete list of rules can be found at a link on the CMC web home page.

If you wish, you may enter one picture in each of our five categories. Prizes had not been announced at press time.

Judges for the contest are Gerry McNabb, Bernard Elias, and Brad Van Diver.

Club hikes are expected to join the Carolina Mountain Club. All members are encouraged to participate in one of the Club's many trail maintenance efforts. Contact a Club officer for details.

### CAROLINA MOUNTAIN CLUB OFFICERS

Lenny Bernstein-236-0192, President

Becky Smucker-298-5013, Vice President

Chip Miller-654-9331, Secretary

Carroll Koepplinger-667-0723, Treasurer

Gerry McNabb-274-0057, Immediate Past President

Council Members: Barth Brooker-299-0298, Ruth Hartzler-251-0886,

Don Gardner-754-4067, Bruce Bente-692-0116, Joanne Tulip-299-3495,

Charlie Ferguson-398-0213.

**THE APPALACHIAN TRAIL:** The Carolina Mountain Club is a member of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy, P.O. Box 807, Harpers Ferry, West Virginia 25245. Telephone (304) 535-6331.

**RESPONSIBILITY FOR SAFETY:** Each CMC member, guest or non-member hiker agrees to accept personal responsibility for his or her safety and the safety of minors accompanying such persons. The Club cannot ensure the safety of any participant on hikes. In participating in Club hikes, each such person agrees to hold harmless and free from blame the hike leaders, and the CMC, its officers and members, for any accident, injury or illness which might be sustained from participating in hikes or other Club activities.

**Editor:** Stuart English-883-2447, stuengo@citcom.net

**Deadline next issue:** November 15

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

**MOUNTAINEERING INFORMATION:** Consult the trip leader for additional information regarding a particular hike. Hikes may be cancelled due to adverse weather or dangerous road and trail conditions. Please call hike leader if weather conditions are questionable. Dogs are not allowed on CMC hikes.

Visitors are cordially welcome but should select trips within their endurance. When reservations are required as listed in the hike schedule, the leader must be called to reserve a space. Hikers will carpool from the meeting places to trailheads and back. Passengers are expected to contribute 10 cents per mile towards the driver's operating expenses.

**CLOTHING & EQUIPMENT, ETC.:** Footwear comes first. Never start a mountain trip in brand new footwear. Hiking boots are recommended. Clothing of any substantial type will do. Carry a sweater, even in summer, and some kind of rain wear.

Equipment for all-day trips should be a lunch, plenty of water, first aid kit, cell phone if available and personal medication including allergy medication.

**CLUB TRIP REGULATIONS:** Both members and visitors are expected to abide absolutely by club regulations and by instructions of the leader. Visitors should make themselves known to the leader on arrival at assembly place announced for the trip. No one is to start ahead of the leader without definite permission, or lag unreasonably far behind the group.

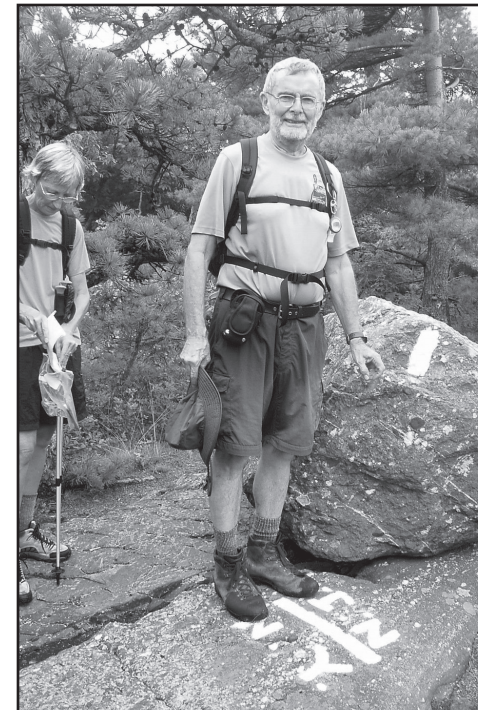
**MEMBERSHIP:** Everyone is eligible for Club membership by completing a Membership Application Form and paying dues. Annual dues are \$20 for individuals and \$30 for families, and should be sent to the Carolina Mountain Club, P.O. Box 68, Asheville, NC 28802. Frequent non-member participants in

# LET'S GO!

FOURTH QUARTER 2007  
Quarterly News Bulletin  
and Hike Schedule



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



Bruce Bente at the state line between New York and New Jersey during a hike that was part of the ATC conference.

## Eighteen CMC members attend Appalachian Trail Conservancy conference

During eight days in July, 18 CMC members attended the Appalachian Trail Conservancy Conference at Ramapo College in New Jersey. Workshops and hikes were scheduled daily. Those who think that CMC hikers are a rugged lot should try hiking in New Jersey. Hikes at the conference were rated by terrain, distance, elevation gain, and pace. A

fast hike usually covered three miles an hour. One of our faster hike leaders was told he needed to speed up.

The ATC Conference takes place every two years. The next one will be held July 17-24 at Castleton State College in Castleton, Vermont. More info can be found at [www.Vermont2009.org](http://www.Vermont2009.org).

## ANNUAL DINNER AND PHOTO CONTEST

All members and their guests are enthusiastically invited to attend our Annual Dinner and Meeting on Saturday evening, November 3. The event will include a social hour with appetizers and punch, dinner, our annual business meeting, and then the long-awaited showing and awarding of prizes for the

Photo Contest.

Venue for the event is the dining hall on the third floor of the First Baptist Church adjacent to I-240 in downtown Asheville. This building is one of our 1920s art deco gems designed by world-famous architect Douglas Ellington, and is easily recognized by its multi-colored dome.

Social hour begins at 5:00, dinner at 6:00, and the meeting at 7:00 followed by the Photo Contest results. Dinner will be served buffet style and will include a vegetarian entree. Dress is semi-casual to dressy. You are welcome to join us for just the meeting if you prefer. A carpool from Hendersonville will be organized (watch *eNews* for details). Cost is \$16.50 per person for appetizers and dinner. No alcohol is allowed at this venue. Directions are on an insert to this newsletter.

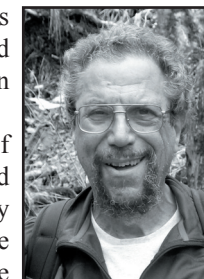
Fill out and mail the enclosed form to let us know about your attendance plans. The form also includes a 2008 membership renewal form to make it handy for you to pay everything on one check if you wish. We must receive dinner reservations by Oct. 26. See you there!

## THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

The last few months have brought much good news on the protection of our hiking areas.

In May, the State of North Carolina finalized the purchase of Chimney Rock for inclusion in the new Hickory Nut Gorge State Park, protecting this icon forever.

In June, Dale Ditmanson, Superintendent of Great Smoky Mountains National Park, announced that he would be recommending cash settlement with Swain County instead of any of the options to build the North Shore Road. In July, Tennessee Senator Lamar Alexander announced that he was proposing \$6 million in the 2008 Federal budget to begin paying the cash settlement. While



many steps remain between these proposals and a final settlement with Swain County, it looks like there is finally light at the end of the tunnel to nowhere.

Also in July, North Carolina Governor Michael Easley signed a bill allocating \$128 million over the next two years for land and water conservation projects. It's less than the \$1 billion over five years that we were campaigning for, but still a real commitment.

CMC, through our Conservation Committee, was a partner in the efforts to achieve all three of these goals. A heart-felt thank you goes to all of the CMC members who helped by speaking at public meetings, writing letters, or raising public awareness. You have made a difference.

## CMC enters partnership with Land-of-Sky Regional Council

At its July 24 meeting, the CMC Council agreed to enter a partnership with the Land-of-Sky Regional Council, which represents Buncombe, Henderson, Madison, and Transylvania counties.

The partnership will allow our trail maintainers, both trail crews and individual section maintainers, to become part of the Retired and Senior Volunteers Program (RSVP), and become eligible for that program's benefits.

It will be limited to the trail maintainers who are at least 55 years old and live in one of the four counties covered by Land-Of-Sky, but that is almost all of our trail maintainers.

The program provides accident insurance for volunteers while they are volunteering – from the time they leave home to the time they return. It also provides rewards such as free tickets to local theatre events and recognition celebrations.

CMC's contribution to RSVP will be our ongoing trail maintenance. Don Walton will report hours worked on trail maintenance to Land-of-Sky for inclusion in their annual statistics.

It will take a while for CMC to complete the necessary paperwork, and then individual trail maintainers will have to sign up with RSVP.

We'll keep you posted on the details through the *eNews*.

## Full immersion trail maintenance

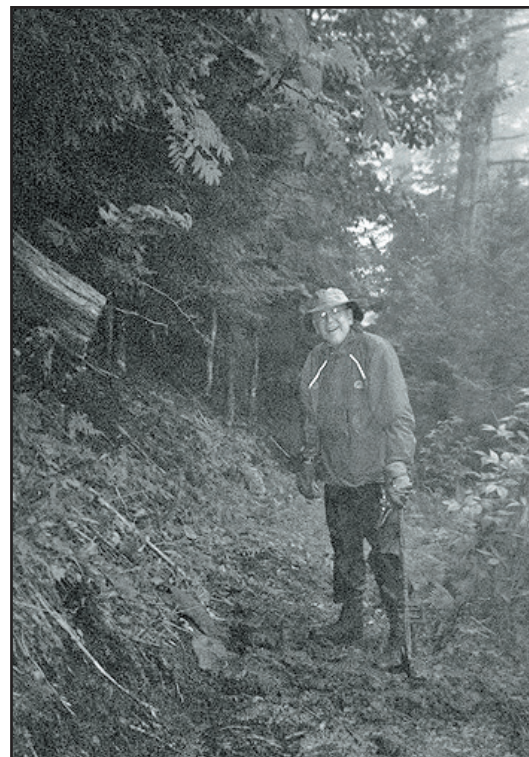
*The Appalachian Trail Conservancy has a program that utilizes volunteers to maintain remote sections of the AT in the Smokies. The program involves several days of backpacking and is called the Smokies Wilderness Elite A.T. (SWEAT) Crew. Gary Eblen, Community Outreach Manager of Diamond Brand Outdoors and CMC member, recently participated in this effort and recounted his experience to us:*

For six days in July I was a member of a SWEAT Crew working on the AT from Tri Corner Knob Shelter North towards Inadu Knob. Those of you who do trail work are quite familiar with the tools and techniques. I especially liked combining trail work with camping out for five nights.

The AT Conservancy provided our food and our leaders, and we four volunteers ranging in age from 17 to 57

(me) had a great time working in the rain and mud, expressing ourselves with pulaskis, fire rakes and swing blades. We built water bars, steps, relocated trail and knocked back a few acres of blackberry bushes. We camped 220 paces up from the AT shelter (I counted) and had our breakfasts and suppers at the shelter.

Our last night, after dinner, we helped four Tennessee volunteers move the privy. I think I skipped dessert that night. It was good for the soul to see people of different ages and locations who share a love for the outdoors and a willingness to get completely muddy for a good cause. I want to go back next year.



Gary Eblen, enjoying his trail maintaining experience in the rain.

## More on the SWEAT crew: Are bears a bit more lonely now?

The SWEAT crew has returned from the backcountry and here are some preliminary numbers. The crew logged 2,592+ volunteer work hours from over 48 volunteers. These folks dug more than 1,745 feet of side hill and cleared at least 27.7 miles of over grown trail, under the leadership of Hannah-Jacobsen Hardy, Andy Kruse, and Randy Puckett.

Equally impressive was the fact that three thru-hikers stopped by to work a total of 5 crew weeks.

So now for some fun numbers – the longest pack in: 11 miles, largest elevation

gain: over 4,000 feet, most bee stings in a week: 23, number of rattlesnakes sighted: 3, Elk encounters: 1, Bears: plenty.

Scared? You should be; this is the SWEAT crew.

– From the ATC Newsletter

### How To Join the Carolina Mountain Club

1. Go to [www.carolinamtnclub.org](http://www.carolinamtnclub.org)
2. Click on "How to Join" (upper left on web page)
3. Print out the "CMC Application Form"
4. Fill it out, Write a check for your dues and ...
5. Mail to CMC, PO Box 68, Asheville NC 28802 or ... write to us and we'll mail you an application.



## CMC will take part in Brevard Outdoor Festival Sept. 29

On Saturday, September 29, the Brevard Outdoor Festival will be held in the area around Poppies Market. Poppies is located on Market Street in Straus Park, Hwy 64, and 1.5 miles east of Pisgah Forest.

• **From 7 a.m. to noon:** great gear

swap and sell. Businesses, camps and individuals set up to sell (and swap) outdoor gear and apparel.

• **From 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.:** speakers, demos, exhibits and music.

• **Activities in the Forest or nearby:** group road cycling ride, walk/ride

on the new bike trail across from Market Street, beginner climbing trip, waterfall hike, and a CMC-led hike that will begin at 1 p.m. More about the

hike will be announced in the *eNews* at a later date.

• **7 p.m.:** dinner and entertainment in support of the Cradle of Forestry Interpretive Association. Shannon Whitworth (formerly of the Biscuit Burners) and her band will perform at the dinner.

### NEXT CMC COUNCIL MEETING

**When:** Wednesday October 3, 2007

**Where:** Greenlife Community House, Merrimon Avenue

**Time:** 6:00 PM

**Info:** Call Lenny at 828-236-0192 if you would like to attend. All CMC members are welcome.

### From the archives –

## A look at snippets of past newsletters

*Not long after joining our club, most people begin to feel that they have become a part of history and tradition. It is fascinating to imagine what hiking was like over 50 years ago. Here are some random items from old newsletters.*

*From 1937:*

**Clothing:** Low heels are recommended for women. High shoes are better; get a half size larger than usual and wear heavy socks.

**Club Trip Regulations:** No cars are to start until the leader gives the word and as a rule he rides in the first car. When cars

are parked, no one is to start ahead of the leader without definite permission, nor to lag unreasonably far behind the group. In returning, all cars are to wait until leader gives the word before starting.

*From 1938:*

**POSSUM HUNT**

**Leaders:** Jimmy Rash and his dogs  
The hunt will probably take place somewhere off Pole Creek Road. Jimmy promises to catch enough to go around, so have your sweet 'taters ready.

**Driving:** A little piece

**Hiking:** Around in circles.

**Climbing:** Over all the fences and logs in the woods.

P. S. Bring your flashlight.

*From 1931:*

The club has suffered an irreparable loss in the passing of Horace Kephart. The organizing of the Club was effected largely through his interest and energy and by placing him on the Council, the club hoped to have the benefit of his experience and guidance for many years to come. Not for many years will there be another who can take his place.

<p><b>PRESIDENT</b> GEORGE M. STEPHENS Citizen &amp; Times Building</p> <p><b>VICE-PRESIDENT</b> DR. O. C. BARKER Legal Building</p> <p><b>SECRETARY-TREASURER</b> MISS BARBARA AMBLER Boy Scout Office, Court House</p> <p><b>MEMBERS OF COUNCIL:</b> DR. G. S. TENNENT Haywood Building</p> <p>M. A. MATTOON Federal Building</p> <p>VERNE RHOADES Wachovia Bank Building</p> <p>GEORGE MASA Grove Arcade</p> <p><b>HISTORIAN</b> GEORGE W. MCCOY Citizen &amp; Times Building</p>	<p>Member Appalachian Trail Conference</p> <p>1923 CLUB INCORPORATED 1924</p> <p>Grove Arcade ASHEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA "In The Land Of The Sky"</p>	<p><b>COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN:</b></p> <p><b>HIKING</b> JESSE H. BUELL Federal Building</p> <p><b>TRAILS AND SHELTERS</b> GEORGE MASA Grove Arcade</p> <p><b>CLUB PUBLICATIONS</b> IVAN H. SIMS Federal Building</p> <p><b>CABINS AND EQUIPMENT</b> DR. O. C. BARKER Legal Building</p> <p><b>PHOTOGRAPHS</b> C. A. ABELL Federal Building</p> <p><b>MAPS</b> THOS. W. ALEXANDER Red Top Cab Building</p> <p><b>PUBLICITY</b> GEORGE M. STEPHENS Citizen &amp; Times Building</p>
--	--	--

*The masthead from CMC's newsletter in 1932. This was the first time the logo had been used in a newsletter or anywhere. Notice how the council members have Asheville buildings under them.*

## HALF-DAY SUNDAY HIKES

Half-day hikes submitted by Paula Robbins, 828-281-3253, paularww@bellsouth.net, with the assistance of Lucy Prim. Driving distance is round-trip from Asheville. All hikes assemble at the Westgate Shopping Center parking lot near CVS (Exit 3B off I-240) UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED. Some hikes will have second meeting places as described in hike listings.

HALF-DAY NO. H0704-035 **Oct. 7**  
**Looking Glass Rock 1:00 PM\***  
 Hike 5.8, Drive 70, 1800 ft. ascent, Rated B-B  
 Nonmembers, call leader, Rusty Breeding, 828-692-0359, bree\_lw@planetusa.net  
**P400** A moderately difficult well-graded trail leads to the top of this mountain with beautiful views along the way. In-and-out hike. **\*Meet at Westgate at 1:00 PM to form carpools and meet hike leader at the Pisgah Ranger Station on US 276 at 1:30 PM.**

HALF-DAY NO. H0704-578 **Oct. 14**  
**Flat Laurel Creek, Little Sam Knob, MST Loop 12:30 PM\***  
 Hike 6.5, Drive 80, Rated B-B  
 Nonmembers, call leader, Marcia Bromberg, 828-505-0471, mwbromberg@yahoo.com  
**P400** **\*Note early start time.** This is a pleasant loop trail with views of Big Sam Knob, Fork Ridge and the lovely Flat Laurel Creek. We'll begin on the Flat Laurel Creek Trail, which ascends gradually until we are hiking next to the creek, where we will stop for a snack. Little Sam Knob Trail, with views of Little Sam Knob and Sam Knob, connects to the Mountains-to-Sea Trail, which will take us back down to our starting point at NC 215. **Second meeting place: Pisgah Inn, north end of parking lot at 1:00 PM.**

HALF-DAY NO. H0704-553 **Oct. 21**  
**Montreat Loop #4 1:00 PM**  
 Hike 5, Drive 40, 1000-ft. ascent, Rated C-B  
 Nonmembers, call leader, Joe Burchfield, 828-298-8413, burchfield@niu.edu  
 This is a moderate hike ascending the Lookout Trail over Lookout Rock and then following the East Ridge Trail to Sourwood Gap. Return will be by the Toll Road, the Buck Gap Trail, and the Old Trestle Road to the Lookout Trail. After a moderately steep ascent and a short rock scramble, we will follow the ridge trail over several knobs and then return with an easy walk along the Toll and Trestle Roads. **Second meeting place: Parking lot adjacent to McDonald's in Black Mountain off Exit 64 of I-40 at 1:25 PM.**

HALF-DAY NO. H0704-057 **Oct. 28**  
**Blue Ridge Pinnacle 1:00 PM**  
 Hike 4, Drive 60, Rated C-C  
 Nonmembers, call leader, Don Walton, 828-654-9904, donwalton@bellsouth.net  
 This moderate in-and-out hike starts on the Blue

Ridge Parkway near Mt. Mitchell, with great views on top. **Second meeting place: Folk Art Center lower parking lot at 1:20 PM.**

HALF-DAY NO. H0704-009 **Nov. 4**  
**Ox Creek Road to Rattlesnake Lodge 1:00 PM**  
 Nonmembers, call leader Barry Fletcher, 828-299-4776, hmflet@aol.com  
 Hike 4.4, Drive 30, Rated C-C  
 This in-and-out hike will feature the historic Rattlesnake Lodge site. **Second meeting place: Folk Art Center lower parking lot at 1:15 PM.**

HALF-DAY NO. H0704-434 **Nov. 11**  
**Laurel Mountain Trail 1:00 PM\***  
 Hike 5.4 miles, Drive 40, Rated C-C  
 Nonmembers, call leader, Greg Goodman, 828-684-9703  
**P400** This moderate loop hike will start at FS 1206, go along a ridge trail toward Black Mountain and return via the Laurel Mountain Trail. There should be good views of the Mills River Valley. **\*Meet at Westgate at 1:00 PM to form carpools, and meet leader at the North Mills River parking area at 1:30 PM.**

HALF-DAY NO. H0704-286 **Nov. 18**  
**Sycamore Cove Trails 12:30 PM\***  
 Hike 5.7, Drive 70, 1200-ft elevation, Rated B-B  
 Nonmembers, call leader, Pat Elias, 828-687-1651, patelias@bellsouth.net  
**P400** A moderate hike in the Pisgah National Forest along several trails, including Thrift Cove and Grassy Road. **\*Meet at Westgate at 12:30 PM to form carpools, and meet leader at entrance to Davidson River Campground parking lot on US 276 at 1:00 PM.**

HALF-DAY NO. H0704-579 **Nov. 25**  
**Pump Gap-Lover's Leap Loop 1:00 PM**  
 Hike 5, Drive 70, 1200-ft. elevation, Rated C-B  
 Nonmembers, call leader, Tom Sanders, 828-252-6327, tomary2@charter.net  
 We will start at the French Broad River, ascend the Pump Gap Trail to the Appalachian Trail, follow it south past Lover's Leap, with views of Hot Springs, and return along the French Broad River to the trailhead.

HALF-DAY NO. H0704-430 **Dec. 2**  
**Green River Gamelands 12:30 PM\***  
 Hike 5 miles, Drive 70, Rated C-C  
 Nonmembers, call leader, Becky Elston, 828-749-1886, belston@cytechusa.com  
**\*Note early start time.** We will hike the Long Ridge/Turkey Gut/Stair Step trails to form a five-mile loop. There should be nice winter views of Mt. Tryon and other mountains. Join leader for dinner at Cracker Barrel at the end of the hike. **\*Meet at Westgate at 12:30 PM to form carpools, and meet leader at Cracker Barrel off I-26, exit 53 at 1:00 PM at the NE corner of the parking lot.**

HALF-DAY NO. H0704-102 **Dec. 9**

**Coontree Loop 1:00 PM**  
 Hike 3.7, Drive 65, Elevation gain 1200 feet, Rated C-B  
 Nonmembers call leader, Paula Robbins, 828-281-3253, paularww@bellsouth.net  
 This loop hike has some steep areas up the side of a lovely creek to the ridge on top of Coontree Mountain with wintertime views. The way down includes switch-backs along the other side of the creek. **Second meeting place: Pisgah Ranger Station on US 276 at 1:40 PM.**

HALF-DAY NO. H0704-222 **Dec. 16**  
**Montreat Loop #3 1:00 PM**  
 Hike 5, Drive 40, 1200 feet ascent, Rated C-B  
 Nonmembers, call leader, Gail Lamb, 828-350-0450, galmb46@aol.com  
 We will ascend by the Graybeard Trail to the Old Trestle Road at Pot Cove Gap, then follow a recently cleared and opened section of the Old Trestle Road (not on most Montreat trail maps yet) to Graybeard Falls. We will return to Pot Cove Gap by a short steep section of the Graybeard Trail and then retrace our path to the parking area. There are ten dry-foot stream crossings on rocks and/or logs. **Second meeting place: Parking lot adjacent to McDonald's off I-40 at exit 64 at 1:20 PM.**

HALF-DAY NO. H0704-429 **Dec. 23**  
**Hard Times Road to Rocky Cove Road to Bent Creek Road 1:00 PM**  
 Hike 5, Drive 15, Rated C-C  
 Nonmembers call leader, Laura Stallard, 828-697-1579  
**P400** We will hike in the Bent Creek area from the Arboretum recreation parking lot in an easy loop including Hard Times Road, Rocky Cove Road and Bent Creek Road. **Second meeting place: Ingles parking lot on NC 191 opposite Biltmore Square Mall at 1:15 PM. From there we will carpool with drivers who have Arboretum member parking privileges.**

HALF-DAY NO. H0704-316 **Dec. 30**  
**Carl Sandburg Park 1:00 PM\***  
 Hike 4, Drive 50, Rated C-C  
 Nonmembers, call leader, Lucy Prim, lucette32@mchsi.com, 828-693-6580  
 Traverse the same trails that poet/biographer Carl Sandburg enjoyed by climbing Big Grassy Mountain behind his farmhouse. **\*Meet at Westgate to form carpools and meet hike leader at parking lot of Carl Sandburg Park at 1:30 PM.**

HALF-DAY NO. H0801-500 **Jan. 6**  
**Mountains-to-Sea Trail: US 25 to French Broad River bridge 1:15 PM**  
 Hike 3.2, Drive 15, Rated C-C  
 Nonmembers, call leader, Gerry McNabb, 828-274-0057, gerrymcnabb@charter.net  
 A pleasant winter MST hike through the woods, yet still close to town, from US 25 at Blue Ridge Parkway to the French Broad River bridge. Walk on a CMC-built bridge. Short car shuttle.

## HIKE SCHEDULE Fourth Quarter 2007

### Hike Ratings

<b>First Letter Distance</b>	<b>Second Letter Elevation Gain</b>
<b>AA:</b> Over 12 miles	<b>AA:</b> Over 2,000 ft.
<b>A:</b> 9-12 miles	<b>A:</b> 1,500-2,000 ft.
<b>B:</b> 6-9 miles	<b>B:</b> 1,000-1,500 ft.
<b>C:</b> Under 6 miles	<b>C:</b> Under 1,000 ft.

Also in the hike descriptions, the terms easy, moderate or strenuous reflect the overall trail conditions, physical challenge and other factors influencing hike difficulty. If you have questions or if the weather on the day of the hike is questionable, contact the leader.

### CHALLENGE PROGRAMS:

**SB6K** For hiking all 40 peaks above 6000'. For information, contact Don Gardner, gardog3@charter.net

**P400** For hiking every trail in Pisgah Ranger District. For information, contact Don Gardner, gardog3@charter.net

**900M** For hiking every trail in GSMNP. For information, contact John Gallemore, kelarco@aol.com

### WEDNESDAY HIKES

Wednesday hikes submitted by Ann Gleason, 828-859-9387, gleason.ann@gmail.com. Driving distance is round-trip from Asheville. All hikes assemble at the south end of the Westgate Shopping Center near Exit 3B off I-240 UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED. Some hikes will have second meeting places as described in hike listings. Please phone the hike leader if you are not sure of the meeting location.

WEDNESDAY NO. W0704-585 **Oct. 3**  
**Chestnut Mtn., Searcy Creek Loop 8:00 AM\***  
 Hike 6-7, Drive 75, 800 ft. ascent, Rated C-C  
 Larry Ballard, 828-891-4318, leballard@cytechcis.net

**P400** On this new and moderate hike, we'll hike up FS 5095 from FS 475 to near the summit of Chestnut Mtn., then do a short, steep but easy bushwhack in open woods down to the Butter Gap Trail. We'll follow this trail north, then west onto the Long Branch Trail and return on FS 5095. Along the way we'll stop at a great overlook. **\*Meet at Westgate at 8:00 AM to form carpools, and meet leader at Pisgah Ranger Station at 8:35 AM.** Topo: Shining Rock; also Nat'l. Geo. PRD map #780

WEDNESDAY NO. W0704-584 **Oct. 10**  
**Butter Gap Loop 8:00 AM\***  
 Hike 9, Drive 75, 2000 ft. ascent, Rated A-AA  
 Tom Bindrim, 828-273-3880  
**P400** One of Tom's favorites for nearly 30 years,

we'll use parts of the Cat Gap Loop, ALT, and all of the Butter Gap trail through the beautiful Grogan Creek watershed to Picklesheimer Fields. Moderately paced, lots of stops, long lunch, expect late return. **\*Meet at Westgate at 8:00 AM to form carpools, and meet leader at Pisgah Fish Hatchery at 8:45 AM.** Topos: Shining Rock, Rosman; also Nat'l. Geo. PRD map #780

WEDNESDAY NO. W0704-560 **Oct. 17**  
**Rube Rock/Groundhog Creek Loop 8:00 AM**  
 Hike 9, Drive 100, 1900 ft. ascent, Rated A-A  
 Danny Bernstein, 828-236-0192, danny@hikertohiker.com  
 A beautiful loop hike, rich in fall foliage, located in the Harmon Den area of Pisgah Nat'l. Forest. We'll start at Brown Gap, then hike the AT to Rube Rock Trail which descends into the Pigeon River Gorge. Then we'll climb the Groundhog Creek Trail, to the AT and back to Brown Gap. **Second meeting place: Pilot Truck Stop off I-40 at Exit 24 at 8:30 AM.** Topo: Waterville, also Harmon Den & Hot Springs Area Trail Map, USFS map.

WEDNESDAY NO. W0704-204 **Oct. 24**  
**Max Patch Ramble 8:00 AM**  
 Hike 7.5, Drive 100, 1100 ft. ascent, Rated B-B  
 Adrian Lotherington, 828-484-9132, jaloth@charter.net  
 A late fall hike that may be our last opportunity to scale this beautiful section of the AT before Jack Frost descends! We will begin and end at Max Patch, one of WNC's most stunning views. **Second meeting place: Pilot Truck Stop at Exit 24 off I-40 at 8:30 AM.** Topo: Lemon Gap.

WEDNESDAY NO. W0704-586 **Oct. 31**  
**MST: Chestnut Cove to French Broad River 9:00 AM\***  
 Hike 6.2, Drive 25, 900 ft. ascent, Rated B-C  
 Ashok Kudva, 828-698-7119, ashok.kudva@mchsi.com  
**P400** From Chestnut Cove on the BRP we descend on the MST along several ridges to Bent Creek. Along the way there will be views of Biltmore House, Asheville and French Broad River. Car shuttle. **\*Note later start time. Only meeting place: Ingles parking lot across from Biltmore Square Mall on NC 191.** Topos: Dunsmore Mtn., Skyland; also MST Profiles book, pg. 56 - 57

WEDNESDAY NO. W0704-365 **Nov. 7**  
**Mt. Mitchell Ramble 8:30 AM\***  
 Hike 8, Drive 75, 1400 ft. Ascent, Rated B-B  
 Ruth Hartzler, 828-251-0886 ruthmtn@charter.net  
**\*Note later start time.** A loop on several trails in the Mt. Mitchell area, including the Old Mt. Mitchell Trail, Camp Alice Road and Commissary Ridge Trail. An optional side trip to Mt. Craig and Big Tom. **Second meeting place: Craven Gap on BRP at 8:45 AM.** Topos: Montreat and Mt. Mitchell, also PNF South Toe River, Mt. Mitchell & Big Ivy Trail Map.

WEDNESDAY NO W0704-587 **Nov 14**  
**Catawba Falls 9:00 AM\***  
 Hike 4, Drive 40, 600 ft. ascent, Rated C-C  
 Don Walton, 828-654-9904, donwalton@bellsouth.net  
**\*Note later start time.** Please call Don Walton in advance for reservations. This hike is a first for the CMC in at least 20 years, and will be conducted jointly by CMC and the Foothills Conservancy. The Foothills Conservancy (www.foothillsconservancy.org) has recently purchased a 23-acre property with loan funds to secure public access to the trail, and the USFS is working to acquire the property and add it to Pisgah National Forest. Since the 1870s when Rufus Morgan photographed the Catawba Falls, people have hiked along the Catawba River to view these spectacular waterfalls. After years of being off-limits, the falls are now on their way to becoming open to the public. The first falls is a moderate hike; however, the upper falls is very difficult and should not be undertaken lightly. **Second meeting place: Parking lot adjacent to McDonald's at Exit 64 off I-40 at 9:20 AM.** Topo: Black Mountain

WEDNESDAY NO. W0704-582 **Nov. 21**  
**Gauging Station - Pink Beds loop 8:30 AM\***  
 Hike 9, Drive 85, 900 ft. ascent, Rated B-C  
 Stu English, 828-883-2447, stuengo@citcom.net  
**P400** This will be a pleasant loop from the gauging station, covering parts of the South Mills River, Buckhorn Gap, Black Mtn., Barnett Branch and Pink Beds Loop trails. **\*Meet at Westgate at 8:30 AM to form carpools, and meet leader at Pisgah Ranger Station at 9:05 AM.** Topos: Shining Rock; Pisgah Forest; also Nat'l. Geo. PRD map #780

WEDNESDAY NO. W0704-404 **Nov. 28**  
**AT: Lemon Gap to Garenflo Gap 8:00 AM**  
 Hike 7.4, drive 125, 1720 ft. ascent, rated B-A  
 Charlie Ferguson, 828-333-5165, ccfl08@gmail.com  
 We will start the hike northbound on the AT at Lemon Gap and climb about 700 ft. up to the Walnut Mt. Shelter. The trail descends 600 ft. to Kale Gap through open forests and begins to ascend through Catpen Gap on up to the summit of Bluff Mt. (4686 ft.) on well graded trail. There should be some worthwhile views at the top and on both sides of Bluff Mt. The descent down Bluff Mt. is buffered by switchbacks and tapers out to a fairly easy hike halfway down. It is all downhill from Bluff Mt. to Garenflo Gap, about three miles. Car shuttle. Topo: Lemon Gap

### SATURDAY WORK DAY

Here is a great chance to learn what is involved in trail maintenance. We will meet on November 10 at the Moose Cafe at the Farmer's Market on Rt. 191 at 8 AM for breakfast. We will return to Asheville around 4:00 PM. Call Les Love at 828-658-1489 (leslove@charter.net) to verify date.

WEDNESDAY NO. W0704-182 **Dec. 5**  
**Green River Cove**  
**in the Green River Game Lands 8:30 AM\***  
Hike 7, Drive 80, 800 ft. ascent, Rated B-C  
Becky Elston, 828-749-1886,  
belston@cytechusa.com

Enjoy the curvy drive down Saluda's favorite mountain road and then hike to enjoy almost continuous views of the Green River, lunching alongside the river. Maybe kayakers will entertain us after their pass through "the narrows." \***Note later start time. Meet at Westgate at 8:30 AM to form carpools, and meet hike leader at Texaco station off Exit 59 of I-26 at 9:05 AM.**

WEDNESDAY NO. W0704-492 **Dec 12**  
**Cookie Hike / Bent Creek Ramble 8:30 AM\***  
Hike 7, Drive 20, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated B-B  
Ken and Carol Deal, 828-281-4530,  
cnkdeal@charter.net

**P400** \***Note later start time.** Moderate loop hike in the Bent Creek area. We will start from a parking area off Bent Creek Road beyond Lake Powhatan. We will hike up to the MST, follow it past Sleepy Gap, and descend to the Lake Powhatan picnic area for lunch and a cookie feast. The afternoon walk back to the cars is approximately 2 miles. Bring some cookies to share. **Second meeting place: Ingles parking lot across from Biltmore Square at 8:45 AM.** Topo: Asheville; also Nat'l Geo PRD map #780 and Bent Creek Trail Map

WEDNESDAY NO. W0704-588 **Dec. 19**  
**Coontree loop extended 8:45 AM\***  
Hike 7, Drive 70, 1500 ft. ascent, Rated B-B  
Bruce Bente, 828-692-0116,  
bbente@bellsouth.net

**P400** We'll hike the Coontree Loop, but extend it by including the Perry Cove and Bennett Gap trails, with a short road walk on FS 477 to connect the two. \***Note later start time. Meet at Westgate at 8:45 AM to form carpools, and meet leader at Coontree Picnic area at 9:30 AM.** Topo: Shining Rock; also Nat'l. Geo. PRD map #780

WEDNESDAY NO. W0704-589 **Dec. 26**  
**Shut-in Trail & Lake Powhatan loop 8:30 AM\***  
Hike 9, Drive 15, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated A-B  
Tom Sanders, 828-252-6327,  
tomary2@charter.net

**P400** \***Note later start time.** This loop follows the Shut-In Trail south, then descends Sleepy Gap Trail, skirts Lake Powhatan and finishes with 3 miles on the Bent Creek Gravel Road. **Second meeting place: BRP French Broad Overlook at 8:45 AM.** Topos: Asheville, Dunsmore Mtn., also Nat'l. Geo. PRD map #780

## ALL DAY SATUDAY AND SUNDAY HIKES

All-day hikes submitted by Bruce Bente 828-692-

0116, bbente@bellsouth.net. Driving distance is round-trip from Asheville. All Saturday and Sunday hikes assemble at Westgate Shopping Center parking lot near I-240 exit 3B UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED. Some hikes will have second meeting places as described in hike listings. Please contact the hike leader if you are not sure of the meeting location.

ALL DAY NO. A0704-548 **Oct. 7**  
**AT: Sams Gap to Big Bald 8:00 AM**  
**(strenuous)**

Hike 13, Drive 55, 2600 ft. ascent, Rated AA-AA  
Lenny Bernstein, 828-236-0192,  
lsberns@worldnet.att.net  
This will be a challenging AT hike up to see spectacular views from the summit of Big Bald. If the weather is clear, we will be able to see into the Rocky Ford Tract that ATC is trying to buy to protect the AT viewshed. Topo: Sams Gap

ALL DAY NO. A0704-365 **Oct. 7**  
**Mt. Mitchell Ramble 9:00 AM\***  
**(Moderate)**

Hike 8, Drive 75, 1400 ft. ascent, Rated B-B  
Tom Sanders, 828-252-6327,  
tomary2@charter.net

**SB6K** \***Note later start time.** We'll do a loop on several trails in the Mt. Mitchell area, including the Old Mt. Mitchell Trail, Camp Alice Road and the Commissary Ridge Trail. An optional side trip to Mt. Craig (6647 ft.) and Big Tom will be offered afterwards, where we can hike to see the amazing rockwork being installed on the newly rebuilt trail. **Second meeting place: Craven Gap on BRP at 9:15 AM.** Topos: Mt. Mitchell, Montreat; also PNF South Toe River, Mt. Mitchell & Big Ivy Trail Maps

ALL DAY NO. A0704-580 **Oct. 14**  
**Maintenance Theme Hike 8:30 AM\***

Hike 4-6, Drive <75, moderate ascent, Rated C-B  
Barth Brooker, 828-299-0298,  
barthb@bellsouth.net  
\***Note later start time.** Ever wonder how CMC maintains the trails that we hike on? Why are the CMC-maintained trails in such good shape? This moderate hike will travel a typical trail and will point out what and how to maintain it. We'll carry examples of tools and show how to use them, and have some fun along the way, too. More detailed info about the trail to be hiked will be posted in the eNews.

ALL DAY NO. A0704-581 **Oct. 21**  
**Balsam Mtn. – Pretty Hollow –**

**Palmer Creek Loop 8:00 AM**  
Hike 15.6, Drive 110, 2700 ft. ascent,  
Rated AA+-AA+  
Don Gardner, 828-754-4067,  
gardog3@bellsouth.net

**900M** This new CMC hike will cover some rarely-hiked and scenic trails. It will start at

Pin Oak Gap and follow the Balsam Mtn., Mt. Sterling Ridge, Pretty Hollow and Palmer Creek trails. **Second meeting place: Maggie Valley Post office at 8:30 AM.** Topo: Luftee Knob; also Nat'l. Geo. GSMNP map #229

SATURDAY NO. A0704-372 **Oct. 27**  
**Big Fork Ridge–Rough Fork loop 8:00 AM**

Hike 9.3, Drive 95, 1800 ft. ascent, Rated B-A  
Danny Bernstein, 828-236-0192,  
danny@hikertohiker.com

**900M** History Hike. Cataloochee was one of the most successful communities in the Smokies. From the end of the Cataloochee Valley, we'll hike up Big Fork Ridge Trail, then turn right onto Caldwell Fork Trail. We'll pass by the record-size tulip poplar trees, then go downhill on Rough Fork Trail. About a mile from the end of the hike, we'll stop at the Woody House, a well-appointed framed house. On the way out of the valley, we'll stop at the Palmer Chapel Cemetery. For a fictional account of life before the park, read "Cataloochee" by Wayne Caldwell. **Second meeting place: Pilot Truck Stop, Exit 24 off I-40 at 8:30 AM.** Topo: Dellwood; also Nat'l. Geo. GSMNP map #229

ALL DAY NO. A0704-246 **Oct. 28**  
**Around Coffee Pot Mtn. 9:00 AM\***

Hike 7.5, Drive 50, 1400 ft. ascent, Rated B-B  
Les & Catherine Love, 828-658-1489,  
lesrlove@charter.net

**P400** \***Note later start time.** We'll circle Coffee Pot Mtn. by hiking up Trace Ridge Trail to Beaver Dam Gap on the BRP and returning on the Spencer Branch Trail, with a stop to see the Hendersonville Reservoir and dam. **Second meeting place: North Mills River Recreation Area parking lot at 9:30 AM, but phone leaders first.** Topo: Dunsmore Mtn.; also Nat'l. Geo. PRD map #780

ALL DAY NO. A0704-563 **Nov. 4**  
**Palmetto Trail: Pointsett Passage**

**and Blue Wall Preserve 8:30 AM\***  
**(strenuous)**  
Hike 10, Drive 100, 1200 ft. or 2400 ascent,  
Rated A-B or A-AA  
Charlie Ferguson, 828-333-5165,  
ccf108@gmail.com  
Ann Gleason, 828-859-9387,  
gleason.ann@gmail.com

Come hike the newly opened Poinsett Passage of the Palmetto Trail. This stretch climbs along the NC / SC border and NW ridge of the Greenville watershed. The trail travels up and down the ridge through wilderness that has been closed to the public for decades, then descends to the Vaughn's Gap parking area behind Lake Lanier. Key swap hike. **Second meeting place: Saluda Truck Stop, Texaco station at Exit 59 off I-26 at 9:05 AM.** Topo: Saluda

ALL DAY NO. A0704-279 **Nov. 4**  
**Montreat: RR trestle grade**

**to Pot Cove 8:30 AM\***  
Hike 7.5, Drive 35, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated B-C  
Janet Martin, 812-738-8154,  
jaykaymartin@msn.com

\***Note later start time.** The hike starts southward toward Lookout Mountain, but veers north to hike along the west side of the ridge to Sourwood Gap, and then switches to the east side of the ridge through Long Gap to Pot Cove Gap, the site of an old quarry. By alternating sections of the Old Trestle Road, which was used by the Mt. Mitchell Railroad for logging and later for passengers, and the Old Toll Road to Mt. Mitchell, the hike will circumnavigate both Thunder Knob and Brushy Mtn. With the leaves off the trees, we'll catch some views unseen during the summer months. **Second meeting place: Parking lot adjacent to Black Mtn. McDonald's just south of I-40 Exit 64 at 8:50 AM.** Topo: Montreat; also Montreat Trail Map

ALL DAY NO. A0704-163 **Nov. 11**  
**Linville Gorge,**

**Sandy Flats to Pine Gap 8:00 AM**  
Hike 7, Drive 130, 1500 ft. ascent, Rated B-A  
Don Walton, 828-654-9904,  
donwalton@bellsouth.net

Strenuous hike! We'll first descend 1300 ft. in less than a mile from Sandy Flats trailhead, then hike upstream along the Linville Gorge in the depths of the gorge. One of the great streams of WNC. Then out of the gorge via the Pine Gap Trail. Short car shuttle. **Second meeting place: Parking lot adjacent to McDonald's off I-40 at Exit 64 at 8:20 AM.** Topos: Ashford, Linville Falls; also Linville Gorge Wilderness map

ALL DAY NO. A0704-409 **Nov. 18**  
**Jones Gap/El Lieutenant Loop 8:00 AM**

Hike 10.3, Drive 95, 2200 ft. ascent, Rated A-AA  
Carroll Koeplinger, 828-667-0723,  
carrollkoe@charter.net

Starting at Jones Gap State Park (NOTE: \$2 entry fee per person), we will hike up the Jones Gap Trail along the Middle Saluda River, then the Bill Kimball Trail up through the boulders and forest, climbing over the granite face of El Lieutenant. We'll continue on the Kimball trail, walk a short portion of US 276 to our return loop on the Tom Miller and Jones Gap Trails. \***Additional meeting places: NE corner of parking lot at Cracker Barrel at Exit 53 off I-26 at 8:30 AM; also Jones Gap State Park parking lot at 9:00 AM.** Topos: Cleveland, Table Rock; also Mountain Bridge Wilderness map

ALL DAY NO. A0704-582 **Nov. 25**  
**Gauging Station – Pink Beds loop 8:30 AM\***

Hike 9, Drive 85, 900 ft. ascent, Rated B-C  
Stu English, 828-883-2447, stuengo@citcom.net  
**P400** This will be a pleasant loop from the gauging station, covering parts of the South Mills

River, Buckhorn Gap, Black Mtn., Barnett Branch and Pink Beds Loop trails. \***Meet at Westgate at 8:30 AM to form carpools, and meet leader at Pisgah Ranger Station at 9:05 AM.** Topos: Shining Rock; Pisgah Forest; also Nat'l. Geo. PRD map #780

ALL DAY NO. A0704-441 **Dec. 2**  
**AT: Up and Down Snowbird 8:00 AM\***  
**(strenuous)**

Hike 10.6, Drive 100, 2700 ft. ascent,  
Rated A-AA  
Marianne Newman, 828-454-1036,  
marianneln@msn.com

Starting at I-40, hike a pretty stretch of the AT near the southern end of the sections maintained by CMC. If weather conditions are right, we'll see a beautiful display of rime ice on our way to the great views from the summit of 4263-ft. Snowbird Mtn. \***Meet at Westgate at 8:00 AM to form carpools, and meet leader at Pilot Truck Stop at exit 24 off I-40 at 8:30 AM.** Topo: Waterville; also PNF Harmon Den Trail Map

ALL DAY NO. A0704-583 **Dec. 2**  
**Cedar Rock and Kagle Mtns.**

**from Cathey's Creek Rd. 8:00 AM\***  
**(moderate)**  
Hike 7, Drive 80, 1700 ft. ascent, Rated B-A  
Dave Wetmore, 828-884-7296,  
dwetmore@citcom.net

**P400** This new hike takes the shortest way to the summit of Cedar Rock Mtn. and its magnificent views. We'll take trails to the summit and then go through the woods down the south ridge to the ALT. We'll stay in the woods on the ridgeline and climb to the summit of Kagle Mtn. and then down to an old road and back to Cathey's Creek Rd. Although not particularly dangerous, there will be some scrambling over bare rock. The slopes are gradual and no climbing skills are needed, just a tolerance for heights. The cross-country part is largely gentle slopes through open country. Note: If it is icy or wet we'll take an alternate hike. \***Meet at Westgate at 8:00 AM to form carpools, and meet leader at the Bi-Lo in Pisgah Forest at 8:30 AM.** Topo: Pisgah Forest; also Nat'l. Geo. PRD map #780

ALL DAY NO. A0704-584 **Dec. 9**  
**Butter Gap Loop 8:00 AM\***

Hike 9, Drive 75, 2000 ft. ascent, Rated A-AA  
Tom Bindrim & Joan Lemire, 828-273-3880

**P400** One of Tom's favorites for nearly 30 years, we'll use parts of the Cat Gap Loop, ALT, and all of the Butter Gap trail through the beautiful Grogan Creek watershed to Picklesheimer Fields. Moderately paced, lots of stops, long lunch, expect late return. \***Meet at Westgate at 8:00 AM to form carpools, and meet leaders at Pisgah Fish Hatchery at 8:45 AM.** Topos: Shining Rock, Rosman; also Nat'l. Geo. PRD map #780

ALL DAY NO. A0704-339 **Dec. 16**  
**AT: Garenflo Gap**  
**to Hot Springs & Potluck Supper 9:00 AM\***  
Hike 7.5, Drive 90, 1100 ft. ascent, Rated B-B  
Tish Desjardins, 828-656-2191,  
desraylet@aol.com

\***Note later start time, and that after the hike there will be a potluck supper in a nearby clubhouse.** Hikers are requested to contribute food for the supper. Food will be taken to a refrigerator before the hike. Please phone the leader to coordinate what food to bring. This AT sequence hike offers nice variety, with a beautiful hardwood forest, Deer Park shelter and moderate climbs and descents. Car shuttle. **Second meeting place: Parking lot on US 25 at intersection with NC 208 at 9:40 AM.** Topos: Lemon Gap, Spring Creek, Hot Springs

ALL DAY NO. A0704-128 **Dec. 23**  
**Sam Knob Loop 8:00 AM**

Hike 9.8, Drive 90, 1500 ft. ascent, Rated A-A  
Paul Benson, 828-251-1909,  
pdbenson@charter.net

**SB6K, P400** This scenic loop will be great in winter weather, hopefully with snow on the ground. We'll start at NC 215 and follow the MST, with a side trip to Devil's Courthouse, to FS 816. Then we'll loop back and ascend Sam Knob (6040 ft.) with its 360-degree views, then follow the Flat Laurel Creek Trail to NC 215. There will be a wet stream crossing at the end unless it is frozen. Topos: Shining Rock & Sam Knob; also Nat'l. Geographic PRD map #780

**HIKE CANCELLED –**  
**NO LEADER AVAILABLE Dec. 30**

NEW YEARS DAY NO. A0801-281 **Jan. 1**  
**Green River Gamelands 8:00 AM breakfast,**

**9:15 AM hike\***  
Hike 6.5 or 8, Drive 70, 1300 or 1500 ft. ascent,  
Rated B-B

Bruce Bente, 828-692-0116,  
bbente@cytechusa.com

\***Meet at Westgate at 7:30 AM to form carpools and meet leader at times above at the NE corner of the Cracker Barrel parking lot in Hendersonville (exit 53 on I-26).** After breakfast, we'll do a pleasant loop on a series of trails around the Green River Gamelands. We'll hike down to and along the Green River, with a late lunch at the big rocks on the Green River, and then hike up and out on the Pulliam Creek trail. Short car shuttle. Topo: Clifffield Mtn.; also Map of the Green River Gamelands Trails

