

# LET'S GO!



FOURTH QUARTER 2024  
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 from the meeting place: 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, including scout reports, 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**

Rich Evans, [richard.erman.evans@gmail.com](mailto:richard.erman.evans@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, [kenhummel60@gmail.com](mailto:kenhummel60@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, [lesrlove55@gmail.com](mailto:lesrlove55@gmail.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)  
Rich Evans, [richard.erman.evans@gmail.com](mailto:richard.erman.evans@gmail.com)

### **Section Rovers Crew**

Jan Onan, [janonan59@gmail.com](mailto:janonan59@gmail.com)  
Rich Evans, [richard.erman.evans@gmail.com](mailto:richard.erman.evans@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**  
(Available)

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

Les Love, [lesrlove55@gmail.com](mailto:lesrlove55@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, [lesrlove55@gmail.com](mailto:lesrlove55@gmail.com)

## SATURDAY WORKDAYS

The remaining Quarterly Saturday Trail Maintenance Workday for 2024 is October 12. We meet at 8:30 and return to Asheville by 3:00. Contact Les Love for details and where to meet.

[lesrlove55@gmail.com](mailto:lesrlove55@gmail.com) | 828-658-1489

## NEXT CMC COUNCIL MEETING

**When:** Tuesday, October 8

**Where:** Forest Service office on Zillicoa

**Info:** Call Les at 828-230-1861 if you would like to attend. All CMC members are welcome.

## 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).

Friday No. L2404-116

Oct. 4

### **Craggy Pinnacle from**

**Craggy Gardens Picnic Area 10:30 AM**

Hike 3, Drive 40, 750 ft. ascent, Rated C-C,

### **AT-MST**

Judy Magura, 828-606-1490,  
[quilter290@gmail.com](mailto:quilter290@gmail.com)

**Only Meeting Place:** Back parking lot of Folk Art Center. Contact leader by email for reservation. This is a two-part hike. First, we'll drive to the Craggy Pinnacle parking lot at MM 364 for a 1.6-mile roundtrip hike to the overlook. From there, we'll drive back to the Craggy Gardens picnic area for a shortened version of CMC hike

#116. We will hike out to the Visitors Center and Overlook and return, with a stop at the gazebo. Hopefully it's a clear day with beautiful photo opportunities, particularly if the leaves have started to change color. Be sure to bring a jacket or sweatshirt for this higher-elevation hike.  
Topo(s): Montreat

Saturday No. L2404-802 **Nov. 2**  
**Grassy Rd.- Sycamore Cove Loop 10:00 AM**  
Hike 3.1, Drive 2, 600 ft. ascent, Rated C-C,  
**P400**  
Jeff Wilcox, 828-989-8755, jwilcox@unca.edu  
**Only Meeting Place:** Pisgah Ranger Station off US 276. Please contact the leader by email for reservation. This hike is designed for beginners, youth, or anyone else looking for a shorter, more leisurely CMC hike. We will meet for this variation of CMC hike #802 at the Pisgah Ranger Station before driving about a half mile to the trailhead. This pleasant walk through the woods is well marked and has a very moderate elevation gain.  
Topo(s): Pisgah Forest

Tuesday No. L2404-203 **Dec. 3**  
**Hot Springs to Lovers Leap 10:00 AM**  
Hike 2.3, Drive 65, 480 ft. ascent, Rated C-C,  
**AT-MST**  
Jeff Wilcox, 828-989-8755, jwilcox@unca.edu and Judy Magura, 828-606-1490, quilter290@gmail.com  
**Only Meeting Place:** 160 Zillicoa St. (USFS parking lot) off Exit 25 of I-26. Contact leader by email for reservation. For this shortened version of CMC hike #203, we'll park and start from the downtown Hot Springs parking lot. We'll walk across and along the French Broad River on the Appalachian Trail up to Lovers Leap. There's a short (less than half mile) but steep uphill to Lovers Leap. We'll take it slowly, with time for resting and photos of the beautiful valley below. From there, we'll leave the A.T. and return to Hot Springs on the Lovers Leap Loop Trail (say that 10 times fast!).  
Topo(s): Hot Springs

## 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. W2404-868 **Oct. 2**  
**Woodfin Cascades to Waterrock Knob and Return 8:00 AM**  
Hike 10, Drive 65, 2264 ft. ascent, Rated A-AA,  
**AT-MST, SB6K**  
Claudette Roberge, 860-205-4473,

Croberge0329@gmail.com  
**Only Meeting Place:** Home Depot off Exit 44 of I-40. Limit of 12 hikers. Contact the leader for reservation. This is a variation of Hike #868, starting from the Woodfin Cascades Overlook on the Blue Ridge Parkway. We will hike on the MST for 4.8 miles and then take the fairly steep path just above the Visitor Center to Waterrock Knob for great views. This time of year, we should see beautiful fall foliage. We will return via the same route. This hike features an evenly graded trail through various forest types. This is hunting season; please wear orange. This hike is #38 of the 100 Favorite Trails.  
Topo(s): Hazelwood, Sylva North

Wednesday No. W2404-457 **Oct. 9**  
**Brown Gap to Max Patch 8:00 AM**  
Hike 7, Drive 84, 1700 ft. ascent, Rated B-A,  
**AT-MST**  
George Shepherd, 405-596-2632, shepherdgeorge@att.net  
**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 the leader for reservation. An in-and-out hike on the A.T. with a steep uphill for the first mile, then leveling off into moderate ups and downs, with a final climb to the top of Max Patch for lunch. If we're lucky, it will be clear for beautiful views. This is hunting season; please wear orange.  
Topo(s): Lemon Gap

Wednesday No. W2404-337 **Oct. 9**  
**Shining Rock from Black Balsam #1 8:00 AM**  
Hike 11, Drive 60, 1500 ft. ascent, Rated A-B, *Wilderness hike, limited to ten hikers, contact leader for reservation.* **P400, SB6K**  
Thomas Butler, 361-484-3381, butler.tom3381@gmail.com  
**Only Meeting Place:** Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26. We will take the ALT from FS 816 to Shining Rock (6040 ft.), climbing Black Balsam (6214 ft.), Tennent Mtn. (6040 ft.), 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 Investor Gap Trail to get a different perspective on the same area. This is hunting season; please wear orange.  
Topo(s): Sam Knob

Wednesday No. W2404-423 **Oct. 16**  
**Pilot Rock, Laurel Mountain and Pilot Cove Trails 8:00 AM**  
Hike 8.1, Drive 52, 2080 ft. ascent, Rated B-AA,  
**P400, WC100**  
Barton Paschal, 828-545-6795, bartonpaschal@bellsouth.net  
**First Meeting Place:** Tanger Outlets parking lot

behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.  
**Second Meeting Place:** Ingles on NC 191/280 N end of parking lot in front of Pardee Urgent Care (Mills River) at 8:15 AM.  
This variation of hike #423 begins on Pilot Rock Trail off Yellow Gap Rd. and passes Pilot Rock before taking Laurel Mountain Connector to Turkey Spring Gap. We will go R on Laurel Mountain Tr to Sassafras Gap, then R onto Slate Rock Connector for 0.5 mi to a T-intersection with Pilot Cove/Slate Rock Creek Trail. We'll go R, ford Slate Rock Creek and reach a saddle on Slate Rock Ridge in 0.4 mi. At the saddle we'll follow the ridge L on Pilot Cove Loop Trail for 0.9 mi. to a rock exposure with views of Pilot Rock, Pilot Mtn. and Funneltop Mtn. We will backtrack to the saddle, then go L onto Pilot Cove/Slate Rock Creek Trail for 0.4 mi to an intersection with a disused logging road (FS 5014 Pilot Cove Rd.). Turn R for 0.5 mi, then R onto Pilot Connector for 0.5 mi which intersects Pilot Rock Trail 0.2 mi north of the trailhead on Yellow Gap Rd. This is hunting season; please wear orange.  
Topo(s): Dunsmore Mtn.

Wednesday No. W2404-505 **Oct. 16**  
**The Other Cold Mtn. 8:00 AM**  
Hike 8, Drive 95, 2200 ft. ascent, Rated B-AA  
Henry Kassell, 845-656-5528, hkassell@gmail.com  
**First Meeting Place:** Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.  
**Second Meeting Place:** Pisgah Forest Walmart parking (back of center aisles close to Taco Bell) at 8:15 AM - but contact leader first. Contact the leader for reservation. You may have climbed the Cold Mountain above Waynesville, but have you climbed the Cold Mountain above Panthertown Valley? This is a pleasant hike with good views of the Pisgah Ledge and at our lunch spot down into Panthertown Valley. This is hunting season, please wear orange.  
Topo(s): Big Ridge

Wednesday No. W2404-984 **Oct. 23**  
**Forney Ridge Trail to Andrews Bald 8:00 AM**  
Hike 5, Drive 128, 1200 ft. ascent, Rated C-B,  
**900M**  
Mike Knies, 828-253-6114, knies06@att.net  
**Only Meeting Place:** Home Depot off Exit 44 of I-40. Contact the leader for reservation. This high-elevation hike leads to a grassy bald with views of the surrounding mountains and Fontana Lake. There should be great leaf color this time of year. We will continue down Forney Ridge Trail for a one-mile side trip to see the Norwood Steam Engine and logging railroad camp detritus, where we will learn about logging activities in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Andrews Bald is #20 of the 100 Favorite Trails. NOTE: A parking pass for each vehicle is required in the GSMNP. For more informa-

tion: <https://www.nps.gov/grsm/planyourvisit/fees.htm>.

Wednesday No. W2404-869 **Oct. 23**  
**Balsam Mountain Preserve** **8:30 AM**

Hike 10, Drive 70, 1200 ft. ascent, Rated A-B  
Danny Bernstein, 828-450-0747,  
dannyhiker@gmail.com

**Only Meeting Place:** Food Lion - 35 Westridge Market Pl. Candler. Contact the leader for reservation. Walk the grounds of Balsam Mountain Preserve, a gated community in a 3000-acre nature preserve near Sylva. We'll hike with Rob Howard, 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. W2404-899 **Oct. 30**  
**Panthertown**

**Waterfalls Outer Loop** **8:00 AM**  
Hike 10, Drive 111, 1725 ft. ascent, Rated A-A,  
**WC100**

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

**Only Meeting Place:** Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26. Contact the leader for reservation. Limit of 12 hikers. This hike begins at Cold Mountain Gap and takes several different trails to view five waterfalls, which include Schoolhouse, Granny Burrell, Frolictown, and Wilderness. We will hike up to Saltrock Overlook and Blackrock Mountain and then take the Powerline Road Trail to the manway to Jawbone Falls. We will return to our cars at Cold Mountain Gap via the Devil's Elbow Trail and finally the Panthertown Valley Trail. Schoolhouse and Jawbone Falls are on the Waterfall Challenge list. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Topo(s): Big Ridge

Wednesday No. W2404-991 **Nov. 6**  
**Stony Fork Trail** **8:00 AM**

Hike 5.4, Drive 20, 300 ft. ascent, Rated C-C  
Barton Paschal, 828-545-6795,  
bartonpaschal@bellsouth.net

**Only Meeting Place:** Food Lion - 35 Westridge Market Pl. Candler. Contact the leader for reservation. This is a new hike in the Stony Fork Park in Candler. We will begin this hike at the intersection of Upper Chestnut Creek Trail and NC 151. From there, we will take a variety of trails including the Stony Fork Trail and arrive at the beautiful Upper Stony Fork waterfall. We return to our cars via a social trail and Upper Chestnut Creek Trail. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Wednesday No. W2404-930 **Nov. 13**  
**Upper Weed Patch Mountain** **8:00 AM**

Hike 10.3, Drive 56, 1995 ft. ascent, Rated A-A  
Susan Murphy, 703-507-7668,  
susan.m.murphy.6@gmail.com and  
Brian Murphy, 703-507-7668,  
bkmurphy2@gmail.com

**Only Meeting Place:** Ingles on US 74-A 225 Charlotte Hwy (Reynolds). Contact the leaders for reservation. This out-and-back hike begins in Chimney Rock State Park with a short section on a service road and then goes on to a trail up to Eagle Rock for a great view. We then continue on Weed Patch Mountain Trail with a short side trip to Tunnel Rock. Returning to Weed Patch Mountain Trail, we continue on to Flapjack Rock and finish at Grey Rock for a lunch break and to enjoy views of Lake Lure, Rumbling Bald and Eagle Rock. To return to our cars, we retrace our steps. NOTE: There is about 1/10-mile travel on a gravel road to get to the trailhead; high-clearance vehicles are required (i.e. sedans not recommended). Carpooling recommended due to small parking area. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Wednesday No. W2404-675 **Nov. 13**  
**Jones Gap State Park -**

**Rainbow Falls** **8:30 AM**

Hike 4.6, Drive 90, 1200 ft. ascent, Rated C-B  
Karen Lachow, 703-395-5879,  
heyk127@hotmail.com

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

**Second Meeting Place:** Cracker Barrel Restaurant off Exit 53 of I-26 in parking lot close to I-26 at 8:45 AM - but contact leader first. Contact the leader for reservation. We will follow the Jones Gap Trail along the Middle Saluda River, then follow the Rainbow Falls Trail uphill to beautiful Rainbow Falls. We will return the same way. This waterfall is on the waterfall challenge list and one of the most spectacular falls in the area. There is a \$6 per person entry fee for Jones Gap State Park.

Topo(s): Standingstone Mtn.

Wednesday No. W2404-560 **Nov. 20**  
**Rube Rock, Groundhog Creek,**

**A.T. Loop** **8:00 AM**

Hike 9.4, Drive 92, 1900 ft. ascent, Rated A-A,  
**AT-MST**

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

**Only Meeting Place:** Home Depot off Exit 44 of I-40. Contact the leader for reservation. This is a loop hike located in the Harmon Den area of Pisgah National Forest. Starting at Brown Gap, we'll take a forest road, then go down Rube Rock Trail into the Pigeon River Gorge, and hike along an abandoned railroad grade. We'll climb the Groundhog Creek Trail past an A.T. shelter and then turn right to follow the A.T. back to Brown Gap. Three stream crossings can be crossed dry, unless it has rained recently. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Topo(s): Waterville

Wednesday No. W2404-611 **Nov. 20**  
**Big Ivy - Walker Ridge Loop** **8:15 AM**

Hike 8, Drive 35, 1700 ft. ascent, Rated B-A  
Judy Magura, 828-606-1490,  
quilter290@gmail.com and Jim Magura,  
828-606-3989, jqs290@gmail.com

**First Meeting Place:** 160 Zillicoa St. (USFS parking lot) off Exit 25 of I-26. Form carpools and meet leaders 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 8:30 AM.

Contact Judy via email for reservation. We'll start our hike on the Walker Creek and Perkins Trails. Most of the altitude gain is accomplished during the first hour of the hike. The ascent will be at a moderate pace. Our next two miles will be a stroll on the meadow-like Laurel Gap Trail, before heading back down to the cars, using the Bear Pen and Staire Creek Trails. These trails are rocky and steep in spots. There are several stream crossings on this hike. We walk near lovely creeks on part of the trails. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Topo(s): Barnardsville

Wednesday No. W2404-690 **Dec. 4**  
**Asbury Trail to**

**Moonshine Falls & Cave** **8:30 AM**

Hike 5.4, Drive 84, 800 ft. ascent, Rated C-C,  
**WC100**

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

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

**Second Meeting Place:** Pisgah Forest Walmart parking (back of center aisles close to Taco Bell) at 8:45 AM - but contact leader first.

Contact the leader for reservation. Moonshine Falls is a 40' waterfall where the upper section flows over a cave and then falls to a lower section where it forms a cascade flowing into a shallow pool. The cave is where moonshine was made in the past (hence the name) and still has some old moonshine barrels. From the Asbury Hills Youth Camp, we'll take the Asbury trail for 1.7 mi., then turn right down to the river and cable crossing. The cable crossing is in good shape and easy to cross. You may want to bring gloves for the cable. It is also possible to cross in the water but bring water shoes. We will continue onto the Naturaland Trust Trail, then turn right onto an unnamed trail that leaves the State Park. We will go right again to a short trail that descends steeply to the waterfall. We will return to our cars via the same trail.

Topo(s): Table Rock

Wednesday No. W2404-584 **Dec. 11**  
**Butter Gap Loop** **8:30 AM**

Hike 11, Drive 90, 2000 ft. ascent, Rated A-A,  
**P400**

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

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

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

Contact the 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 winter hike with streams, waterfalls and views. This hike is #59 of the 100 Favorite Trails Challenge. This is hunting season; please wear orange.

Topo(s): Rosman

Wednesday No. W2404-492 **Dec. 11**

**Annual Cookie Hike, Bent Creek**

**Ramble to MST past Sleepy Gap 9:00 AM**  
Hike 7, Drive 10, 300 ft. ascent, Rated B-C,  
**P400**

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

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

Topo(s): Asheville, Skyland

Wednesday No. W2404-051 **Dec. 18**

**White Oak Trail,**

**Pounding Mill, Hickey Fork 8:30 AM**

Hike 7.5, Drive 85, 1900 ft. ascent, Rated B-A  
Tish Desjardins, 828-380-1452,  
tishdesjardins8@gmail.com

**First Meeting Place:** 160 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:** Corner of US 25/70 & NC 208 at 9:15 AM.

No registration needed for this hike. Starting at the footbridge over Hickey Fork, we'll do a nice loop hike using three different trails and finishing on heavily rebuilt Hickey Fork Rd.

Topo(s): White Rock

Wednesday No. W2404-814 **Dec. 18**

**Lake Imaging P.L. #3 9:00 AM**

Hike 7, Drive 56, 1090 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:** DuPont Forest Lake Imaging parking lot at 9:45 AM.

Contact the leader for reservation. This is a pleasant hike in the Dupont Forest. We will take six different trails to complete the loop.

Topo(s): Standingstone Mtn.

Wednesday No. W2404-307 **Dec. 25**

**Dingle Creek Bridge**

**to US 25 Bridge 9:00 AM**

Hike 4.5, Drive 5, 1450 ft. ascent, Rated C-B,

**AT-MST**

Eva Blinder, 828-275-6447,  
ejb5711@gmail.com

**Only Meeting Place:** Fresh Market 1378 Hendersonville Rd park next to Hendersonville Rd. Contact the leader for reservation. This shorter version of hike #307 is a great winter hike along the MST from the bridge over Dingle Creek to the bridge over US 25 Hendersonville Highway and return.

Topo(s): Asheville

## ALL-DAY WEEKEND HIKES

All-day hikes submitted by Karen Lachow, 703-395-5879, heyk127@hotmail.com and Bruce Bente, 828-567-9443, bbente@bellsouth.net. 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. A2404-095 **Oct. 6**

**Hemphill Bald from Polls Gap 8:00 AM**

Hike 9.5, Drive 85, 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.

**Second Meeting Place:** Maggie Valley Post Office at 8:30 AM.

Contact hike leader via email for reservation. We will hike from Polls Gap to our scenic lunch spot at Hemphill Bald in the GSMNP, with outstanding views. The return route will be via the same trail. This hike is #37 of the 100 Favorite Trails. Note: A parking pass for each vehicle is required in GSMNP. For more info: <https://www.nps.gov/grsm/planyourvisit/fees.htm>.

Topo(s): Dellwood

Sunday No. A2404-464 **Oct. 13**

**Balsam Gap**

**to Greybeard Overlook 8:30 AM**

Hike 7.4, Drive 45, 2000 ft. ascent, Rated B-A,

**AT-MST**

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

**Only Meeting Place:** Back parking lot of Folk Art Center. Contact hike leader by email for reservation. We will hike through a range of environments and landscapes, including rocky trail sections that require good footwear and hiking poles. This hike takes us from alpine vegetation through old hemlock and lichen-covered oak forest, over open blueberry balds with long-range views, and finally through lovely beech forest and sweeping native grasses to the Greybeard Overlook. We will return to our cars on the same trail. This hike is #85 of the 100 Favorite Trails.

Topo(s): Montreat

Saturday No. A2404-531 **Oct. 19**

**Pisgah Inn to Beaver Dam Gap 10:00 AM**

Hike 7.1, Drive 50, 1050 ft. ascent, Rated B-B,

**AT-MST, P400**

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

**Only Meeting Place:** Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26. The CMC celebrates Great Trails State Day with a hike on the Mountains-to-Sea Trail. We begin our hike at the site of the Vanderbilt family's Buck Spring hunting lodge with a tour of the site and a little history. Then we'll head over Little Pisgah and down the Shut-in portion of the MST. Along the way we'll have great views of the Mills River Valley and (hopefully) beautiful fall leaves. This is hunting season; wear orange.

Topo(s): Dunsmore Mtn.

Sunday No. A2404-983 **Oct. 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 hike 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 Lakeshore 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 pass for each vehicle is required in the GSMNP. For more information: <https://www.nps.gov/grsm/planyourvisit/fees.htm>.

Saturday No. A2404-375 **Oct. 26**  
**Sams Gap to Rice Gap** **8:45 AM**  
Hike 7.5, Drive 50, 1800 ft. ascent, Rated B-A,  
**AT-MST**

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

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

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

Contact hike leaders by email for reservation. An in-and-out hike on the A.T. in the beautiful open forest from Sams Gap to Rice Gap, with a visit to Hogback Ridge shelter, built by CMC members. We'll hope for bright leaf color. This is hunting season; wear orange.

Topo(s): Sams Gap

Sunday No. A2404-762 **Oct. 27**  
**Mt. Cammerer**  
**from Davenport Gap** **8:00 AM**

Hike 11.4, Drive 100, 3000 ft. ascent, Rated A-AA, **LTC, 900M**

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

**Only Meeting Place:** Home Depot off Exit 44 of I-40. This hike follows the A.T. from Davenport Gap to the historic fire lookout atop Mt. Cammerer. Strenuous, but the payoffs are a good workout and what *Backpacker Magazine* calls the best Tennessee view in the Smokies. This hike is #29 of the 100 Favorite Trails. NOTE: A parking pass for each vehicle is required in the GSMNP. For more information: <https://www.nps.gov/grsm/planyourvisit/fees.htm>.

Topo(s): Waterville

Sunday No. A2404-962 **Nov. 3**  
**Eastatoe Passage and**  
**Raven Rock Trail** **9:00 AM**

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

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

**Second Meeting Place:** Holly Springs Country Store at SC 11/US 178 intersection at 10:15 AM. Contact hike leader by email for reservation.

*First day of EST.* Limit of 15 hikers. After meeting at 2nd meeting place, we will drive 6.3 miles to the trailhead on Roy Jones Rd. off SC 11 to drop off shuttle vehicles, then drive 5.2 miles to the trailhead at the Jocassee Gorges Visitor Center in Keowee-Toxaway State Park. We will first hike the three-mile Raven Rock Trail loop in the State Park. The loop will take us to the scenic shores of Lake Keowee for lunch and on to a rock known as Party Rock with a great view to the west. We will then hike 4.6 miles on the Palmetto Trail, crossing two suspension bridges that were rebuilt in late 2020 due to flooding damage. Car shuttle.

Saturday No. A2404-101 **Nov. 9**  
**Laurel River Trail** **10:00 AM**

Hike 7.5, Drive 60, 750 ft. ascent, Rated B-C

Marielle DeJong, 828-553-7027,  
maredejong4@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 10:30 AM - but contact leader first.

Contact hike leader via email for reservation. Hike along the beautiful Laurel River with whitewater, big rocks and surrounding high cliffs to the French Broad River and visit the ruins of the old logging village of Runion. Return via the same trail. This hike is #43 of the 100 Favorite Trails. This is hunting season; wear orange.

Topo(s): Hot Springs

Sunday No. A2404-877 **Nov. 10**  
**Hemphill Bald from**  
**Cataloochee Ranch** **9:45 AM**

Hike 5.1, Drive 75, 750 ft. ascent, Rated C-C,

**900M**

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

**Only Meeting Place:** Home Depot off Exit 44 of I-40. Text or call Bev MacDowell for more information and reservation. Lunch at the newly owned and remodeled Cataloochee Ranch, a rustic retreat above Maggie Valley, from 11-1pm. (lunch averages \$25) After lunch we'll hike to the beautiful views from Hemphill Bald. It is all about the views! Lunch will happen rain or shine. Hikers are expected to participate in the fun lunch.

Topo(s): Dellwood

Sunday No. A2404-862 **Nov. 17**  
**Cove Creek Gap to Swag** **8:00 AM**  
Hike 11, Drive 62, 1900 ft. ascent, Rated A-A,

**900M**

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

**Only Meeting Place:** Home Depot off Exit 44 of I-40. Limit of ten hikers. Contact hike leader for reservation. This shorter version of #862 will follow Cataloochee Divide Trail, with great views of valleys and distant mountains, to The Swag. Return on same trail.

Topo(s): Cove Creek Gap

Saturday No. A2404-439 **Nov. 23**  
**Pounding Mill Loop** **8:30 AM**

Hike 9.5, Drive 36, 1200 ft. ascent, Rated A-B,  
**P400**

Les Love, 828-230-1861, leslove55@gmail.com  
and Catherine/Mrs. Les Love, 828-658-1489,  
catmllove2@gmail.com

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

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

Contact the hike leaders by email for reservation. This rarely led hike takes the South Mills River Trail from Turkey Pen Gap to the Pounding Mill Trail and on to Squirrel Gap Trail. We'll continue onto Pea Gap and then return on the Bradley Creek Trail. This is hunting season, wear orange.

Topo(s): Pisgah Forest

Sunday No. A2404-372 **Nov. 24**  
**Big Fork Ridge**

**to Rough Fork Loop** **8:00 AM**  
Hike 9.6, Drive 70, 1800 ft. ascent, Rated A-A,

**900M**

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

**Only Meeting Place:** Home Depot off Exit 44 of I-40. Contact hike leader via email for reservation. From the end of the road in Cataloochee Valley, hike up the Big Fork Ridge Trail, then turn right onto the Caldwell Fork Trail. Pass by record-size tulip poplar trees, then turn downhill on the Rough Fork Trail.

Topo(s): Dellwood

Sunday No. A2404-142 **Dec. 1**  
**Jerry Miller Trail to A.T.**  
**to Big Firescald Knob** **8:30 AM**

Hike 10.5, Drive 92, 2050 ft. ascent, Rated A-AA,  
**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 second meeting place.

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

No reservation needed. This moderate version of #142 will go up the Jerry Miller Trail to Bearwallow Gap, then right on the A.T. to Big Firescald Knob for lunch and exceptional views. After lunch, we'll retrace our route back to our cars.

Topo(s): Greystone

Sunday No. A2404-499 **Dec. 8**  
**Greenways around Asheville** **9:00 AM**

Hike 8.8, 100 ft. ascent, Rated B-C

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



**Only Meeting Place:** Parking lot on Craven St. just north of New Belgium Brewery (west side of river). Contact hike leader via email for reservation. This variation of hike #499 is a lollipop loop hike and follows the greenways along the French Broad River. Our hike will include the newest greenway behind New Belgium Brewery to Carrier Park. We will continue along the French Broad to Hominy Park, where we will turn and travel back through Carrier Park, past the future Karen Cragnolin Park, up and over Amboy Bridge and return to the Craven St. parking lot along the bike trail on Lyman and Riversides Drive.

Topo(s): Asheville

Saturday No. A2404-989

**Dec. 14**

**Fawn Lake P.L. # 6 -**

**Turkey Knob East**

**8:00 AM**

Hike 8.6, Drive 85, 1200 ft. ascent, Rated B-B  
Carroll Koeplinger, 828-231-9444,  
cakoep29@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 hike leader via email for reservation and selection of meeting location. We will leave Fawn Lake P.L. at 9:15 am and carpool to Turkey Knob trailhead (limited parking), which is 2 mi. from Fawn Lake P.L. This is an in-and-out hike through open woods in DuPont Forest with all trails (Turkey Knob, Twin Oaks & Table Rock Trails) rated as moderate. There is one minor rock-hop shallow stream crossing. This is hunting season; wear orange. Topo(s): Standingstone Mtn.

Sunday No. A2404-509

**Dec. 15**

**Sky Valley P.L. #1 - Stone Mtn.**

**9:00 AM**

Hike 7.5, Drive 80, 1200 ft. ascent, Rated B-B  
Bruce Bente, 828-692-0116, cell: 828-567-9443,  
bbente@bellsouth.net

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

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

Contact hike leader via email for reservation. This moderate hike will start at the Sky Valley parking lot in DuPont State Forest, with a steep climb up Stone Mountain, the highest peak in Dupont State Forest. Short car shuttle.

Topo(s): Standingstone Mtn.

Sunday No. A2404-212

**Dec. 22**

**Sassafras Mountain to Drawbar Cliffs & Return**

**8:00 AM**

Hike 10.5, Drive 92, 2000 ft. ascent, Rated A-AA

Kathy Cornn/Kyle, 828-458-1282,

katherinenkyle@gmail.com and Michael Cornn, 828-458-1281, mwcornn@gmail.com

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

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

Contact the hike leaders by email for reservation. This out and back hike will begin at Sassafras Mountain, following the Foothills Trail downhill toward Table Rock State Park. We'll stop at our lunch and turnaround spot on Drawbar Cliffs with fantastic views and granite rocks. The Foothills Trail is a well-maintained trail with gradual slopes. The return trip will be mostly uphill. If time permits, option at end to take a short trail to the peak of Sassafras Mountain, the highest peak in South Carolina.

Topo(s): Table Rock

Saturday No. A2404-290

**Dec. 28**

**Shut-in Trail through Bent Creek**

**9:00 AM**

Hike 7.5, Drive 10, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated B-C,  
**AT-MST**

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

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

**Second Meeting Place:** Bent Creek River Park off NC 191 at 9:15 AM - but contact leader first.

Contact hike leader by email for reservation. This hike starts on the Shut-in Trail, a section of the MST paralleling the Blue Ridge Parkway with winter views of the French Broad River and some distant mountains. We will turn off into Bent Creek Forest onto Hard Times Trail, taking the Rocky Cove Trail into the NC Arboretum to the Bent Creek Trail where we can wander in and out of the Creekside Trails. Next, we'll take the Carolina Mountain Trail to a lovely spot next to the creek for lunch. We will continue through the Winter Lights decorations in the gardens, make a stop at the Education Center, then take the Wesley Branch Trail down to the gatehouse and back to our cars. This is hunting season; wear orange.

Topo(s): Asheville

Sunday No. A2404-458

**Dec. 29**

**Raven Cliff Falls Trail to Dismal Trail**

**8:00 AM**

Hike 10, Drive 74, 2500 ft. ascent, Rated A-AA,  
**WC100**

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

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

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

Contact the hike leader by email for reservation. This hike will begin on the Raven Cliff Falls Trail, a mostly level trail with some rolling ups and downs. We will then take the Dismal Trail

down, with a steep elevation change of 1200 ft. The decision to continue to Moonshine Falls will be determined after it is scouted by the leader. Return the same way. (NOTE: \$3 fee per person for park entry).

Topo(s): Table Rock

## 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. H2404-767

**Oct. 6**

**Lookout Mountain Loop in Montreat**

**10:30 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. Limit of 12 hikers. 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. During hunting season, consider wearing orange.

Topo(s): Montreat

Sunday No. H2404-043

**Oct. 13**

**Frying Pan Tower**

**10:00 AM**

Hike 4.1, Drive 30, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated C-C,  
**P400, LTC**

Bobbi Powers, 828-667-5419,  
bobbipowers23@gmail.com

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

**Second Meeting Place:** Pisgah Inn parking lot near convenience store at 10:30 AM - but contact leader first.

Contact hike leader via email for reservation. This in-and-out hike begins at the Pisgah Campground. We will hike the rocky Frying Pan Tower Trail to its intersection with the 7/10-mi. gravel road to the tower. At this time of year we should see colorful foliage and have great views from the tower if the day is clear. During hunting season, consider wearing orange.

Topo(s): Cruso

Sunday No. H2404-092

**Oct. 20**

**Star Gap**

**9:00 AM**

Hike 4.6, Drive 20, 1300 ft. ascent, Rated C-B

William Snow, 857-756-3815,  
billsnow123@gmail.com

**Only Meeting Place:** Ingles off Exit 64 of I-40 (Black Mountain). Limit of 15 hikers. Contact hike leader via email for reservation. Driving distance from Asheville is 40 miles. This shortened and greatly modified version of hike #92 will be on the Star Gap Trail. There should be spectacular views of the fall colors. We will start out on Star Gap Trail and back, then go out Heartbreak Ridge Trail to see the colors before returning. Then we will go out on an unmarked trail to Bernards Rock for lunch to take in the views of the Seven Sisters peaks before returning on the Star Gap Trail. The Star Gap trailhead is on Graphite Road. This will be an out-and-back hike with 3 spokes at the head. There will be many interesting trestles and tunnels on our driving route to Graphite and we may stop on the way back at the Andrews Geyser if it is working. During hunting season, consider wearing orange. Topo(s): Old Fort

Sunday No. H2404-959 **Oct. 27**  
**Richard L Hoffman Trail -**  
**Bailey Mountain Preserve** **10:30 AM**  
Hike 6, Drive 60, 1060 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 can try out a swinging bench that looks back at the Smith Property. The trail winds upward, continues deeper into the forest and begins a climb to the summit. We will return via a different trail. We will meet the original trail that we started on to end the hike. During hunting season, consider wearing orange.

Sunday No. H2404-004 **Nov. 3**  
**Glassmine Falls Overlook to**  
**Graybeard Overlook and Back** **10:30 AM**  
Hike 5, Drive 55, 1100 ft. ascent, Rated C-B,  
**AT-MST**  
Barbara Morgan, 828-460-7066,  
barbc129@gmail.com

**Only Meeting Place:** Back parking lot of Folk Art Center. Limit of 15 hikers. First day of EST. Contact hike leader via email for reservation. An enjoyable hike on the MST with good views and an interesting variety of trees and shrubs. During hunting season, consider wearing orange. Topo(s): Montreat

Sunday No. H2404-990 **Nov. 10**  
**Fawn Lake P.L.#6 -**  
**Turkey Knob (West)** **10:00 AM**  
Hike 5.3, Drive 80, 470 ft. ascent, Rated C-C  
Carroll Koeplinger, 828-231-9444,  
cakoep29@gmail.com



*A late winter view of Mt. Hardy on the lower loop off of Flat Laurel Creek.*

**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.

Contact hike leader for reservation and to select meeting location. This is a new hike for CMC. It includes an excellent trail with good tread and easy hiking. We will pass an old 1956 Nash Rambler station wagon along trail. During hunting season, consider wearing orange. Topo(s): Standingstone Mtn.

Sunday No. H2404-573 **Nov. 17**  
**Devils Courthouse from NC 215** **9:30 AM**  
Hike 4.7, Drive 70, 750 ft. ascent, Rated C-C,  
**AT-MST, P400**  
Dennis Bass, 828-367-7792, cell: 828-367-8619,  
dbass3607@gmail.com

**Only Meeting Place:** Home Depot off Exit 44 of I-40. Limit of 10 hikers. Contact hike leader via email for reservation. We will hike east from the parking area off NC 215 through patches of mountain laurel and a dense pine cluster on the MST, crossing over the Blue Ridge Parkway tunnel on a connector trail to Devils Courthouse. There we will pause for a snack to enjoy 360-degree mountain views before returning. During hunting season, consider wearing orange. Topo(s): Sam Knob

Sunday No. H2404-929 **Nov. 24**  
**Hard Times P.L. #1 -**  
**Bent Creek Ramble** **10:00 AM**  
Hike 6, 600 ft. ascent, Rated C-C, **P400**  
Danny Bernstein, 828-450-0747,  
dannyhiker@gmail.com

**Only Meeting Place:** Bent Creek River Park 1610 Brevard Rd. Limit of 12 hikers. Contact hike leader via email for reservation. This variation of Hike #929 will take the loop clockwise. We will start by crossing the road and going into the NC Arboretum. We will walk Hard Times Road, leave the Arboretum and go into Bent

Creek. After going around most of the loop and taking a side trip to Lake Powhatan, we will walk up to the Arboretum buildings. We will take time to see the exhibits, come down to the gatehouse and out the Arboretum. During hunting season, consider wearing orange.

Sunday No. H2404-196 **Dec. 1**  
**Turkey Pen Loop** **10:00 AM**  
Hike 5, Drive 40, 1100 ft. ascent, Rated C-B,  
**P400**  
Dick Zimmerer, 828-785-9593,  
dd1zz@yahoo.com

**First Meeting Place:** Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.  
**Second Meeting Place:** Gravel pull off where Turkey Pen Road meets NC 280 at 10:30 AM - but contact leader first.

This is not a beginner hike. Hiking poles strongly recommended for all. From the Turkey Pen parking area, ascend on old roadbed to left of staircase. On the ridgeline, turn L onto Vineyard Gap Trail. At Vineyard Gap (identifiable by house on R side), turn L and descend 500', then turn L onto the manway to Riverside Trail, which we will follow 1.5 miles to location where Riverside Trail crosses the river again. Turn L and climb 400' to ridgeline, then L 200' to Vineyard Gap Trail. Turn R downhill to the parking lot. During hunting season, consider wearing orange. Topo(s): Pisgah Forest

Sunday No. H2404-035 **Dec. 8**  
**Looking Glass Rock** **10:00 AM**  
Hike 5.8, Drive 60, 1800 ft. ascent, Rated C-A,  
**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 10:30 AM.

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. In-and-out hike. During hunting season, consider wearing orange.

Topo(s): Shining Rock

Sunday No. H2404-855 **Dec. 15**  
**Betty Place Upper Loop Trail 10:00 AM**

Hike 4, Drive 85, 850 ft. ascent, Rated C-C  
Judy Magura, 828-606-1490,  
quilter290@gmail.com and Jim Magura,  
828-606-3989, jqs290@gmail.com

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

**Second Meeting Place:** Publix at 165 Weaver Blvd. Weaverville; lower end of parking lot off Exit 19 of I-26 at 10:15 AM. Contact hike leader via email for reservation. We will begin on the Betty



Place Trail (FS #285A) in the Upper Shut-In community to the new upper loop trail, passing old home sites at the base of Bluff Mountain. The grade is moderate, and the trail passes through mixed hardwood forest along old roads and streams. During hunting season, consider wearing orange.

Topo(s): Lemon Gap

Sunday No. H2404-802 **Dec. 22**  
**Grassy Rd. - Sycamore Cove Loop 9:00 AM**  
Hike 4.6, Drive 50, 500 ft. ascent, Rated C-C, **P400**

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

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

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

contact leader first.

Contact hike leader via email for reservation. We will start this hike at the Pisgah Ranger Station. We will go up Grassy Cove to Sycamore Cove and continue on the outer loop to US 276, returning on the Sycamore Cove Trail back to the Ranger Station.

Topo(s): Pisgah Forest

Sunday No. H2404-702 **Dec. 29**  
**High Falls P.L. #1 9:00 AM**  
Hike 5.6, Drive 94, 680 ft. ascent, Rated C-C, **WC100**

Lynn Pettipaw, 914-602-4464,  
lynn.pettipaw@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.

Limit of 10 hikers. Contact hike leader via email for reservation. We'll see spectacular High Falls, three lakes and the site of an old DuPont film manufacturing plant where 1000 people once worked.

Topo(s): Standingstone Mtn.

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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