

JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2022 HIKE SCHEDULE

SAT JAN 8 **Kephart Prong** in the GSMNP. Hike up the creek to the Shelter. We will cross four foot logs with railings. We will see evidence of the Civilian Conservation Corp work done in the 1930's. Total Hike Distance: 4 miles Rating: M Elevation: 840' Meeting Place: Food Lion Time:10 am R/T Driving: 90 miles Leader: Gail Lehman Phone for reservations 828-524-5298

SUN JAN 9 **Tessentee Farms**. Leisurely walk around this Mainspring property. See a restored farm house. Well behaved dogs welcomed. Total Hike Distance: 3 miles Rating: E Elevation: 100' Meeting Place: Smoky Mountain Visitor Center. Time: 2 pm R/T Driving: 9 miles Leader: Gail Lehman Phone for reservations 828-524-5298

SAT JAN 15 **Sloan Bridge to Whitewater Falls**. This is part of the Foothills Trail. Nice winter views from the ridge above Whitewater Falls. Total Hike Distance: 4.4 miles Rating: M Elevation: 1000' Meeting Place: Cashiers Rec Park Time:10 am R/T Driving: 18 miles Leader: Susan Kettles Phone for reservations 828-743-1079

SUN JAN 16 **Long Branch** in the Standing Indian Recreational Area. Hike up to Glassmine Gap on the Appalachian Trail. Rocky, roots, debris avalanche. Stream crossing, so bring trekking poles. Pass by a meadow. Total Hike Distance: 5 miles Rating: M Elevation: 750' Meeting Place: Westgate Plaza Time: 1:30 pm R/T Driving: 40 miles Leader: Katharine Brown Must call for reservations 828-421-4178

SAT JAN 22 **Park Creek to Park Ridge** in the Standing Indian Recreational Area. This hike makes a loop going along the Nantahala River to Park Creek. Follow this lovely creek to the Connector Trail up to Park Ridge. There is a creek crossing on a foot log without a railing. Total Hike Distance: 6.5 miles Rating: M Elevation: 560' Meeting Place: Westgate Plaza Time: 10 am R/T Driving: 35 miles Leaders: Bill and Sharon Van Horn Phone for reservations 828-369-1983

SUN JAN 23 **Warwoman Dell** near Clayton, GA. Nature hike around the area, then take a leisurely hike east on the proposed railroad track. There is an informational sign about the attempted railroad construction in 1860's. Total Hike Distance: 3 miles Rating: E Elevation: 200' Meeting Place: Clayton, GA Ingles north side Time: 1:30 pm R/T Driving: 7 miles Leader: David Stearns Must phone for reservations 828-349-7361

SAT JAN 29 **FSRD 4591** off the Buck Creek Rd. to Highlands. This is a Forest Service road once planned for a neighborhood, but exchanged with the FS. A wide logging road winding about two miles. Voice command dogs or on leash are welcome. Total Hike Distance: 4 miles Rating E Elevation: 200' Meeting Place: Food Lion Time: 10 am R/T Driving:35 miles Leader: Katharine Brown Must call for reservations 828-421-4178

SAT FEB 5 **Cove Forest Trail** and Anselm's Trail on Betty Creek in Georgia. Do this leisurely hike and then go to **Barker's Mill** for lunch and see how the mill is run. Total Hike Distance: 2 miles Rating: E Elevation: 200' Meeting Place: Piggly Wiggly in Dillard, GA. Time:10 am R/T Driving: 16 miles Leader: David Stearns Must call for reservations 828-349-7361

SUN FEB 6 **Siler Bald**. Hike south on the Appalachian Trail to Snowbird Gap. Leave the meadow and ascend to the top of the bald. Spectacular views, almost 360 degrees seeing Lake Nantahala, Wayah Bald and Winespring Bald. Total Hike Distance: 4 miles Rating: M Elevation: 920' Meeting

Place: Westgate Plaza Time: 1:30 pm Leaders: Bill and Sharon Van Horn Phone 828-369-1983

FRI FEB 11 **Windingstair FS Road 7131**. Stroll along a nice wide logging road for 2 miles. Total Hike Distance: 4 miles Rating: E Elevation: 300' Meeting Place: Westgate Plaza Time: 9 am R/T driving: 26 miles Leader: Katharine Brown Must call for reservations 828-421-4178

SAT FEB 12 **Ranger Falls** at Cliffside Lake. This is an interpretive trail. The falls is part of Skitty Creek which flows into Cliffside Lake. We will see the remnants of an old homestead with apple trees and remains of the hog pen. There is a trail around the lake if more hiking is desired. Total Hike Distance: 5 miles Rating: M Elevation: 770' Meeting Place: Cliffside Lake Time: 11am Leader: Laura Lauffer Phone: 919-444-1478

SUN FEB 13 **Wandering around Wallace Branch**. Begin on the Bartram Trail, then turn on an old logging road. around the top of the falls. Continue on another old roadbed to the FSRD that returns to the parking lot. One stream crossing. A hiking stick would help Total Hike Distance: 4.5 miles Rating: E Elevation: 500' Meeting Place: Westgate Plaza Time: 2 pm Leader: Gail Lehman 524-5298

SAT FEB 19 **Lower Whitewater Falls** from Bad Creek Reservoir. This hike goes to an overlook of the smaller lower falls. Great winter view of this falls and views of Lake Jocassee in SC. Total Hike Distance: 2.3 miles Rating: M Elevation: 100' Meeting Place: Cashiers Rec Park Time: 10 am Leader: Susan Kettles Phone for reservations 828-743-1079

SUN FEB 20 **Whiteside Mountain** between Highlands and Cashiers. This is a spectacular monolith with views into South Carolina and Georgia. Rocky road up, spectacular views of the Chatooga River Valley. May see peregrine falcons and then many stairs down. Parking fee of \$5/car. Total Hike Distance: 3 miles Rating: M Elevation: 400' Meeting Place: Food Lion Time: 1:30 pm R/T Driving: 44 miles Leader: Gail Lehman Must call for reservations 828-524-5298

SAT FEB 26 **Anna Ruby Falls** at Unicoi State Park at Helen, GA. Walk to the falls and then come back to the picnic area and hike around the lake. On the way in, stop at Nora's Mill. Total Hike Distance: 4 miles Rating: E Elevation: Little. Meeting Place: Westgate Plaza Time: 9 am R/T Driving: 120 miles Leader: Gail Lehman Must call for reservations: 828-524-5298