



Newsletter of the
Chattanooga Hiking Club

November/December 2020

Club Meeting

The Chattanooga Hiking Club meets at 6:30 PM on the first Monday of even numbered months (except December) at the REI store at 2507 Lifestyle Way, behind the Embassy Suites off Shallowford Road.

Next meeting – likely not until February, 2021 (???) The room at REI is problematic, and alternatives all seem to present problems as well.



In December 2011 Richard gave the blessing at our annual Christmas lunch; he used a poem entitled 'Drinking from My Saucer'. Since we can't have our usual get-together this Christmas season:

I've never made a fortune, and it's probably too late now.
But I don't worry about that much, I'm happy anyhow
And as I go along life's way, I'm reaping better than I sowed.
I'm drinking from my saucer, Cause my cup has overflowed.

Haven't got a lot of riches, and sometimes the going's tough
But I've got loving ones all around me, and that makes me rich
enough.
I thank God for his blessings, and the mercies He's bestowed.
I'm drinking from my saucer, Cause my cup has overflowed.

I remember times when things went wrong, My faith wore
somewhat thin.
But all at once the dark clouds broke, and the sun peeped through
again.
So Lord, help me not to gripe, about the tough rows I have hoed.
I'm drinking from my saucer, Cause my cup has overflowed.

If God gives me strength and courage, When the way grows steep
and rough.
I'll not ask for other blessings, I'm already blessed enough.
And may I never be too busy, to help others bear their loads.
Then I'll keep drinking from my saucer, Cause my cup has
overflowed.

Author: John Paul Moore

Making

TRACKS



Reports from the Field

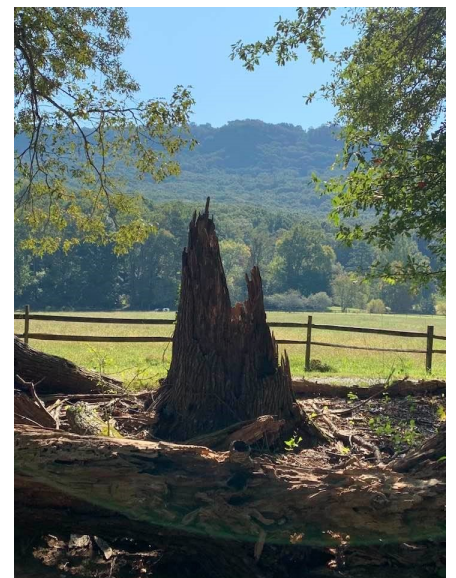
Reflection Riding Wednesday October 7, 2020

It was a fine fall day, and many came out to enjoy it. We met at the parking area (proved too small this day) at the trailhead for the Kiddie Trail. The route took us up to the Skyuka Trail which we followed "putting our heads together" as there are many turns away from this trail as it makes its way to Skyuka Springs. We were looking for the turn down to the gazebo at the end of the Garden Road loop. The final leg of the loop followed Lookout Creek back toward the Nature Center. Notable sights were the Cherokee Eye and the Bamboo Garden in addition to many wildflower varieties. Our hopes to walk the boardwalk were dashed as there has been much storm damage and it is closed. An up close look at the Tree House (architectural design by hiker Bill Kinnaman), walking the boardwalk, and entering the animal area was not possible. Did not get to see the wolves either. Making the best of it, all returned safely to cars having made new friends and celebrating the beautiful day. Maintaining social distancing for the most part: Betsy Parson, Bill Kinnaman, Bill LaRoque, Boe Rudder, Charlie Breeding, Jennie Chandler, Karin Dering, Patti Giles, Silvia Peixoto, Tom Carter, Brae Snowman, Renaud Courbiere, Charlotte McNabb, JoJo Ciervo, Rebecca Beckham, Janna McKenna, Ned Giles, Donna Bloh, Derryl DePriest, Patti DePriest, Che Carico reporting and leading with help from Boe, Donna, and Charlie.

FYI the little parking lot at the trailhead is owned by Reflection Riding and a fee for parking is now in order. Need to check that out for day use. Thanks to Ned Giles for using his tact and getting us past the fee of \$15 per person and securing free parking for today.

Recommended app shared by Janna is SEEK by I Naturalist, and is easy to use and accurate for plant identification. Free!

Picture from Joy

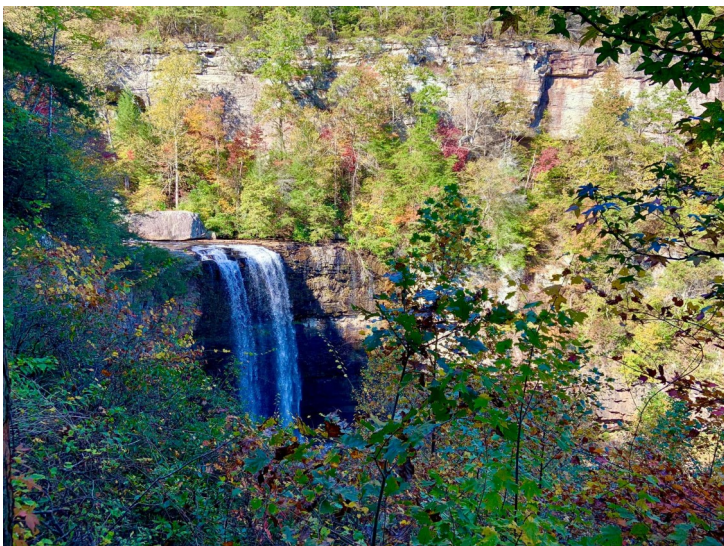


Reports from the Field

Lula Lake

Wednesday October 21, 2020

On a beautiful warm morning with early fall foliage, 24 members of the CHC were given private access to Lula Lake Land Trust. After a brief history of the property from Patrick Kelly, LLLT Land Manager, we set off on a 6 mile loop which included the scenic South Creek Trail and Bluff Trail. We then worked our way back down from the bluff to Lula Falls, and some with extra energy descended to the base. After backtracking a bit to enjoy stunning Lula Lake itself, we returned to our cars. Hikers included: Barbara Miller, Barry & Beverly Ligon, Betsy Parson, Bill Kinnaman, Cecile Shenouda, Charlie Breeding, Debbie Lambert, Donna Bloh, Carolyn Brannon, Janet Hale, Joyce Campbell, Kathy Seymour, Maria Gonzalez, Richard Park, Susan Garrett, Suzanne Dorough, Tom Carter, Wanda McCarter, John Prescott, and Patti & Derryl DePriest, and Jenny Hopkins, leading and reporting.



Pictures above from Jenny, at right from Teresa

Reports from the Field

Chickamauga Battlefield

Wednesday November 4, 2020

Today we trod on hallowed ground. The National Battlefield contains monuments memorializing the battle between the North and South, the lives lost, remnants of homesteads present during that time, and stirring legends about families, their way of life and their valor. Led on this gorgeous fall day by Tony Cook (historian, educator, storyteller extraordinaire!) we walked the route he had chosen listening to the stories he had chosen about the tremendous suffering those families endured. Notable names not to be forgotten were: Elizabeth Elliot, Eliza Glenn, Deborah Thedford, Adaline Brotherton, Mary Jane Snodgrass, and the McDonald and Mullis families.

Our route totaled 6+ miles across fields and along woodland trails. It is one section of many historical routes Tony has in his "file folder" and we will soon follow him again. Blessed by the sharing of this man's knowledge and good cheer were: Barbara McCollum, Betsy Parson, Bill LaRoque, Bill Kinnaman, Derryl DePriest, JoJo Cierjo, Joyce Campbell and grandson Everett, Larry Parks, Linda Keown, Mac Dean, Patricia DePriest, Susan Garrett, Suzanne Dorough, Teresa Dean, Tom Carter, Wanda McCarter, Wayne Chambers, Angela Evans, Rebecca Beckham, Shelly Lewis, Reggie Jay, Michelle Fernandes, Konrad Motzek, Milla, Lijinen, Rebecca Chapman, Charlotte McNabb, Bob Hutchison, Janna McKenna, Renaud Courbiere, Mac Dean, Che Carico reporting and Tony Cook leading.

Pausing at significant landmarks Tony handed note cards to "volunteers" who read the words out loud in memory of each of the families. At the very end of the hike a card was read in memory of Elizabeth Elliott who experienced tremendous suffering herself, and whose books and videos have given hope to others who have experienced tremendous suffering in their lives. The card read: "To Elizabeth Elliott and family - we know about your tremendous suffering. We are sorry there is nothing we can do to change it. But we can use it to make our lives better, because 'suffering is never for nothing'. And for this we are forever grateful."

Elizabeth Elliott (1926-2015)

Christian Missionary and wife of missionary Jim Elliot who was speared to death by Auca Indians in Ecuador on January 8, 1956. He was 28 years old. He and Elizabeth had been married for just 3 years. Their daughter Valerie was 10 months old when her father died. Author of 25 books including "Through Gates of Splendor" and "Suffering Is Never for Nothing". And a documentary, "Beyond the Gates of Splendor" which is available on YouTube.



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Denny's Cove

Wednesday November 18, 2020

This trail is one of the newer trails in the South Cumberland State Recreation Area. We were taken there the first time by Bob Butters: trail builder, educator, and publisher of Nick-a-jack Notes as the Nick-a-jack Naturalist. There had been a request by Debbie to return and so we did. You can find the trail and directions online. The parking lot is quite large, so our massive number fit right in! Starting off gently, the trail forks right to an overlook. The left fork continues on to the amazing waterfall at its end. Along the trail here you will find a downhill pitch and large rocks for carefully stepping around. The waterfall was rushing as well as the stream below. On our last trip here, we found wildflowers now replaced by bursts of fall color. This will surely be a great wildflower trail in the spring. The return trip along the bluff was quite challenging with rocky narrow passages. Despite this, the entire group was enthusiastic and enjoyed the variation and beauty experienced along the entire loop. Joyfully trekking today were: Beverly Ligon, Barry Ligon, Bill Kinnaman, Derryl DePriest, Doug Graydon, Joy Ward, Janna McKenna, Joyce Campbell, Patti DePriest, Steve Barnes, Suzanne Dorough, Wanda McCarter, Renaud Courbiere, Shelly Lewis, Milla Lijanen, Michelle Ferrandes, Konrad Motzek, Aun Salonen, Susan Garrett and Debbie Lambert leading.



Pictures above from Joy, at right from Renaud Courbiere

Outings Schedule

02/06/21 Flats Mtn, Citico Wilderness

J Doyal

If you would like to lead a Saturday hike, especially if you have a Covid19-friendly hike in mind, please contact Barbara McCollum

Wednesday Day Hikes - Che Carico - The Wednesday group hikes many of the same trails as the weekend hikers. Since a schedule is not published in advance, notification of each week's plan is sent out by email on Sunday or Monday. Please call Che at (423) 718-9271, leave your email address, and ask to be added to the group list; or email her at MidWeek@chatthiking.com and likewise ask to be added to the group list.

Hike Difficulty Ratings

The information below is provided as a guide only. Each hiker assumes the risks associated with hiking in the great outdoors, including the responsibility of paying any bills associated with rescue efforts or medical care. The wise hiker always carries water, food, and first aid items.

Easy (E): 6 miles or less; mostly level or only slight incline.

Moderate (M): 6-10 miles with an elevation gain that will generally not exceed 350 feet per mile, with a total elevation gain of no more than 1000 ft.

Moderately Strenuous (MS): 6-10 miles in length, but include rocky trail conditions, tricky stream crossings, or elevation gain of more than 1000 ft but less than 2000 ft.

Strenuous (S): a distance of 10-14 miles or with more than 2000 ft total elevation gain, but no more than 3000 ft.

Extremely Strenuous (S+): Usually involves distances of more than 14 miles or more than 3000 ft in elevation gain. There might be very steep/rugged climbs, deep stream crossings, or unmaintained trails.

Pace: Standard pace is 2 miles an hour; less on steep or rugged terrain. Fast pace is 2.5 to 3 miles an hour or more and may not vary much regardless of terrain.

Attention: When calling to go on an outing, please specify exact number of people who will be attending. Do NOT just show up with a friend or family member unannounced! This puts your hike leader in an awkward position as most hikes involve some planning of transportation. Also we frequently hike in wilderness areas and other places where the number of hikers in a group is limited. If that is the case, and the hike is already full, you may be turned away!

Cancellations: Hike leaders are entirely at the own discretion regarding the weather. It is possible that a leader may decide that, due to weather conditions, they do not feel safe hiking on that day. Lightning kills many people every year and can strike hikers on a trail. Also many of the areas where we hike are prone to flash floods that can kill or injure. The leader will call, email, text, etc., if deciding to cancel before the day of the hike. In the event that the decision to cancel is made on the day of the hike, the leader will give you the courtesy of showing up at the designated meeting place to announce that the hike is cancelled.

Other Stuff

The Club pays for a subscription for SPOT - an emergency GPS locating device. If you would like to carry it on a hike you are leading, please get in touch with Che at mtnhikerche@bellsouth.net or text 423-718-9271.



Thought for the year: If the mountain was smooth, you couldn't climb it.

Rock/Creek Discount Info

Show your Chattanooga Hiking Club Membership Card, along with your ID at any Rock/Creek Store.

Chattanooga Hiking Club - 10% off one Item

*Applies to one non-sale, in-stock item. Can not be combined

Club Officers and Support:

President - Gary Petty (423) 488-5954

Vice President - Stormy McGauley (423) 505-4525

Treasurer - Jenny Hopkins

Secretary - Susan Basch (706) 633-6159

Membership Database - Susan Basch (706) 633-6159

Outings - Barbara McCollum (770) 289-7143

Newsletter/Webmaster - John Rowland (423) 802-7704

Trail Maintenance - Steve Barnes (423) 339-3019

Boe Rudder (423) 400-1103

Midweek Outings - Cheryl Carico (423) 718-9271

Website: chatthiking.com (includes link to newsletter)