

http://www.bmta.org/

Points of Interest

Click the title to go directly to the page.

Connections

Annual Meeting

Hiking to Honor

Vets for BMTA

Determined Four

Doc Rogers's Place

GA Maintenance

"Climb the mountains..."

Golf at Dally Gap

Escape to Charit

Pronounced?

Upcoming



BMTA Officers 2024-2025

President: **Bob Cowdrick** Vice President: Clare Sullivan Jessie Hayden Secretary: Treasurer: Lydia Burns GA M/D: Joe Cantwell TN/NC M/D: **Patrick Ward Smokies Coord: Steve Pruett** Kelly Motter **Hiking Director:** Membership: Steve Hayden Communications: Joy Forehand Conservation: **Barry Allen Past President:** Ken Cissna Store: Sue Ricker **Newsletter: Kathy Williams** State Rep GA: **Darcy Douglas** State Rep TN/NC: James Anderson



BMTA Headquarters



BMTA Makes Connections at Stecoah Valley SpringFest

by Bob Cowdrick

On April 3rd, BMTA volunteers Bob Cowdrick, Keith Mertz and Dick Evans made the trip to Robbinsville, North Carolina, to represent the Benton MacKaye Trail Association at SpringFest.

Set in the heart of the Smoky Mountains and hosted by the Stecoah Valley Cultural Arts Center, the event provided a perfect platform for engaging with residents, local leaders and fellow conservationists who care deeply about preserving the beauty and accessibility of regional trail systems.



This much-anticipated community event celebrates Appalachian heritage through music, crafts, storytelling and an array of nonprofit and educational exhibits. Held on the historic grounds of what was once an abandoned school building, the Stecoah Valley Center has been beautifully transformed into a vibrant cultural and community hub. Today, the center reaches over 10,000 people annually through more than 20 ongoing programs that support local art, heritage and outdoor recreation.

The BMTA shared a booth with The Partners of the Joyce Kilmer-Slickrock Wilderness. It quickly became a lively gathering place where Bob, Keith and Dick spoke with a steady stream of hikers, community members and outdoor enthusiasts. Many attendees were already familiar with the Benton Mac-Kaye Trail, while others were excited to learn more about its 288-mile path through some of the Southeast's most scenic and remote wilderness areas.





One of the most rewarding aspects of the day was the number of conversations sparked around trail maintenance and volunteer opportunities, particularly in the nearby Joyce Kilmer-Slickrock Wilderness. Several local residents expressed interest in learning how they could get involved in maintaining not only the BMT but other trails that weave through the region.

It was clear that trail stewardship is a shared value here—and that our presence at SpringFest helped strengthen those ties.

As always, our volunteers went above and beyond, sharing maps, brochures and trail maintenance stories with the community. Bob, Keith and Dick did an excellent job fostering new relationships and representing the BMTA mission of conservation, community engagement and outdoor education.

Events like SpringFest highlight how important it is for us to build partnerships with the communities near the trail. These connections help ensure the long-term sustainability of the Benton MacKaye Trail and inspire a new generation of stewards to care for these public lands.

'Festing' at Trout Fest

by Joy Forehand with photo courtesy of Penny Strickland



BMTA's Inter-Active Crosscut experience is always a favorite!

The April 26, 2025, Trout Fest, was held in Blue Ridge, Georgia.

Thank you to our dedicated volunteers – we couldn't do this without you!

Penny Strickland, Steve Kruep, Kenneth and BJ Andrews greeted our guests at BMTA's Event Tent.

Steve Hayden gave an engaging presentation – 'Sell Your Couch and Thrive.'

Dale Clark, Bob Cowdrick, Darcy Douglas, Will Kirchoffer and Daphne Martin supervised BMTA's Inter-Active Crosscut.

Ian Guttridge transported the tent accourrements and crosscut supplies for the event.

BMTA's 2025 Annual Meeting & Hike Fest Accommodations







Ask for cabins along Deep Creek Road in Bryson City, NC

Yellow Rose Realty (828) 488-2797

Stonebrook Lodge (828) 488-1616

Just 3 miles from Lands Creek Log Cabins.

The lodge is on Main Street, within walking distance to shops and restaurants.





Deep Creek Tube Center & Campground

Cabins & Camping
Campground closes November 3 2025

(828) 488-6055



Hike Fest HeadquartersLands Creek Log Cabins

(888) 346-9793 — Be sure to mention BMTA!

Hiking to Honor

by Mike Pilvinsky

In the early 1970s BMTer Mike Pilvinsky and former BMTA President, Dick Evans served together in a tank battalion in Germany. Fifty years later the two Army Rangers reunited to honor our fallen service men and women. On May 24, Dick and his wife Margaret, Tina Wesson and Mike participated in the "Hero Hill Climb," at Camp Frank Merril Mountain Ranger Camp near Dahlonega. Each participant carried a card with the name and picture of a serviceman who didn't make it home. Mike carried a card with the name of his boyhood best friend who was lost in Vietnam. Dick carried the name of Master Sergeant Jerad Van Aalst who died in Afghanistan. Dick's son Jason Evans had served with Master Sergeant Van Aalst. After a three-mile-long, 1000-foot elevation gain, they placed their cards on a large board with the other the names who were honored. Then they carried American flags back down to the starting point. Afterward, Dick went to Amicalola Falls State Park and presented BMT patches and 300-mile tabes to the "Vision Warriors" for completing their BMT thru hikes.





Mike holding the card of his high school best friend.



Dick and Tina at the top of the climb.



Vets for BMTA

A Celebration to Honor Their Service
October 31, 2025 at
BMTA's Annual Meeting & Hike Fest

Deep Creek entrance to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park Bryson City, NC

An anonymous donor will donate \$10 for every veteran who is a BMTA member and a \$25 donation for every BMTA member who attends the Annual Meeting and Hike Fest to a veterans' 501c3. The veterans are to decide which 501c3 will receive the donation.

If you are a veteran, please complete the <u>Veteran's Survey</u>.



Byron Coker and Frank Forehand spreading the word!

BMTA participated in the annual Arts in the Park in downtown Blue Ridge.

Many thanks to those who volunteered to spread the word for the BMT! -- Byron Coker, Frank Forehand, Gloria Harmon, Kathy Williams, BJ and Ken Andrews, Sharon and Tom Atcheson and Ian Guttridge.

Our volunteers definitely generated some enthusiasm ... one of our guests went home and joined online by the time Joy Forehand had returned home from the festival! We added three new members to date.

Thank you!!!

"The Determined Four that Went Forth"

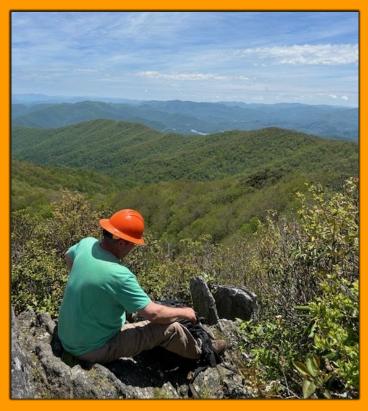
by Patrick Ward with photos courtesy of David Blount and Patrick Ward

The May BMTA TN/NC Work Trip was a little different in that it included a wonderful overnight camping experience. Along the way we encountered a thankful backpacker enjoying the BMT and families sharing the experience of the great outdoors while camping at Whigg Meadow.

We also experienced some history while working near Mud Gap finding a grave marker of an unknown person who was killed by the Kirkland Bushwackers in the 1860s.

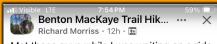
One of our crew was thrilled to finally view the magnificent vista from the Hangover rocks while snacking on his lunch.





Wonders abound while working on the trail and the rewards are innumerable.

On Friday, 5/16/2025 Barry Allen, David Blount and Patrick Ward met up in Georgia at the Work Center to gather tools and journey to start the work from Mud Gap where they encountered a backpacker. The gentleman backpacker shared his thanks for the work of the BMTA and posted a wonderful picture with encouraging comments. Working NOBO on Section 17d the threesome removed three blowdowns including one 18" tree just north of the lovely Quarry Meadow. Then they moved on to Whigg Meadow finding enough time to clean out a campsite (which the aforementioned families had used) and refreshed the access to the spring-fed water source just off the bald. Setting up camp was fun and filled with some questions about the upcoming storm surely to arrive sometime at night. They gathered firewood eagerly anticipating a pleasant evening of fellowship as they awaited the arrival of Bob Cowdrick. Bob's arrival made the crew complete as they relaxed, refreshed and prepared for the work on Saturday. The storm did manifest itself and though the camping was dampened the spirits of the determined four were not.



Met these guys while I was waiting on a ride at Mud Gap. Bad right ankle. I didn't catch their names, but I could tell they were important people Headed up the trail to cut a downed tree. I you run into them sometime, tell them how much you appreciated their time and effort keeping the trail clear and safe for us.



Continued next page

Saturday arrived with hopes of clearing skies and a full day on the BMT. The crew packed up and made their way to the trailhead of the Wolf Laurel Trail. Grabbing packs, PPE and newly acquired bank blades/brush hooks (thanks to Joe Cantwell) they set off on the climb to the BMT. The skies did clear, and spirits were lifted even higher as the work of clearing thick undergrowth along Section 18b (all Wilderness) began. David, having never climbed to the Hangover rock outcrop, was delighted with the willingness of the crew to go just that much further to take a break, eat some lunch and experience the views.







"The Determined Four"

Working their way back clearing even more of the plenteous briars and brambles the crew was treated to a nice long downhill back to the vehicles. Lunch sustenance being long gone the four weary, and yet satisfied foursome climbed into their transport and made their way to The Blueline Grill on Hwy 68 (that's where our TN/NC tool trailer is secured). After a delightful meal they said their goodbyes and headed for home and rest...well that is for three of the four...David wasn't quite topped off and made a final stop to devour some ice cream at Tammi's (you know the place and if not, you should certainly try it out).

Very thankful for having been a part of this Work Trip and "The Determined Four that Went Forth" - Patrick

Doc Rogers's Place

by Joy Forehand

The remains of old home sites are a familiar sight along the Benton MacKaye Trail. One of the most intriguing is between Unicoi Gap and Tate Gap. Approximately four miles from the Unicoi Gap Trailhead, NOBO hikers will find the two side trails to a once stately rock house known as Doc Rogers's Place. At one time, it was a spacious three-story home with ground-level access for all three floors. Water came from a nearby spring and a generator provided electricity. Three partial walls, including a fireplace, are all that remain.



Doc Rogers's Place as seen today. Photo courtesy of Ken Jones

Affectionately known as 'Doc' by the town folk, he arrived in Tellico Plains, Tennessee, in 1908. By the late 1940s, Doc's asthmatic condition had become such that he wanted to get above the "dust line". He and his wife Arminda built the rock house that now lies in ruins below the BMT on Unicoi Mountain in Coker Creek. Contrary to rumors, the house never was used either as a medical or tuberculosis hospital. It was the Rogers' home and the base of operations for Doc's medical practice. Doc's transportation was an old ambulance that also lies abandoned on the property.

A bit of an eclectic visionary and entrepreneur, Doc also purchased the old Tennessee Rock Products' silo. He added six floors above the main floor of the structure that became known as the "Roundhouse". Inside and outside staircases provided access to what he hoped would become profitable rental units. Unfortunately, fire regulations put an end to Doc's dreams for a lucrative enterprise.

Circa 1957, Doc and his wife moved to another home he built adjacent to the Roundhouse. Floyd Davis became the caretaker of the Coker Creek home. The property was sold to the Cherokee National Forest in the 1960s. Two decades later, a fire destroyed the rock mansion.



Floyd Davis, caretaker for Doc Rogers's Place - circa 1951. Courtesy of the Charles Hall Museum.

Directions: Headed NOBO from Unicoi Gap on the BMT, after about 3 miles cross over the ridgeline and pass through a gap (this also is NC/TN State Line). The remains of an old chimney (not Doc Rogers's Place) will come into view on your left. A short side trail to the chimney is present in the summer. After passing through the gap, the BMT enters an old roadbed. Continue on this roadbed for a half mile to a signed intersection with a portion of the Unicoi Mountain Horse Trail. Go straight, following the BMT for another mile on this roadbed to an intersection with a road. Proceed straight ahead on this road (about 100 yards) to reach Doc Rogers's Place. At this intersection, the BMT continues to the right and uphill with blazes. After about 150' on the BMT, there's another road that bears to the left and downhill. Follow this road for about 150' to reach Doc Rogers's Place. These first and second roadbeds connect about 25' from the ruins. In the winter you can see the ruins from the second side trail intersection on the BMT. Neither of these two trails is marked -both of the side trails bare to the left of the BMT's route. The old boxed in spring is still visible. Inside the old house ruins are the remains of the water system in the form of an open end of a pipe. Follow this partially exposed pipe uphill about 50' to find the old boxed in spring. On the first side trail, an old ambulance will be downhill of the roadbed and about 30' away. The faded red cross painted on the roof is visible. There also are the remains of the foundation of another building downhill and on your left. The foundation of this building is much larger than the house, but just what it was remains a mystery.

⁻ Interviews by Pam Hall Mathews in 2009 with Doc's friends, Charles Hall and Kenneth Dalton; Charles Hall Museum files

⁻ Ken Jones

Georgia Maintenance

by Joe Cantwell with photos courtesy of Steve Pruett

Efforts on Wilderness Trails from Dally Gap to Double Springs Gap

On May 10th, fifteen dedicated maintainers tackled the Wilderness Trails from Dally Gap to Double Springs Gap (Sections 10b, c and d). This covered a distance of five- and one-half miles. The day began with an unusual sound resembling thunder, yet no clouds were visible. Ian Gutteridge's cell phone revealed that it was an earthquake.

Section 10b Maintenance

Steve Dennison, the Section Maintainer on 10b, was joined by Bob Cowdrick, Ken Cissna, Bill Cox and Ed and Clare Sullivan. This team focused on brushing, lopping and tread repair. A notable 15-inch log near Spanish Oak will be cleared on a future trip using a crosscut.

Section 10c Maintenance

Joe Cantwell, the Section Maintainer for Section10c and d, led a group comprising Ian Guttridge, Marty Dominy, Kenny Martin Sam Sly and Kelly Wentworth. They undertook an eight-mile round trip from Dally Gap to Hemp Top, with significant efforts using swing blades that yielded excellent results.

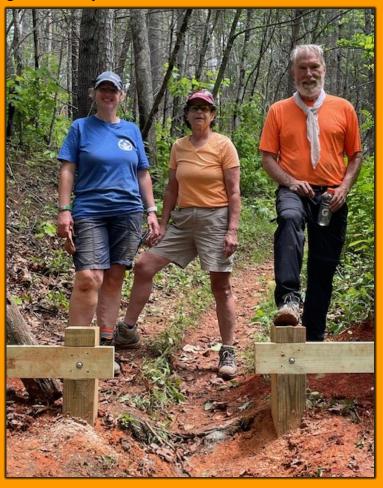
Section 10d Maintenance

The final crew volunteered for the arduous eleven -mile hike from Dally Gap to Double Springs Gap. Daphne Martin and Laurie Schatz, along with Steve Hayden, put in an exceptional day brushing out Section 10d. Steve reported that the section now resembles a golf fairway.

A heartfelt thanks to all the volunteers who participated in this challenging and exhausting day.



Sign replacement at Wilscot Gap.



Daphne Martin, Laurie Schatz and Steve Hayden with a happy trail!

"Climb the mountains and get their good tidings."

-John Muir by Kathy Williams

For the third year in a row George Owen held his popular Hiking in the Southern Appalachians Class at the Young Harris' Institute for Continued Learning venue. There was a waiting list this year.

Each class began with a quote or story. George's favorite quote is from John Muir.

"Climb the mountains and get their good tidings. Nature's peace will flow into you as sunshine flows into trees. The winds will blow their own freshness into you, and the storms their energy, while cares will drop away from you like the leaves of Autumn."

Every class received pass-outs and brochures for trails and points of interest to the hikers. These included varying levels of hikes from the easy to the more strenuous. Book recommendations were part of each session and George brought many of these for the class to look over. Lunch after class was part of the experience as well as a hike to further the enjoyment.



One hike took us on the Chatuge Trail.

A variety of speakers did presentations on their areas of expertise. GATC Board Member Joe Boone showed a video that covered the four main trails in the area (Appalachian Trail, Benton MacKaye Trail, Pinhoti and Bartam). This included a brief history of each trail with interviews of those who had been involved with the concept and construction of each trail.

David Vann, a nature photographer, not only did a class presentation but followed up with a hands-on teaching hike afterwards. We learned tricks like spraying flowers with droplets of water to enhance the picture and the use of a black binder background. We were surprised to learn that photographers prefer a cloudy day since sunlight presents challenges to getting that perfect shot. His solution for sun glare was to use a diffuser to hold above the subject.



GATC Board Member Joe Boone



Nature Photographer Mike Wilson teaches the use of a diffuser.



The class hiked at Hog Pen Gap to see and photograph wildflowers.



One subject covered was Wilderness Areas.



Easily accessed on our way to Hog Pen Gap was this stunning vista!

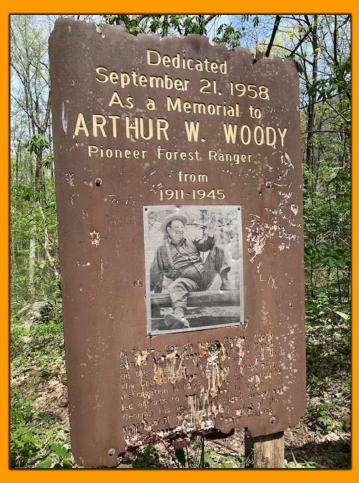


One day George brought in the tools used in construction of a trail. It was at this point that he explained the issue of laying out the notorious Duncan Ridge Trail. George was forced to go straight up instead of switchbacking or snaking around due to a time constraint. He then went on to educate us on the complexities of laying out and building a trail from NEPA, permitting, funding and the many organizations that are involved.



George leads the group in Sosbee Cove to search for wildflowers.





Wildflowers were not the only fascinating trail treat at Sosbe Cove! How about that Arthur W. Woody!



Chuck Logan came and gave valuable information on thu hiking. Chuck has section hiked the entire AT. He brought his pack and other gear to show and help the class understand what was involved in a camping and hiking endeavor.



Darcy Douglas covered kayaking and canoeing on the many waterways in the area. She brought her equipment to help demonstrate and recommend gear for the water.

Kathy Willliams covered the Benton MacKaye Trail of which George was instrumental in laying out and constructing.



Tim Owen, an expert on weather in the Southern Appalachians, helped the class understand the importance of knowing your weather as you prepare for outdoor activities. Since mountains often make their own weather, your safety depends on it.

Some of the most interesting moments came from the personal stories that George shared with the class. Tales of a charge by a mama black bear that pulled up just short of him leaving him with shaky legs. Then there was the incident of the bear spray that quickly evacuated a vehicle. The origins of the "old Pros" were laid bare.

But the best part of the entire experience was George sharing his joy when his son, on a hike with him, saw an incredible sunrise and all the son could say was, "Oh, Wow!"

This was replicated decades later when the father, son and grandson returned to that "Oh, Wow!" vista and the words out of the grandson were, "Oh, Wow!"

Thank you, George, for an "Oh, Wow!" class!



BMTA Celebrates National Miniature Golf Day at Dally Gap

by Bob Cowdrick

After a full day of trail maintenance on May 10, 2025, six spirited members of the Benton MacKaye Trail Association celebrated National Miniature Golf Day in a unique way—by playing a round on the makeshift 'Dally Gap Parking Lot Course.'

Despite a long day of hard work on the trail, the group embraced the lighthearted competition. Ken Cissna made the highlight reel with an impressive hole-in-one, while Steve Dennison found himself wrestling with the course's obstacles. Bill Cox seemed to take a particular liking to the drainage areas, proving that sometimes it's not just about the score, but the experience.



Ken Cissna hole-in-one!



Steve Dennison, "This is worse than a sand trap!"



Are we doing Mulligans?

The competitive spirit was alive as Ed Sullivan set the pace with a record score of 12, only to have his accomplishment matched shortly after by Clare Sullivan, who also recorded a 12. Congratulations to both for sharing the top spots!







Clare Sullivan is hot on Ed's trail.

It was a fun and unexpected way to wind down after a day of trail work, proving once again that the BMTA knows how to combine work, camaraderie and a little friendly competition!

Sincerely,

Bob Cowdrick – Official BMTA Dally Gap Golf Course Marshall

It's Rafting Season at Ocoee Whitewater Center!



The whitewater is running on the weekends and provides a spectacular venue to take a break from hiking the many trails in the area. The BMT tracks adjacent to the Center and often hikers will plan a hike and the take a rocky seat to eat a snack and enjoy the thrilling whitewater rafting.

There are several short hikes, like the Rhododendron Trail, that are very family friendly for all abilities.

A favorite is getting to the Center and watching the water release! Future plans for the Center include a rebuild of the Visitor Center as well as pavilions

Two Sisters Escape to Charit Creek Lodge

By Kathy Williams

My sister and I try to escape somewhere every year. I had been lucky enough to have won this trip to Charit Creek Lodge in Tennessee in the Big South Fork Recreation Area at a BMTA Annual Meeting raffle. We were going to find out if we could still cut it...hiking long and living a little rustically for two nights. The lodge does not have electricity or internet service, but we were happy to disappear into the woods. We had heard that the food was incredible, prepared by legendary Chef Greg. And who can resist living in a Corn Crib!





You cannot drive to the Lodge. You have to hike downhill from the parking lot, a distance of 1.3 miles. This hike includes a step ladder and rock formations that dwarfed us.



A life metaphor, "overcoming obstacles".



The Swinging Bridge means we are almost there!





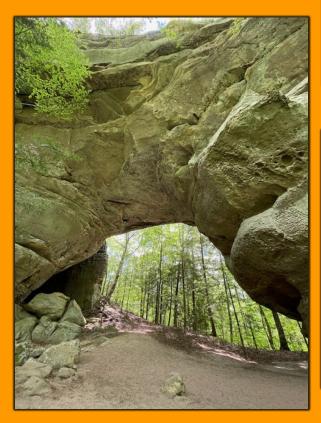
Home Sweet Home! Kept warm with a wood stove fire! Perfect bliss!



The Lodge includes a variety of cabins, a horse stable with rooms, a separate shower/restroom building and the all-important dining room. No one misses mealtimes! Campfires, games and the embrace of the wilderness are all around.



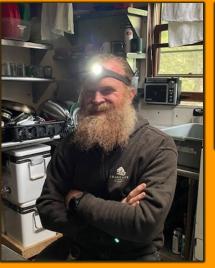
We spent the next day hiking to Slave Falls with stops at Jakes Place, the Tackett gravesites and completing the Twin Arches Loop Trail.



Massive, colossal, we felt small yet fulfilled.



Nature's architecture left us astonished and filled with joy!





Chef Greg cooks with a headlamp and delivers savory meals with an ambiance that leaves nothing to be desired. Thank you Greg!!

Amadahy, How it is pronounced? by Kathy Williams



Ken Cissna, Mike Pilvinsky, Howard Baggett and Kathy Williams contemplated the pronunciation of Amadahy and concluded that this beautiful trail at Carter's Lake did not need the certainty of grammar. Just enjoy the embrace of the forest and the serenity of the lake.









BMTA PARTNERSHIPS

Help BMTA preserve, protect and maintain the Benton MacKaye Trail.

Become a BMTA Business, Silver, Gold, Platinum or Diamond Partner today! Go to Partnerships to view the details.

Employer Identification #58-1428009.

*If you receive a benefit as a result of making a contribution to a qualified organization, you can deduct <u>only</u> the amount of your contribution that is more than the value of the benefit you receive.

Upcoming

by Kelly Motter, Hiking Director

June

June 11 (Wednesday) Hike the trails of Jack Rabbit. Moderate 5-mile hike. Contact Hike Leader Ralph Collinson at rcollinson@bmta.org.

June 20 (Friday) Turtletown Creek Falls. DOG-FRIENDLY HIKE (adult humans may bring a leashed dog). Moderate 5 miles. Turtletown Creek plus two of the most beautiful falls you'll ever see on a short hike. Contact Hike Leader Ken Cissna at kcissna@bmta.org.



June 28 (Saturday) BMTA TN/NC Maintenance Trip. Section 16a - Sandy Gap » Round Top, State Line & Section 16b - Round Top » Sled Runner Gap Affectionately known as the Heart of Darkness Contact the BMTA TN-NC Maintenance Director at bmtatn-ncmaintdirector@bmta.org



June 29 (Sunday) BMT Series – Join with GATC on this series.

We will hike from Wilscot Gap to Shallowford Bridge Road. This is a moderate to strenuous hike of 7.7 miles and requires a shuttle.

Contact Hike Leader Kelly Motter at kmotter@bmta.org.

June 30 (Monday) Hike on the BMT at Lost Creek Campground in Reliance Tennessee. Easy/moderate 5-mile hike. Contact Hike Leader Ralph Collinson at recollinson@bmta.org

July

July 7 (Monday) Boyd's Gap to Old Copper Road to Thunder Rock Camp. Easy/moderate six miles. Contact Hike Leader Ralph Collinson at recollinson@bmta.org.

July 10 (Thursday) BMT Watson Gap to Shadow Falls off So Fork Trail. Moderate 8 miles round trip. Contact Hike Leader Steve Dennison at sdennison@bmta.org.



July 11 (Friday) BMT: Lost Creek Section. DOG-FRIENDLY HIKE (adult humans may bring a leashed dog). Easy 6 miles. Beautiful walk along Lost Creek. One stream crossing will probably get your feet a little wet so come prepared. Contact Hike Leader Ken Cissna at kcissna@bmta.org.

July 11 (Friday) BMT: Hwy 60 to Skeenah Gap. Moderately strenuous 7.2 miles. Contact Hike Leader Steve Dennison at sdennison@bmta.org.



July 12 (Saturday) BMTA GA Maintenance Trip. TBA Contact the Georgia Maintenance Director at bmtagamaintdirector@bmta.org.

July 16 (Wednesday) Cartecay River Loop Trails. DOG-FRIENDLY HIKE (adult humans may bring a leashed dog). Moderate 5-6 miles, much of it along the beautiful Cartecay River. Contact Hike Leader Ken Cissna at kcissna@bmta.org.

July 18 (Friday) BMT Series with GATC. Fall Branch Falls to Weaver Creek Road.

This moderately strenuous hike is about six miles long and goes over Rocky Mountain and Scroggin Knob.

Shuttle required.

Meet at Food Lion in Blue Ridge.

Contact Hike Leader Ken Cissna at kcissna@bmta.org.



July 22 (Tuesday) Unicoi to Helen and back. Moderate six miles. Contact Hike Leader Ralph Collinson at reollinson@bmta.org.



July 26 (Saturday) BMTA TN/NC Maintenance Trip. TBA Contact the BMTA TN-NC Maintenance Director at bmtatn-ncmaintdirector@bmta.org

August

August 1 (Friday) Bear Creek Trail. DOG-FRIENDLY HIKE (adult humans may bring a leashed dog). Moderate seven miles.

Contact Hike Leader Ken Cissna at kcissna@bmta.org.



August 9 (Saturday) BMTA GA Maintenance Trip. TBA Contact the Georgia Maintenance Director at bmtagamaintdirector@bmta.org.

August 10 (Sunday) BMT Series: Weaver Creek to Boardtown Road.

This series is part of the BMTA/GATC series. The hike starts at Weaver Creek. In 2.5 miles, the trail crosses US 76/515 and enters Cherry Log Mountain subdivision. We will cross the lowest point on the BMT in Georgia (1540'), pass the Indian Rock Shelter (at 4.2 miles), climb Patterson Mountain (2300'), and finish at Boardtown Road. Moderate 6.4 miles. Shuttle required.

Contact Hike Leader Ken Cissna at kcissna@bmta.org.



Indian Rock Shelter

August 15 (Friday) Emery Creek. Moderate five miles. The trail for this in-and-out hike is fairly easy, but 26 stream crossings (a number up to your ankles and two around your knees) and a section of potentially slippery rocks toward the beginning and again at the end make it more difficult than it otherwise would be. Holly and Emery Creeks, two lovely waterfalls and a beautiful trail make it worth the trouble. Contact Hike Leader Ken Cissna at kcissna@bmta.org.



August 23 (Saturday) BMTA TN/NC Maintenance Trip. TBA Contact the BMTA TN-NC Maintenance Director at bmtan-ncmaintdirector@bmta.org

To access our website calendar, go **HERE**.



The deadline for the July Newsletter is Wednesday, July 2. Thank you!

MEMBERSHIP

DONATE

DONATE LAF

PARTNERSHIPS

TRAIL STORE