



Smoky Mountains Hiking Club Newsletter

Exploring the Smokies Since 1924

August 2021

Saturday August 14 SMHC Election Picnic

SMHC members and their guest(s) are invited to our annual SMHC Election picnic on Saturday August 14 (rain date Sunday August 15). We were unable to have *any* social events in 2020 due to the pandemic, so it would be wonderful to see as many people as possible turn out for our picnic! There are several special features of the picnic this year.

Location: GATOP Gardens and Arboretum, 2541 Riverside Drive, Knoxville, TN. This incredible property is privately owned by Dr. Alan Solomon, a long-time Club member, who has designed, assembled, and built a breathtaking collection of native trees, wildflowers and ferns, hundreds of varieties of conifers, hollies, and other plants. There are extensive hand-built stone walls, terraces and steps, and the gardens are complemented by steel, bronze, and stone sculptures. We will have balloons at the parking entrance, which is 2 miles east from the exit off James White Parkway. Handicapped parking is available.

Time: We suggest arriving between 10:30 and 11 am to register, pick up a map of the gardens, and explore.

Program: Our program will start at 12 noon. The SMHC will provide a boxed lunch for you (choices on registration form) and drinks. We will eat in a beautiful shady part of the gardens: please bring a chair or seating pad.

Special guest: We are extremely honored to have **Richard Powers** attending our picnic this year. Mr. Powers is the author of the Pulitzer Prize winning novel, **The Overstory**, as well as books such as **The Echo Maker** and **The Goldbug Variations**. He spent much time in the Smokies while writing *The Overstory*, a book which can change the way you look at trees and forests forever.

Business: We have much to do!

- Introduction and election of your 2022 Board of Directors
- Approval of SMHC Constitution and Bylaws review/ edits conducted this year
- The membership will be asked to look at the hike program for 2022 and volunteer to lead or co-lead hikes!
- We will be awarding the Marshal Wilson Presidential Citation Awards for last year and this year at the picnic.

Please join us for the SMHC picnic in this beautiful place and celebrate the chance to see so many members and friends again!

Member lunch price: Free. Non-member lunch price: \$15.00.

You can register and pay on-line at smhclub.org. If you are registering by mail, the registration form is the last page of this newsletter.

Notice changes to SMHC Constitution and Bylaws

The SMHC Board of Directors will recommend that the SMHC Constitution and Bylaws be amended at the annual picnic. Most of the changes are grammatical corrections to make the Constitution and Bylaws more accurate. The current Constitution and Bylaws are on the Club's website. The proposed changes to the current bylaws will be posted on the website and attached to the email version of this newsletter. If you have any questions about the changes, please contact any of the SMHC officers and directors.

Slate of SMHC Officers for 2022

Each year the membership is provided notice of the slate of officers to be voted on. This year it will be at the August picnic. The slate of officers was selected by a nominating committee. However, the nominations of the committee do not preclude club members from making nominations for the respective offices at the meeting wherein the election is held.

The SMHC Nominees for 2022 are:

President: Ken Wise
Recording Secretary: Steve Dunkin
Membership Secretary: Scott Walker
Trust Liaison: Jean Gauger
Director: Will Skelton
Director: Taylor Weatherbee

Vice President:
Historian: Brian Worley
Treasurer: Diane Petrilla
Communication Director: Cindy Spangler
Director: Tim Bigelow
Director: Kristi Knight

Road Closures

Cades Cove Loop Road- Vehicle-free Wednesdays May 5-Sept 1, 2021

Cades Cove Loop Road- Fully Closed for resurfacing Sept 7-Sept 27, 2021

Forge Creek Road- closed to all vehicles, pedestrians, cyclists, and horse-back riders for bridge repair through July 31, 2021.

Newfound Gap Road- Expect nighttime delays on Newfound Gap Road (Hwy 441) from Chimneys Picnic Area to Newfound Gap. Lane closures are permitted from 7:00 p.m. on Sundays through 7:00 a.m. on Fridays. No lane closures will occur on weekends or holidays. Due to heavy summer traffic, daytime work will not resume until August 16, 2021. Beginning August 17, 2021, expect single-lane closures between Chimneys Picnic Area and Newfound Gap from Monday mornings through Fridays at Noon while contractors repave this section of Newfound Gap Road (Hwy 441). Please allow for extra time when traveling through the project area.



Meet Your 2021 Board Members

This month's board member is the Club's Trust Liaison, Jean Gauger. I was not a hiker when I moved to Tennessee. (Iowa did not have lots of compelling public land to explore.) A newspaper column by Carson Brewer -- covering a Margaret Stevenson's 75th Birthday Hike to Mt. LeConte -- gave me the nudge to try it. Alum Cave Bluff, during the Laurel bloom, was my first Smokies hike. (I remember thinking "this is what my life has needed.")

Fast forward a few decades: I now have hiked the Smokies 900 Miles, all the trails of Big South Fork and adjacent public lands, Frozen Head State Park, and the combined Joyce Kilmer-Slickrock Creek and Citco wilderness. (Not a surprise. These things will happen if one is married to Hiram Rogers. I met Hiram at Charit Creek Lodge in Big South Fork.) About the time we finished the 900 miles, I started doing some off-trail with Hiram. We like the challenge of finding and following the old manways in the park. We also have explored some interesting off-trail in other land units.

I joined the Club in 1993. I came on to the Board of Directors in 2018 and serve as the Board's Trust Liaison for the SMHC and ATMC trusts. In my professional life, prior to my recent retirement, I was a full-time faculty member in UT's Economics Department. My area of emphasis is Macroeconomics. (The macroeconomy always presents something interesting to talk about. This year has been off the charts.) I continue to teach a Fall semester graduate class. Photo information: Petrified Forest loop, Theodore Roosevelt National Park, June 2021

More Hiking Dates Have Been Added

Every year someone says, "Why don't they schedule this hike" Why can't I lead a hike". Every year someone says, "Next year I will lead a hike" "Next year I will suggest this hike". Instead of putting it off until next year, reach out to the Program Committee Chairman Ken Wise and tell him the hike you would like to see scheduled.

If you think you are interested in leading a hike in the Smokies, or any of the surrounding National Forests, National Parks or State Parks, you need to respond to this request immediately. Email Ken at kwise@utk.edu and put Hikes 22 in the subject line. Suggest what hike or hikes you would like to lead and when. You should include in your email a brief write up of the hike similar to upcoming hikes in this newsletter. Ken will provide you with the information about the specific dates that are available.

If you are interested in leading hikes, but do not have a specific hike, email Ken, and tell him where you would like to lead a hike, what time of year, and how long of a hike.

SMHC Hiking Guidelines During COVID

1. One hike leader will serve as pre-registration contact, with e-mail and phone number available in the write-up.
2. **Pre-registration is still required for all hikes.**
3. **Group size may now be up to 20.** Higher numbers of registrants should be split into two groups.
4. **Meet-up locations with carpooling to the trailhead, shuttles, and key swaps are acceptable.** Hikers may still choose to drive to the trailhead independently, depending on their comfort level.
5. **Unvaccinated individuals should wear a mask for carpooling, shuttles, or key swaps, and at crowded trailheads. Masks are not required for fully vaccinated people. In the GRSM NP, people that are unmasked are assumed to be fully vaccinated.**
6. Hikers must sign a release form with accurate contact information.
7. Inform hikers if anyone becomes ill within a few days of the event, with symptoms concerning COVID-19, to contact the hike leader immediately. (In addition to the usual pre-hike info). For regular pre-hike prep, see <http://www.smhclub.org/outingpreparation.htm>.
8. All participants should have hand sanitizer or wipes.
9. If the leader(s) or any participant feels sick, please stay at home.
10. If the leader(s) need to alter planned activity, please contact an SMHC Board member ASAP to discuss proposed changes.
11. Guidelines for A.T. maintainers will have to be reconciled with the National Park, National Forest, and ATC, particularly regarding group size.

Several Upcoming SMHC Changes Your Help Is Needed

WEBSITE CHANGES

Have you been to <https://smhclub.org/> in the last month? You need to check out the latest changes on the website. On the Home Page there is a Member Log In where you can log in and see your membership profile along with accessing the membership directory. You can now pay your dues by the website which is much quicker and easier than mailing in a check. Under **HIKE WITH US**, you can find a list of all the Upcoming Events for SMHC. You will want to check that area often to see the latest events that have been added. Take a few minutes and check out the website. Encourage your hiking friends to check it out and join SMHC.

Facebook Administrators Needed

SMHC has a Facebook page with some 7,000 followers. Consideration is being given to changing this page to an interactive page where you could post about a hike, inquire about a trail or campsite, seek out others to join you on a hike, but to do that Facebook group administrators are needed to screen out the posts that are not related to hiking and issues that would involve the SMHC. If you have are interested in doing this for the SMHC Facebook page, you need to contact Scott Walker at swalker.dev@gmail.com. If the page is made interactive, then hike leaders would be able to share any last-minute changes to a hike due to road conditions or the weather, giving everyone on that hike a chance to see the latest information. This change to an interactive group could benefit everyone in SMHC but volunteers are needed to make it work.

900 Milers

Are you interested in hiking all the trails in the Smokies? Are you interested in leading hikes to complete your 900 miles with SMHC? Would you like to see the SMHC offer hikes that would help you complete your 900 mile map? Would you like to see these hikes offered on a regular two to three week schedule in addition to the regular hikes in the SMHC Handbook? Are you interested in help shuttling for these hikes? Would you like to see the SMHC arrange Bus and Boat shuttles for these hikes? Would you be interested in backpacking to get some of these trails in? Would you be interested if these hikes were posted on weekends or long weekends? If any of this sounds interesting to you, then you need to email Amanda Beal at amandaw455@gmail.com or Steve Dunkin at jsdunkin1302@gmail.com your interests as they make plans to consider 900 mile hikes.

Newsletter Editor Opening

Do you have extra time where you would like to be productive putting stuff together? Are you comfortable using Word, Publisher, or some other desktop publishing software? Are you interested in organizing and playing with various colors? Have you edited bulletins or other papers in the past? Would you like to put your style of editing to the SMHC newsletter? The SMHC needs someone to be the monthly newsletter editor. If you are interested contact Communications Director Cindy Spangler at spangler@utk.edu or Diane Petrilla at petrillad@gmail.com.

UPCOMING HIKES

Meeting Places

Pre-registration with the leader is required for the hike and to ensure you know when and where to meet. We request that you cancel your registration ASAP if unable to hike to allow someone on the waiting list to take your spot. Please familiarize yourself with the Club guidelines in this newsletter.

Gabes Mountain Trail to Campsite 34

Wednesday — August 4

Gabes Mountain Trail past 90-foot Hen Wallow Falls to Campsite 34. Out & back hike. Round trip is 9.6 miles. Rated moderate. Meet at Comcast on Asheville Highway at 8:00 am or at Cosby Campground at 9:00. Drive 120 miles round trip .05/mile = \$6.00.

Pre-registration with the leader. Ron Brandenburg, ronb86@comcast.net or text 865-898-7602

Leaders: Steve Vittatoe 865-724-9666 svittatoe@charter.net, Ron Brandenburg, ronb86@comcast.net or text 865-898-7602

A.T. Maintenance Work Trip

Saturday — August 7

Our August A.T. work trip is dedicated to MULCH HAULING! For this trip, we will hike mulch to the Icewater Springs shelter mulch storage boxes. All you need is a large-ish backpack (I have extras if needed) to pack in a bagged 20 lb. bag of mulch. You do not have to have much experience to be a mulch mule- just a pair of strong legs. You will be performing a much-needed task before we see the south-bound surge of thru-hikers this Fall. Please come out and help! We will meet at Sugarlands Visitor Center at 7:30am for those who would like to carpool, or at Newfound Gap parking lot at 8:15am.

Register at smhclub.org or by emailing Diane Petrilla.

Leader: Diane Petrilla petrillad@gmail.com , 931-224-5149

The Gorges

Off Trail

Saturday — August 7

If, and only if, the flow of the Oconaluftee River is less than 300 cubic feet per second, will we attempt to hike The Gorges of Raven Fork, the most rugged and treacherous stretch of stream anywhere in the Smokies. This hike will entail wading of deep fast-running sluices, negotiating water-slickened rock surfaces, and scrambling over large boulders. After a car shuttle from Straight Fork Road at the Hyatt Ridge Trail, the hike will begin in the Cherokee Reservation just outside the park boundary and follow Raven Fork to the bridge at Backcountry Campsite 47 where we will then follow the Hyatt Ridge Trail out to Straight Fork Road. This hike is rated exceedingly difficult. Pre-registration for this hike is required. Contact trip leaders for meeting place and time.

Pre-registration with the leader is required.

Leaders: James Locke jtlocke@tds.net, 865-742-2158 and Ken Wise kwise@utk.edu, 865-310-7764.

A.T. Vista Hike

Sunday — August 08

The Appalachian Trail is celebrating **100 years** of its history this year with the A.T. Vista event to be held on the weekend of August 7/8! Each state the A.T. goes through has been asked to sponsor a hike for that weekend, with photos and videos to be uploaded and shared virtually with the entire A.T. community! The SMHC proudly maintains 102 miles of Trail in the GRSM and 30 miles in the NNF. We invite you to join us on a hike from Clingmans Dome (the highest point on the entire A.T.) to Silers Bald. We will talk a little history, enjoy cooler high elevation air, and have a birthday treat for the A.T.! The hike is approximately 9 miles RT, rated moderate. We can meet at Sugarlands Visitor Center at 8am on Sunday August 8 to carpool to Clingmans Dome parking lot or meet at the CD parking lot at 8:45am. *Pre-registration required.*

Register at smhclub.org or by emailing Diane Petrilla.

Leader: Diane Petrilla petrillad@gmail.com , 931-224-5149

Middle Prong Trail to Indian Flats Falls.

Wednesday — August 11

Middle Prong Trail to Indian Flats Falls. Out and back hike. We will see three multi-tiered falls including Lower Lynn Camp, Lynn Camp, and Indian Flats. Historic artifacts to be seen along the trail includes the rusting Cadillac, a homestead chimney, and remnants from logging operations of the past. Round trip is 7.8 miles. Rated moderate with elevation gain of 1175 ft. Meet at Alcoa Food City at 8:00 am. Drive 50 miles round trip .05/mile = \$2.50.

Pre-registration with the leader. Ron Brandenburg, ronb86@comcast.net or text 865-898-7602

Leaders: Steve Vittatoe 865-724-9666 svittatoe@charter.net, Ron Brandenburg, ronb86@comcast.net or text 865-898-7602

Tennessee Arboretum
Saturday — August 21
EASY HIKE

Come explore some of the seven miles of easy hiking trails at the University of Tennessee Arboretum, located at 901 S. Illinois Avenue in Oak Ridge. Meet in the parking lot by the Visitors Center at 9:00 AM. We will discuss a bit of the local history, as well as visit a few of the outstanding plant collections at the Arboretum. The trails are not difficult and have benches to rest on along the way. Bring water and perhaps a light snack. We will plan on an hour of walking and talking.

Pre-registration is required with hike leader.

Leader: Janet Bigelow, janet_bigelow@tds.net, (865) 300-5580

Hemphill Bald Loop
Saturday — August 21

Where do you hike in August? Hemphill Bald. We will start at Hemphill Bald Trailhead off Heintooga Road, taking the Hemphill Bald Trail to the junction with Caldwell Fork Trail. We will stop and visit the big poplar before making the climb up to Rough Fork. We will take Rough Fork to the parking lot. Car camping is an option at Balsam Mountain Campground or Mile High Campground both nearby with great sunset views. This is a great place to camp in the summer. This hike is almost 14 miles long and is rated difficult due to the distance and the ascent out. Drive time is 2 hours via I-40, distance 105 miles. The hike starting time at the Hemphill Bald Trailhead is 8:30 am. I am camping at Mile High. The campground is almost booked for that weekend. Balsam Mountain still has several openings. If you would like a copy of the map for the hike [visit here](#). If you would like to view the profile of the hike [visit here](#).

Pre-registration with the leader is required or **register at smhclub.org**

Leader: Dale Potter, dalepotter55@gmail.com, 865-773-8114

Clingmans Dome to Newfound Gap
Saturday — August 28

This high elevation hike should provide a respite from valley heat. After arranging a shuttle from Newfound Gap to Clingmans Dome, we will start at the highest point in the Smokies and on the AT--Clingmans Dome at 6443'. We will hike North through AT sections that our club maintains and through a beautiful conifer forest accented by moss covered logs and ferns. Meet at Newfound Gap at 9 AM at the NC/TN State Line sign (allow a few extra minutes for summer traffic). Total hike mileage: 8.4 miles, rated moderate.

Pre-registration with the leader is required.

Leader: Kristi Knight, kcsknight@charter.net, 865-898-7227

For The Record

Appalachian Trail Workday

June 05

Our “modified” National Trails Day event to work on the A.T., was held June 5th. We had 61 participants, divided into 14 teams. There were eleven teams working on the A.T. from Icewater Springs to Silers Shelter, one mulch hauling team to Double Springs, and one crew each, out of Davenport Gap and Cosby. ***A total of 423 hours of work alone was done on this day by all the volunteers involved!*** After the event was over, a Zoom door prize drawing was conducted by Trail Day committee members Kristi Knight, Diane Petrilla and Cindy Spangler. We are proud to say that almost every participant received a door prize! I am deeply grateful to the A.T. Workday Committee, Philip Royer, and Karen Brackett for designing the commemorative patch, and to Kristi Knight, Cindy Spangler, and Kristi Weatherbee for invaluable help in planning and getting sponsorship for our bagged lunches and door prizes. I am thankful to Taylor Weatherbee and Bill Pyle for prepping the locust logs used for step and waterbar installation. Thanks to Christine Hoyer and Nick Yarnell of the National Park for making this possible. Thanks to Steve Dunkin for getting and returning tools. Thank you so much crew leaders!

~ Diane Petrilla



Rocky Crag the Righteous Way

June 12

On a cool gray overcast second Saturday in June, twelve club members and two visitors convened with leaders Greg Harrell and Tim Hernandez at the Porters Creek trailhead for a highly anticipated assault of the west flank of Rocky Crag the knife-edge ridge that extends from The Sawteeth out over Greenbrier Cove. Hikers were barely three-quarters of a mile up the Porters Creek Trail when, much to our amusement, our dear leader, Harrell, remembered he had forgotten to close the back of his Jeep. After waiting at backcountry campsite #31 for Harrell to catch up, we regrouped and started up Dry Sluice manway, fording Porters Creek four times until, at the fifth crossing, abandoning the manway to follow Lester Prong.

A half-mile up Lester Prong, hikers quit the stream for an exhausting assault of the exceedingly steep flank of Rocky Crag. Visibility was severely restricted by continuously swirling mists; nevertheless, it was a place of remarkable Smoky Mountain beauty, where, as Harvey Broome aptly describes, “the mists dissolve and re-form, vague shapes of mountains appear and vanish, and one is aware of stupendous, formless depth all around.”

From the top of Rocky Crag, the climb continued along with the narrow lead, up steeply to The Pyramid, where we lunched and swapped stories before ascending Falcon Point. At Falcon Point, we were appropriately joined by a falcon perching on a nearby ledge. The climb then proceeded on up to the outcropping identified incorrectly on the USGS maps as Charlies Bunion. After a short descent into North Carolina and to the AT and an equally short hike along the trail to the upper end of the Dry Sluice manway, the group plunged recklessly down the mountain into Tennessee, following the ancient trace once used by the Cherokee when traveling from their homes on the Oconaluftee to a small Indian community in Porters Flat. During the course of the day, hikers collected a wide assortment of cuts, scratches, and bruises, but nonetheless, all enjoyed a fabulous adventure.

~ Ken Wise



Post Hike Write Ups

Post-hike write-ups and photos should be submitted to SMHC Newsletter Editor Dale Potter at smhcnewsletter@gmail.com and Scott Walker, swalker.dev@gmail.com, Facebook Manager. For your write-up, please include the following: Hike name and date, total number of members and visitors, and description of hike.

Why are Apostrophes not used for names in the park?

Since its inception in 1890, the U.S. Board on Geographic Names has discouraged the use of the possessive form—the genitive apostrophe and the “s”. The possessive form using an “s” is allowed, but the apostrophe is almost always removed.

Myths attempting to explain the policy include the idea that the apostrophe looks too much like a rock in water when printed on a map, and is therefore a hazard, or that in the days of “stick-up type” for maps, the apostrophe would become lost and create confusion. The probable explanation is that the BGN does not want to show possession for natural features because, “ownership of a feature is not in and of itself a reason to name a feature or change its name.”

Gregory Bald via Long Hungry Ridge

June 19

Seven hikers (6 members and 1 visitors) gathered at Twentymile this early Saturday morning, to find the parking area already full of azalea seekers! We hiked this loop in a counterclockwise direction, traveling up Twentymile Trail and then Long Hungry Ridge. Two crossings on LHR were full but rock-hoppable. The tough climb to Rye Patch on LHR was lightened by views of many gorgeous full flame azaleas, as well as Indian pink, spiderwort, Bowmans's root, and other wildflowers. As we climbed it also got cooler, which was lovely. The azaleas on Gregory Bald were not quite in full bloom yet, but we managed to find orange, red, pink, and yellow ones. At lunch we had hazy but beautiful views of Cades Cove. The descent down Wolf Ridge was steady and long, and it felt good when the trail leveled out! We were all ready for the cars after this 15.7-mile hike, but it was still hard to leave the forest and all its beauty.

~ Diane Petrilla and Steve Madden



"Dreams don't work unless you take action. The surest way to make your dreams come true is to live them."

~ Roy T. Bennett

"Bears are not companions of men, but children of God."

~ Charles Muir

Smoky Mountains Hiking Club Officers and Directors

President: Diane Petrilla petrillad@gmail.com
Vice President: Ken Wise kwise@utk.edu
Recording Secretary: Steve Dunkin jsdunkin1302@gmail.com
Treasurer: Tim Bigelow bigelowt2@mindspring.com
Trust Liaison: Jean Gauger jeanguager@yahoo.com
Membership Secretary: Amanda Beal amandaw455@gmail.com
Communications Director: Cindy Spangler spangler@utk.edu
Historian: Brian Worley baw2222@aol.com
Director: Kristi Knight kcsknight@charter.net
Director: Dale Potter dalepotter55@gmail.com
Director: Will Skelton whshome@bellsouth.net
Director: Taylor Weatherbee tweatherbe@aol.com



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Please join us for the SMHC picnic in this beautiful place and celebrate the chance to see so many members and friends again!

Member Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Phone number _____

Lunch choice: _____

Member Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Phone Number _____

Lunch choice: _____

Non-member name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Lunch choice: _____

Lunch choices:

Turkey and cheese on 9-grain bread OR

Ham and cheese on 9-grain bread OR

Veggie sandwich with classic hummus and sprouts

All sandwiches come with fruit salad and chip sides,
and oatmeal raisin cookie.

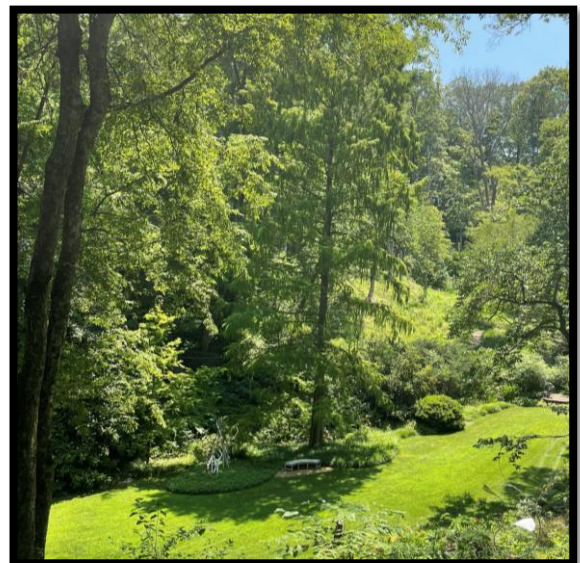
Iced tea or water will be provided.

Member lunch price: Free. Non-member lunch price: \$15.00.

If you are registering by mail, please complete and mail this form with a check (if applicable) to

Jeanette Gilbert, 111 Newton Lane, Oak Ridge, TN. 37830.

For questions, please email dgoddard723@gmail.com. You can also register and pay on-line at smhclub.org.



CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS OF THE SMOKY MOUNTAINS HIKING CLUB, INCORPORATED

Knoxville, Tennessee

Adopted as revised August 14, 2021, and with Charter Amendments of December 10, 1999.

ARTICLE I NAME

The name of this organization shall be the SMOKY MOUNTAINS HIKING CLUB, INCORPORATED.

ARTICLE II OBJECTIVES

To develop opportunities for enjoyment of the out-of-doors in the form of hikes and outings; to provide for related educational opportunities; to encourage and teach out-of-doors ethics; to encourage the conservation of wilderness and wildlife; to acquaint Club members and the public generally with the beauty and grandeur of the Great Smokies and other natural areas in this region; to edit, publish and distribute literature in furtherance of these objects; and to aid the federal agencies which manage the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and the Nantahala National Forest by helping to maintain the Appalachian National Scenic Trail in the 101.9 miles between Davenport Gap (TN/NC) and Wesser, NC.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

Any person of good character over the age of fifteen who subscribes to the Club's objectives shall be eligible for membership in the SMOKY MOUNTAINS HIKING CLUB, INCORPORATED.

ARTICLE IV EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Executive Board consists of a President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Membership Secretary, Treasurer, Historian, Communications Director, Trust Liaison, and four Directors. These officers shall not be subject to removal from their terms of office except for cause.

The **President** acts as the chief executive of the Club, presiding at all meetings of the Executive Board and of the members. The President appoints all committees, stands as an ex-officio member of same, and is responsible for general supervision, direction, and active management of the business of the Club. The President acts to see that all resolutions of the Executive Board are carried into effect, enforcing the provisions of the Constitution and Bylaws and the mandates of the Club.

The **Vice-President**, in the absence of the President, has all the powers of the President to carry out the functions of the President. The Vice-President acts to perform such other duties and has such other powers as prescribed by the Executive Board.

The **Recording Secretary** acts to keep the minutes of all meetings of the Executive Board, attends to all correspondence addressed to the Club and to the giving and serving of all notices of August 2021

the Club by which the Executive Board, the members, and the committees are brought together for the transaction of business. The Recording Secretary performs all duties incident to the office of secretary, subject to the direction and control of the Executive Board.

The **Membership Secretary** acts to keep a roll of the membership and maintains a record of participation of members and visitors on Club sponsored hikes.

The **Treasurer** acts as custodian of funds for the Club. When necessary and proper, can endorse on behalf of the Club all checks, notes, or other evidence of money payable to the Club, and shall deposit the funds arising therefrom, together with all additional Club funds coming to the credit of the Club.

In addition, the Treasurer shall draw upon such funds only by order of the Executive Board, keep regular books of accounts containing a complete and accurate statement of the cash accounts and all other transactions involving the Club's funds, and account to the Club at its annual installation, or at any other time upon the request of the Executive Board. The Treasurer shall perform all duties incident to the office of treasurer subject, under the direction and control of the Executive Board.

The **Trust Liaison** acts to convey the SMHC interests to the Trust manager (The Trust Company) and to communicate Trust issues to the SMHC Board (for Conservation Trust) and the ATMC Finance Committee Chair (for AT Trust). Actions can include working with the Trust manager on distribution decisions by the SMHC Board and ATMC Finance Committee and arranging an opportunity yearly for Board and ATMC Finance Committee members to meet with a representative of the Trust manager.

The **Historian** maintains records of the activities and accomplishments of the Club, gathers, and preserves information germane to the Club's interests in the Great Smoky Mountains and other nearby mountain areas, and such other duties as may be assigned as directed by the Executive Board.

The **Communications Director** oversees all Club communications, including the Newsletter, the Handbook, the Website, social media, and any other publicity activities, and responsible for implementing communications policies approved by the Executive Board.

The **Directors** engage in all decisions of the Executive Board. The business, interests, and transactions of the Club are to be managed and controlled by the Executive Board.

The terms of all officers will begin on January 1 of the year immediately following the installation.

A majority vote of the Board shall fill any vacancy occurring in the Executive Board.

A majority of the Executive Board will be necessary to constitute a quorum for the business transaction at any meeting.

The Executive Board appoints Club members to all administrative positions and committee chairs.

ARTICLE V ELECTION AND MEETINGS

The annual election of the officers of the Club shall be held in August each year at such time and place as designated in a notice to be mailed by the Newsletter Editor to each active member at least thirty days before the meeting.

The President appoints a Nominating Committee of five members, with two selected from the Executive Board and one designated as the Chair. The membership of the Nominating Committee will be published in the annual Handbook. During the year in which it serves. The Nominating Committee acts to identify candidates to serve as club officers for the subsequent year. The Newsletter Editor will announce nominees through a notice *posted in the monthly newsletter at least thirty days* preceding the annual election. However, the committee's nominations do not preclude club members from making nominations for the respective offices at the meeting wherein the election is held.

The installation of officers shall occur at a meeting of the membership in December of each year.

Special meetings of the Club may be called by the President or by the Executive Board at any time.

ARTICLE VI DUES

The regular dues of active members shall be \$20.00 due and payable yearly, according to the date the member(s) joined. Upon payment of said dues, each member is entitled to receive one copy of the annual Handbook and advance notices of the respective hikes and other meetings and activities of the Club.

Any person qualified under Article III who is a member of the family and household of an active member of the Club, may by the payment of annual dues of \$2.00 become a family member of the Club with all rights of active members with the exception of not receiving the annual Handbook or advance notices of club activities.

Supporting Membership dues of \$30.00 annually may be paid in lieu of regular dues by any active member who wishes to contribute financial support to the various Conservation efforts of the Club. All money contributed by Supporting Members over \$20.00 (regular dues) will be used for conservation projects, including Appalachian Trail work.

Life Membership dues may be paid in the form of a one-time contribution of \$750.00 which will be retained in the Conservation Trust Fund in accordance with the Trust Agreement.

Family members, as defined above, may be included in a Supporting Membership or a Life Membership, dues-free. The surviving spouse of a Life Member may retain the Life Membership without further payment of dues.

ARTICLE VII DISCIPLINE

Any member whose conduct violates any of the provisions of the Constitution and Bylaws or the Code of Ethics may be expelled from membership by the Executive Board by a three-fourths vote of all the officers, provided that said member be given at least ten days' notice in writing of such pending action. Service of such notice may

be made by personal delivery or by registered letter mailed to such member's last known address.

ARTICLE VIII AMENDMENTS

The Bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting of the membership of the Club, or any special meeting called for said purpose, provided that before any such meeting, a notice of proposed amendments to bylaws shall be published in the newsletter of the Club, posted on the Club website, or emailed to paid members of the Club ten days before such meeting.