

FOOTSTEPS

NEWSLETTER of SEQUOYAH HIKING CLUB

—TAKE ONLY PICTURES—FEBRUARY 1998—LEAVE ONLY FOOTPRINTS—

MORE NEW MEMBERS

It is encouraging to be able to welcome new members to Sequoyah Hiking club. Increased participation will keep us moving onward! So we hardily welcome new members: Shawn and Amanda Gamble who join with Paul as a family; Bob and Elaine Myer, 1415 Smithfield Road, Tellico Plains who are fairly new Monroe County residents; Shannon Raye, 462 Baylock Road, Sweetwater; and Rachael Adams, 916 Monroe Circle, Madisonville. We hope you will enjoy our hikes and activities, and we look forward to your participation

JANUARY MEETING

The January 26 meeting was held at Stefano's with good attendance. In addition to the above noted new members Bobbie Arp, Wayland and Carolyn Shook, Brian Harrill, Helen Maxwell, John and Judy Maiuri, Paul Gamble, Freda and Houston Lowry, Lee Roy Holt and visitor, David Millsaps, were present.

Officers were elected for 1998 and they were: Paul Gamble, president; Bobbie Arp, vice-president; Liz Yates, secretary; Johanna Cooley, treasurer; Helen Maxwell, editor; and Houston Lowry, "newsletter publisher".

The club voted to buy stamps for use in mailing the newsletter, "Footsteps". We are currently mailing less than 30 newsletters a month, but with added members this number will probably increase.

Most of the time of the meeting was spent discussing and choosing activities and hikes for February, March, April and May. Those hikes will be listed later in this newsletter.

As usual a few of us ate at the meeting. Our eating seemed not to interfere with the meeting, and certainly the meeting did not interfere with our eating. So if you are pushed for time on the 4th Monday of our meeting, just come on and

eat with us.

CHESTNUT TOP HIKE

Brian Harrill lead Daniel Puglesi, Daniel Puglesi Jr., Lee Roy Holt, Kathy Meng and Debbie Rhine on an enjoyable hike to Chestnut Top on a misty, lightly snowy Saturday, January 24. They met and visited with about ten hikers from the Hiwassee Hiking Club and a few others.

BMTA NEWS

The Benton MacKay Trail Association has planned and is developing an alternate trail to the Appalachian Trail in Georgia and Tennessee. The group has obtained an easement to build a 2 1/2 mile portion of the trail near Topoca which is close to the area where the trail will swing from Tennessee into North Carolina. The new trail will follow the general route that Benton MacKay favored for the original Appalachian Trail. The BMTA's work trips will be up Highway 72 on the Little Tennessee River in February, March and April. We need to support the work of this fine organization especially since this work involves the part of the trail that will come through Monroe County. Grab your gloves, loppers (trimmers), lunch and water, and enjoy a fun day of good works.

1998 MEMBERSHIP

It is time to pay 1998 dues. Our dues are \$12.00 a year. Make your check payable to Sequoyah Hiking Club and bring it to a meeting on the 4th Monday night of any month or mail it to Johanna Cooley, treasurer, 303 County Farm Road, Madisonville, TN 37354.

Benefits of membership include a monthly newsletter which we hope will get better each month and will contain information on what and where we are doing and have done as well as other items of interest related to the out-of-doors and hiking. The main emphasis of our club, of course, is planning

hikes and hiking.

Support us with your presence and your dues.

EDITOR'S NOTES

A special thanks to Brian Harrill who served as our president last year and to Houston Lowry who printed and mailed our newsletter at his own expense. We truly appreciate you both for your fine leadership and support and great attitude.

Betty Cather, we love you. We still miss your hugs and your delicious food. Most of us are still having some withdrawal symptoms from that rum cake. Hiking will never quite be the same. XOXOXOXX - to you from all of us.

HELP! WE NEED HELP

To improve our newsletter we need your help in providing news. Particularly, we need reports of the hikes we take so we can let everyone know about what happened on them. So you leaders of the hikes, or someone on the hike, get some sort of report to Helen Maxwell so it can be shared with those of us who couldn't make the hike.

Any other bit of news or interesting story will also be appreciated.

NEXT MEETING

Don Keeble will attend our next meeting on February 23 to talk to us about the Fort Loudoun trails and upkeep of the trails. I believe Don is the president of the Fort Loudoun Association. Members of Sequoyah Hiking Club have hiked Fort Loudoun's trails several time, and we have a hike there on Sunday, February 15.

ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

Feb 7, Sat - Thunderhead prong; Moderate, 8 mi; Leader- Paul Gamble, 442-9382; Wal Mart at 8:30 1AM.

Feb 14, Sat - BMTA work trip; Leader- Clayton Pannell, 423-263-9730, Wal Mart @ 8:15 AM.

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Feb 15, Sun - Ft Loudoun; 2 mi, easy; Leader- Johanna Cooley, 442-3643; Wal Mart @ 2 PM.

Feb 23, Mon - Monthly mtg 7 PM @ Stefano's. Guest speaker.

Mar 7, Sat - Joyce Kilmer; Moderate, 8 mi; Leader- Helen Maxwell, 442-4970; Wal Mart @ 8:30 AM.

Mar 14, Sat - BMTA work trip; Leader- Clayton Pannell, 423-263-9730; Wal Mart @ 8:30 AM.

Mar 22, Sun - Flats Mtn; Easy, 2 mi; Leader- Bobbie Arp, 442-1923; Wal Mart @ 2 PM.

Mar 23, Mon - Monthly mtg 7 PM @ Stefano's

Apr 11, Sat - BMTA work trip; Leader- Clayton Pannell, 423-263-9730; Wal Mart @ 8:30 AM.

Apr 25, Sat - Cades Cove; moderate, 11 mi; Leader- Freda Lowry, 442-2161; Wal Mart @ 8:30 AM.

Apr 27, Mon - Monthly mtg 7 PM @ Stefano's.

May 2, Sat - Piney River; Moderate, 10 mi; Leader- Lee Roy Holt, 337-5913; Wal Mart @ 8:00 AM.

May 3, Sun - Laurel Mtn Lake; easy, 2 mi; Leader- Helen Maxwell, 442-4970; Wal Mart @ 2 PM.

May 9, Sat - BMTA work trip; Leader- Clayton Pannell, 423-263-9730; Wal Mart @ 8:30 AM.

If you are going on a hike, it will be helpful for you call to let the leader know that you are going.

Anyone can go on a hike. One does not have to be a member to hike with the club.

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