

□ Pending Hiking, Camping, Biking, Rafting and Other Events as of 2016-03-08

1. Events may be covered in greater detail nearer the event. Pictures can be found at: <http://picasaweb.google.com/KSOCEvents>

You are encouraged to join the Knoxville Ski & Outing Club. You can go to the Knoxville Ski & Outing Club web site, <http://www.knoxvilleskiclub.org/>, for information about the club - current newsletter, activities of the club, membership application, etc.

2. **Hike Sinking Creek Trail, March 12, 2016:** The hike will start at the Sinking Creek trailhead parking lot. The trail basically follows the shoreline of Tellico Lake and the total distance is about 4.5 miles. The trail is relatively flat, a few hills but nothing difficult. I would rate the hike as easy. At the end of the trail we will have to walk a little more than one mile back to the parking lot for a total distance of about 5.5 miles. Along the way we may stop at the Axley Chapel Cemetery. We recommend shoes to wear to and from the hike plus sturdy hiking shoes, rain jacket, a snack, a drink and a camera.

If you are interested in a view of the area where we will be hiking and other trails in this area go to <http://tellicowater.org/> and select East Lakeshore Trail Maps.

We will meet in the Central Baptist Church of Bearden parking lot for car-pooling and leave at 8:30 am, stopping at the Walmart parking lot in Lenoir City, 911, TN 321 N, nearest the Murphy Gas Station*. We will leave there at 9:00 am. We should be at the trail head by 9:45. Round trip distance from Knoxville is 62 miles ($\$.08 \times 62 = \4.96) and from Walmart, 24 miles ($\$.08 \times 24 = \1.92).

After the hike plan on stopping at the Gondolier in Lenoir City on the way back for a meal and refreshments. For specific information about the hike please call Tom at 974-4422 or leave a message at 588-5622 or send an email to cressler@utk.edu before March 11.

*If you are coming from I-40 on 321 toward Lenoir City turn left at the stop light just past the stop light for the hospital. At the next cross street you will see Murphy Gas and the Walmart parking lot.

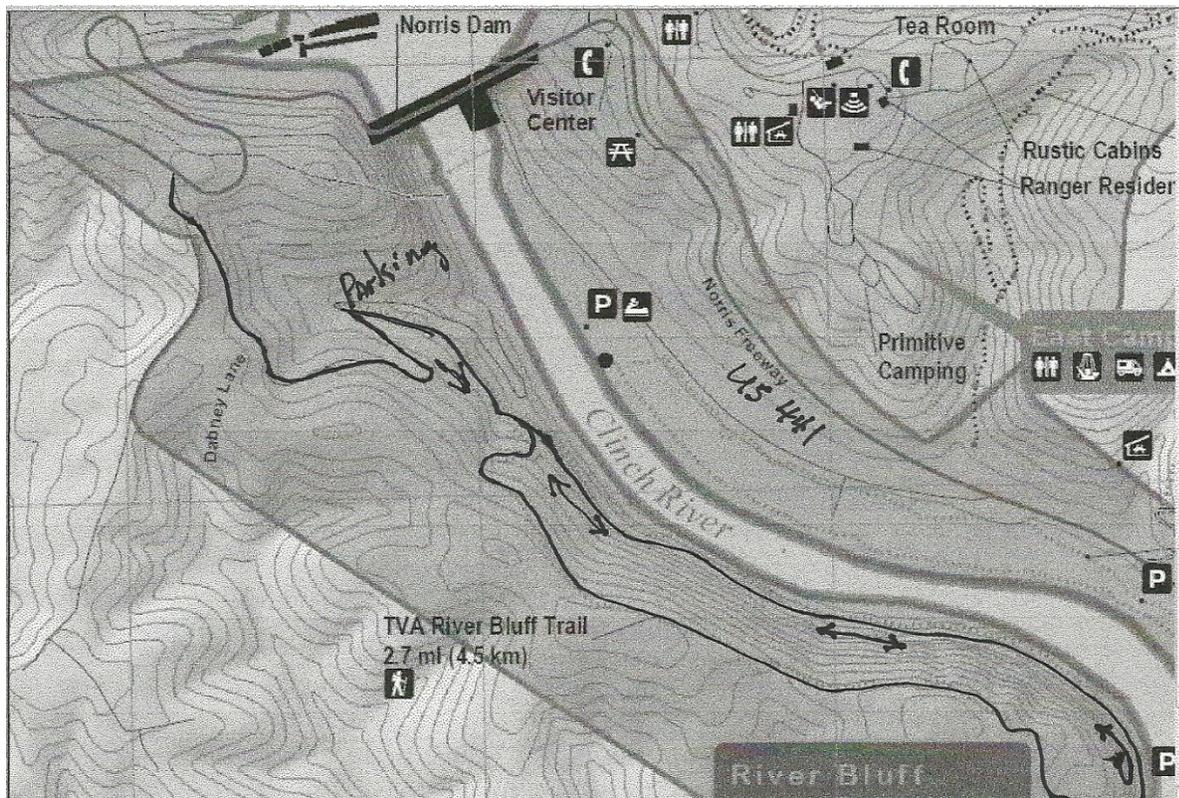
3. **Hike River Bluff Trail – Norris Dam, April 2, 2016:** We will park at the trailhead on Dabney Road and hike the lower section of the trail along Norris River, less than two miles each way. The walk along the river is relatively flat, an easy walk. Where we will turn around the trail goes up the bluff to make a loop. Some may want to walk the loop. The total distance is about the same either way. We recommend shoes to wear to and from the hike plus sturdy hiking shoes, other appropriate clothing, a snack, something to drink and a camera.

We will meet at the Central Baptist Church of Bearden parking lot for car-pooling and leave at 9:00 am and stop at Ingles Market, 215 Cedar Lane in North Knoxville, leaving at 9:15 am for those that prefer to meet there. Also, you may meet us at the southeast end of the Wal-Mart parking lot at the I-75 / State 61 intersection near Norris, leaving there at 9:45. We recommend that riders in a carpool pay the driver 8 cents for each mile. Round trip distance from Knoxville is

62 miles ($\$.08 \times 62 = \4.96), from Ingles, 44 miles ($\$.08 \times 44 = \3.52) and from Wal-Mart, 8 miles ($\$.08 \times 8 = \0.64).

This is a short hike. On the way home, depending on the time, we may stop for a late lunch and/or beverages [Harrison's Grill and Bar in Clinton](#). For additional information on this hike, contact Tom Cressler at 974-4422 or leave message at 588-5622 or cressler@utk.edu before April 1.

If you want to meet us at the trailhead take I-75N to exit 122; turn right on TN-61; about 1.4 miles turn left on to US 441 and proceed across the dam; turn left on to Dabney Road, the first road on the left after the second hair-pin turn, staying left, going downhill, to the parking area.



4. Camping in Big South Fork, April 08, 09, 10, 2016: Join the hardy souls on a camping trip in Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area at Bandy Creek, E-II Loop. This is a fantastic area with lots to do and the facilities are among the best available – covered pavilion with fire place, tables, BBQ grills and electricity, and private heated bathhouse with hot water showers – none of which is available at the other camp sites at Bandy Creek.

While you are there you can enjoy the area, hike on several trails, ride your bike and take a guided horseback ride. Horseback riding requires reservations. If you are interested in horseback riding you make your own reservations. Members have had a good experience with Southeast Pack Trips. Their web site is <http://www.southeastpacktrips.com>. The Big South Fork web site also includes some horseback riding options. For these go to the park web site, <http://www.nps.gov/biso/planyourvisit/horsebackriding.htm>

Biking is great in this area and all you have to do is bring your own bike and lots of energy. Several of the campers had a great ride last year.

This year we will repeat the process used last September - each camper bringing all of their own supplies – food, cooking equipment and doing their own cooking. The charge will be \$10 per night per camper which hopefully will cover the cost of the reservation, bottled water and ice at the pavilion. Kids 12 and under come free. If you are camping you can pay, cash, at Big South Fork, however, you must register for camping by March 23rd. We need to be sure there is sufficient interest and if there is not sufficient interest, time to cancel the reservation without a large penalty.

On Saturday we may have satellite TV available thanks to Mary Anne and Jim. I plan to have my Friday evening meal at Bacara's Restaurant, a place where we have often eaten on Friday when camping at Big South Fork.

The Saturday hike will be from in Pickett State Park. We will leave the pavilion at 9:30 eastern time and the trailhead at 10:15 eastern time. If you want to come just for the hike on Saturday there is no charge.

That is the plan.

What I need from you, on or before 4:30 pm March 23rd, is:

1. If you plan to camp, how many will be in your party and which night(s) will you be camping,
2. If you want to join me at Bacara's Friday evening I need to make reservations so let me know how many will be in your group. Bacara's does not take credit cards – only cash or check, and
3. If you are only going to come for the Saturday hike you need to let me know and give me a contact telephone number in case the hike is cancelled or changed.

I need your response on or before 4:30 pm March 23rd. If too few intend to camp the group reservation will be cancelled. For those who responded I will let you know if camping has been cancelled. If it has not I will send driving and camping information to you by email.

Send your response to cressler@utk.edu.

5. Hike Hazard Cave-Natural Bridge-Pogue Creek Loop trails 2016-04-09: If you are not camping with us at Bandy Creek you can still join us on this hike on Saturday.

Pickett State Park has several trails we have not hiked in the past and we will hike three of those trails. Hazard Cave and the Natural Bridge trails connect and we will hike them as a single loop with a total distance of a little less than 5 miles. The second hike will be the Pogue Creek Loop trail that part of the Pickett-Pogue International Dark Skies Park. This trail is a loop of about 1.75 miles with a spectacular overlook. This trail is about a two mile drive from the Hazard Cave-Natural Bridge loop. Both trails are almost flat and either and both are rated as easy hikes. The total hiking distance is about 6.5 miles.

The hike is expected to leave the campground at 9:30 eastern time and the trailhead at 10:15 eastern time.

6. Hike Whiteoak Sink, Schoolhouse Gap and Chestnut Top Trails, April 16, 2016: The hike will start at the Schoolhouse Gap Trailhead on Laurel Creek Road and go to Dosey Gap gaining about 200 feet in 1.1 miles, then to Whiteoak Sink losing about 100 feet in .7 miles,

where we will walk about viewing the flowers. **The waterfall and bat caves may be off limits because of the bat white nose syndrome.** Because of the bat problem we may not be able to hike out to Schoolhouse Gap. If so, going out we will have to retrace our entry route. The hike is about 4 miles. After returning to Laurel Creek Road we will relocate to the parking lot at the Wye for a short walk on the Chestnut Top Trail. This trail is one of the most spectacular wildflower trails in the park. The trail gains about 300 feet in one-half mile where we will turn around and return to the parking lot. The total distance for the day is about 5 miles. We recommend shoes to wear to and from the hike plus sturdy hiking shoes, a snack, something to drink and a camera.

We will meet in the Central Baptist Church of Bearden parking lot for car-pooling and leave at 8:30 am, stopping at the Browns Creek Shopping Center parking lot nearest the Sonic at 1707 E Lamar Alexander Pkwy, across the street from the Hardee's, near the hospital in Maryville. We will leave there at 9:00 am. We recommend that riders in a carpool pay the driver 8 cents for each mile. Round trip distance from Knoxville is 88 miles ($$.08 \times 88 = \7.04) and from Browns Creek Shopping Center, 48 miles ($$.08 \times 48 = \3.84).

After the hike plan on stopping Applebee's in Alcoa on the way back for a meal and refreshments. For specific information about the hike please call Tom at 974-4422 or leave a message at 588-5622 or send an email to cressler@utk.edu before April 15th.

7. Hike Middle Prong Trail to Indian Flats Falls, May 7, 2016: The hike will be along Lynns Camp Creek (Middle Prong Trail) and Indian Flats Prong, an easy uphill trail, to the falls on Indian Flats Prong. The trail gains about 1100 feet and is on an old railroad bed with about a 5.5 percent grade. At about mile two we will see an old vehicle, not much left of it. According to someone who worked at the CCC camp the vehicle is an old Cadillac that belonged to the supervisor and when it quit running it was pushed off the road and left to rust away. At about mile three are the remains of the Middle Prong CCC Camp. The one-way distance to the falls is slightly less than 4 miles.

We will meet in the Central Baptist Church of Bearden parking lot for car-pooling and leave at 8:30 am, stopping at the Browns Creek Shopping Center parking lot nearest the Sonic at 1707 E Lamar Alexander Pkwy, across the street from the Hardee's, near the hospital in Maryville. We will leave there at 9:00 am. We recommend shoes to wear to and from the hike plus sturdy hiking shoes, other weather appropriate clothing, a snack, a drink and a camera. We recommend that riders in a carpool pay the driver 8 cents for each mile. Round trip distance from Knoxville is 86 miles ($$.08 \times 86 = \6.88) and from Browns Creek Shopping Center, 46 miles ($$.08 \times 46 = \3.68).

After the hike plan on stopping Applebee's in Alcoa on the way back for a meal and refreshments. For specific information about the hike please call Tom at 974-4422 or leave a message at 588-5622 or send an email to cressler@utk.edu before May 6th.

8. Ride the world famous Virginia Creeper bike trail June 4, 2016: The Virginia Creeper bike ride is one of those rides you must take. If you are not familiar with the Virginia Creeper go to <http://www.vacreepertail.com/> Don't miss this opportunity to join a few friends and make some new friends.

If you are interested in this bike ride you need to act now or at least by early March. Seating on the shuttle is limited and if you need to rent a bike they could be in short supply so time is of the essence.

Here are the details-

Each person is responsible for making their own arrangements for shuttle service and bike rental, if needed.

The group ride will be the upper half of the Virginia Creeper, Whitetop down to Damascus. This is about 17 miles, mostly downhill. For the more hardy you can ride the complete Virginia Creeper, Whitetop to Abingdon, about 34 miles with only a slight uphill well past Damascus.

Catch the 10:30 am shuttle in Damascus for the ride to Whitetop. There should be room for all of us if you act now. If you want to ride all of the Creeper you can catch the 10:00 am shuttle in Abingdon

Some of you may want to carpool. Coordination for this outing is difficult because some may want to take their own bike and some may want to overnight in Damascus or Abingdon and some may want to ride all of the Creeper. If you want to carpool call ?? with your details and ?? will get you in contact with someone who has similar interest. You can contact ?? at xxx-xxx or at xxx-xxx or by email at xxxxxxx. (email is only checked on week days between 8 am and 4 pm).

We recommend Blue Blaze for shuttle service and bike rental.

Blue Blaze Bike & Shuttle

226 W. Laurel Avenue • Damascus, VA 24236

Toll Free 800-475-5095 or 276-475-5095

Rental - Shuttle Service - Open 7 Days A Week

www.blueblazebikeandshuttle.com

info@blueblazebikeandshuttle.com

As of December 2015:

Shuttle from Damascus to Whitetop without bike rental \$16

Shuttle from Damascus to Whitetop including bike rental \$27

Shuttle from Abingdon to Whitetop without bike rental \$21

Shuttle from Abingdon to Whitetop including bike rental \$40

9. Hiking Gregory Bald, June 19, 2016: The hike to Gregory Bald will be on **Sunday** because the loop road is closed until 10 am on Saturdays making the start too late, leaving too little time at the top to enjoy the scenery. Parsons Branch Road is open so we can hike Gregory Bald Trail which is one mile shorter and 800 fewer feet to climb than the Gregory Ridge Trail. The hike is moderately difficult, gaining about 2200 feet in about 4.5 miles (9 miles round trip). We will take our time.

We recommend shoes to wear to and from the hike plus sturdy hiking shoes, a lunch, one, preferably two, liters of water or sports drink, a camera, a windbreaker (it may be cool on the top of the mountain) and other appropriate clothing.

We will meet in the Food City parking lot near the corner of Northshore Drive and Kingston Pike for car pooling and leave at 7:00 am. Also, we will be stopping at the Browns Creek Shopping Center parking lot nearest the Sonic at 1707 E Lamar Alexander Pkwy. This is across from the Hardee's, near the hospital, in Maryville. We will leave there at 7:30 am for those who would prefer to meet there. The following distance is for a hike using the Gregory Ridge trail, the Gregory Bald trail has a somewhat longer driving distance. Round trip distance from Knoxville is 130 miles ($$.08 \times 130 = \10.40). From Browns Creek, 90 miles ($$.08 \times 90 = \7.20).

After the hike plan on stopping at Applebee's in Alcoa on the way back for a meal and refreshments. For specific information about the hike please call Tom at 974-4422 or leave a message at 588-5622 or send an email to cressler@utk.edu before June 17th.

10. Hiking Gregory Bald, June 26, 2016: The hike to Gregory Bald will be on **Sunday** because the loop road is closed until 10 am on Saturdays making the start too late, leaving too little time at the top to enjoy the scenery. Parsons Branch Road is open so we can hike Gregory Bald Trail which is one mile shorter and 800 fewer feet to climb than the Gregory Ridge Trail. The hike is moderately difficult, gaining about 2200 feet in about 4.5 miles (9 miles round trip). We will take our time.

We recommend shoes to wear to and from the hike plus sturdy hiking shoes, a lunch, one, preferably two, liters of water or sports drink, a camera, a windbreaker (it may be cool on the top of the mountain) and other appropriate clothing.

We will meet in the Food City parking lot near the corner of Northshore Drive and Kingston Pike for car pooling and leave at 7:00 am. Also, we will be stopping at the Browns Creek Shopping Center parking lot nearest the Sonic at 1707 E Lamar Alexander Pkwy. This is across from the Hardee's, near the hospital, in Maryville. We will leave there at 7:30 am for those who would prefer to meet there. The following distance is for a hike using the Gregory Ridge trail, the Gregory Bald trail has a somewhat longer driving distance. Round trip distance from Knoxville is 130 miles ($$.08 \times 130 = \10.40). From Browns Creek, 90 miles ($$.08 \times 90 = \7.20).

After the hike plan on stopping at Applebee's in Alcoa on the way back for a meal and refreshments. For specific information about the hike please call Tom at 974-4422 or leave a message at 588-5622 or send an email to cressler@utk.edu before June 24th.

11. Hiking House Mountain, July 23, 2016

We will hike to the west overlook at the top of the mountain gaining about 900 feet in about 1 mile. After we reach the top we will hike along the crest to the east overlook, about 1.6 miles then about 2.3 miles back to the parking lot for a total of about 4.9 miles. The hike difficulty is rated as moderate primarily due to the climb to the west overlook.

We will meet in the Central Baptist Church of Bearden parking lot for car-pooling and leave at 8:30 am and leave the trailhead at 9:15 am. We recommend shoes to wear to and from the hike plus sturdy hiking shoes, other weather appropriate clothing, a snack, a drink and a camera. We

recommend that riders in a carpool pay the driver 8 cents for each mile. Round trip distance from Knoxville is 42 miles ($$.08 \times 42 = \3.36).

After the hike, depending on the time, we may stop on the way back for a meal and/or refreshments. For specific information about the hike please call Tom at 974-4422 or leave a message at 588-5622 or send an email to cressler@utk.edu before July 22nd.

The following description is from the State of Tennessee web page.

House Mountain is a 500-acre natural area located in Knox County approximately eight miles from Knoxville. It is cooperatively managed under a lease agreement with the State by the Knox County Department of Parks and Recreation. The 2,100-foot crest of House Mountain provides significant vistas where visitors may scan the parallel ranges of the Unakas and Cumberlands some 30 miles away, or look northeast at the adjacent Clinch Mountain, and across the valley where the Trail of the Lonesome Pine may some day lead north into Virginia.

Before erosion by Big Flat Creek, the gently dipping bedrock layers underlying House Mountain once extended to Clinch Mountain, whose base lies approximately two and half miles to the northeast. The bedrock structure represents a large synclinal fold that formed during the Appalachian mountain building event called the Alleghenian Orogeny. Folding and faulting of the bedrock occurred approximately 250 million years ago when tectonic plate motions caused the collision between North America and Africa. Through geologic time, dissolution and erosion has separated House Mountain from its larger parent. It is one of the best observable examples of geologic change that shaped the Ridge and Valley of East Tennessee.

The steep slopes of House Mountain are heavily wooded and possess a unique combination of scenic views, rock outcrops, and a variety of bird and plant life. This is a rare combination of scenic and ecological values near a metropolitan area. Great sandstone boulders, encrusted with lichens, crown the western rim where rock outcropping support chestnut oak and Virginia, pitch, and table mountain pine. Mountain laurel, huckleberry, partridgeberry, trailing arbutus, and other flowering plants adapted to dry sandstone outcropping are found along the crest. A chestnut oak forest extends down slope where at lower elevations soil conditions associated with limestone, moister deeper soils, and north-facing slopes support a forest of sugar maple, tulip poplar, ash, buckeye, and other mesophytic species. This moister habitat favors the greatest density and diversity of spring wildflowers.

House Mountain is a favorite place for birdwatchers. Migrating hawks and warblers can be observed from the mountain. Ruffed grouse, pileated woodpeckers, scarlet tanagers, wild turkeys, and more than one hundred additional species of birds have been observed on the mountain. House Mountain is drained by several unnamed tributaries of Roseberry Creek and by Hogskin and Brice Branches, which divide it from the 1,500 feet high McAnnally Ridge, which lies to the east and south. Unfortunately, past disturbances and House Mountain's close proximity to Knoxville have resulted in serious management concerns caused by invasive exotic pest plants.

12. Hike Virgin Falls, August 13, 2016: Virgin Falls is a Tennessee Natural Area which was purchased from private landowners by the State in 2012. The hike is 8.2 miles and if we decide

to take two side trails the total distance would be 9.5 miles. Unlike most trails we hike this one goes down first and then up for the return. There is about a 700 foot elevation loss from the parking lot to just below the falls, about 4.25 miles, and that has to be regained going back. Due to the length and elevation gain/loss the hike is rated as moderate.

Because of the distance we will meet earlier than normal. We will meet in the Bearden Central Baptist Church parking lot for car-pooling and leave at 7:30 am stopping in Oak Ridge at the American Museum of Science & Energy, 300 Tulane Ave, and meeting in the parking lot nearest Illinois Ave. We will leave there at 8:00 am for those who would prefer to meet there. We recommend shoes to wear to and from the hike plus sturdy hiking shoes, other weather appropriate clothing, a snack, a drink and a camera. We recommend that riders in a carpool pay the driver 8 cents for each mile. Round trip distance from Knoxville is 210 miles ($$.08 \times 210 = \16.80). From the AMSE, 170 miles ($$.08 \times 170 = \13.60).

After the hike plan on stopping on the way back for a meal and refreshments. For specific information about the hike please call Tom at 974-4422 or leave a message at 588-5622 or send an email to cressler@utk.edu before August 12th.

13. Hike to Castle Rock in Frozen Head State Park, September 24, 2016: Join us on a hike in the Cumberland Mountains. We will park at the Park Headquarters and hike the road to the Lookout Tower trail. We will following the Lookout Tower trail about 3 miles to the intersection with the Bird Mountain trail/Cumberland Mountain trail gaining about 1500 feet. We will follow the Bird Mountain trail for about 4 miles to where we first started on the Lookout Tower trail, gaining about 300 feet in the first mile or so then losing 1500 feet. Along the way we will pass Castle Rock. The total hiking distance is about 7.5 miles. The hike difficulty is rated as moderate. The distances are estimates based on conversations with park rangers.

We will meet in the Bearden Central Baptist Church parking lot for car-pooling and leave at 8:30 am stopping in Oak Ridge at the American Museum of Science & Energy, 300 Tulane Ave, and meeting in the parking lot nearest Illinois Ave. We will leave there at 9:00 am for those who would prefer to meet there. We recommend shoes to wear to and from the hike plus sturdy hiking shoes, other weather appropriate clothing, a snack, a drink and a camera. We recommend that riders in a carpool pay the driver 8 cents for each mile. Round trip distance from Knoxville is 81 miles ($$.08 \times 81 = \6.48). From the AMSE, 43 miles ($$.08 \times 43 = \3.44).

After the hike plan on stopping at Applebee's in Oak Ridge on the way back for a meal and refreshments. For specific information about the hike please call Tom before September 23rd at 974-4422 or leave a message at 588-5622 or send an email to cressler@utk.edu.

14. Camping in Big South Fork, October 14, 15, 16, 2016: Join the hardy souls on a camping trip in Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area at Bandy Creek, E-II Loop. This is a fantastic area with lots to do and the facilities are among the best available – covered pavilion with fire place, tables, BBQ grills and electricity, and private heated bathhouse with hot water showers – none of which is available at the other camp sites at Bandy Creek.

While you are there you can enjoy the area, hike on several trails, ride your bike and take a guided horseback ride. Horseback riding requires reservations. If you are interested in horseback riding you make your own reservations. Members have had a good experience with

Southeast Pack Trips. Their web site is <http://www.southeastpacktrips.com> . The Big South Fork web site also includes some horseback riding options. For these go to the park web site, <http://www.nps.gov/biso/planyourvisit/horsebackriding.htm>

Biking is great in this area and all you have to do is bring your own bike and lots of energy. Several of the campers had a great ride last year.

This year we will repeat the process used last September - each camper bringing all of their own supplies – food, cooking equipment and doing their own cooking. The charge will be \$10 per night per camper which hopefully will cover the cost of the reservation, bottled water and ice at the pavilion. Kids 12 and under come free. If you are camping you can pay, cash, at Big South Fork, however, you must register for camping by September 28th. We need to be sure there is sufficient interest and if there is not sufficient interest, time to cancel the reservation without a large penalty.

On Saturday we may have satellite TV available thanks to Mary Anne and Jim. I plan to have my Friday evening meal at Bacara's Restaurant, a place where we have often eaten on Friday when camping at Big South Fork.

The Saturday hike will be from xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx. We will leave the pavilion at 9:30 and the trailhead at x:xx. If you want to come just for the hike on Saturday there is no charge.

That is the plan.

What I need from you, on or before 4:30 pm September 28th, is:

1. If you plan to camp, how many will be in your party and which night(s) will you be camping,
2. If you want to join me at Bacara's Friday evening I need to make reservations so let me know how many will be in your group. Bacara's does not take credit cards – only cash or check, and;
3. If you are only going to come for the Saturday hike you need to let me know and give me a contact telephone number in case the hike is cancelled or changed.

I need your response on or before 4:30 pm September 28th. If too few intend to camp the group reservation will be cancelled. For those who responded I will let you know if camping has been cancelled. If it has not I will send driving and camping information to you by email.

Send your response to cressler@utk.edu.

15. Hike for BSF To Be Determined, October 15, 2016:

Hike Bald River Falls Trail, November 5, 2016: The trail begins in the parking area to the left of the Bald River Falls. The portion leading up to the picnic area at the top of the Falls is paved . Once you reach the top of the ridge, the trail levels out and follows the river to where it flows under FS126. Shortly before this there is a small waterfall/large cascade, a nice place for lunch. It is 4.8 miles to this point and about 5.6 miles to FS126. The total elevation gain is about 500 feet, a gentle but somewhat long hike. The total trip is about 11 miles. The hike is rated as moderately difficult due to the mileage.

We will meet in the Central Baptist Church of Bearden parking lot for car-pooling and leave at 8:30 am and stop at the Walmart Supercenter, South of Maryville at 2410 US-411, meeting at

the front of the parking lot nearest US-411, and leave there at 9:15 am for those who would prefer to meet there. We recommend shoes to wear to and from the hike plus sturdy hiking shoes, other weather appropriate clothing, a snack, a drink and a camera. We recommend that riders in a carpool pay the driver 8 cents for each mile. Round trip distance from Knoxville is 144 miles ($$.08 \times 144 = \11.52) or from Walmart the distance is 103 miles ($$.08 \times 103 = \8.24).

After the hike, depending on the time, we may stop on the way back for a meal and/or refreshments. For specific information about the hike please call Tom at 974-4422 or leave a message at 588-5622 or send an email to cressler@utk.edu before November 4th.

16. Hike Little River to Goshen Prong, December 10, 2016: The hike will be from the parking area in Elkmont along the Little River trail to Goshen Prong, about 3.7 miles, gaining about 500 feet. We will then take the Little River trail back to the parking area. An old logging railroad bed is the trail. The difficulty of the hike is rated as moderate, primarily due to the distance. The total distance is about 7.4 miles. We recommend shoes to wear to and from the hike plus sturdy hiking shoes, other weather appropriate clothing, a snack, a drink and a camera.

We will meet in the Central Baptist Church of Bearden parking lot for car-pooling and leave at 8:30 am, stopping at the Browns Creek Shopping Center parking lot nearest the Sonic at 1707 E Lamar Alexander Pkwy, across the street from the Hardee's, near the hospital in Maryville. We will leave there at 9:00 am. We recommend that riders in a carpool pay the driver 8 cents for each mile. Round trip distance from Knoxville is 108 miles ($$.08 \times 108 = \8.64). From Browns Creek, 68 miles ($$.08 \times 68 = \5.44).

After the hike plan on stopping at Applebe's in Alcoa on the way back for a meal and refreshments. For specific information about the hike please call Tom at 974-4955 or leave a message at 588-5622 or send an email to cressler@utk.edu before December 9th.

17. We expect to have a day hike every month. There may be a few unplanned hikes, no notice in the newsletter, and you will be notified via email, probably only a few days before the hike. Your participation in developing where we will go will be appreciated. **If you have any suggestions for a hike and/or would like to lead a hike please let me know.**