

Ouachita Mountain Hikers (www.omhikers.net)

Hike Flash – April 3, 2016

What's New on the Web Site?

As always, we have the most recent Hike Flash in both desktop and mobile formats under the [Current Activities](#) tab.

Reminders for Hikers

You already know this, but it never hurts to mention...

1. **New Hikers** - Please hike with us at least two easier hikes (Saturday, 4-6 miles) before hiking the longer, harder ones.
 2. **ALWAYS** Email (preferred) or call the hike leader at least one day before the hike if you intend to participate in hike. Let the hike leader know **WHERE** you will meet the group.
 3. Meeting times listed for hikes and carpooling are **DEPARTURE** time.
 4. It is our custom to carpool to hikes whenever possible. Each rider is expected to pay posted ride share cost that goes towards the driver's gas and wear-tear on vehicle.
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Photos needed!

Please Email your photos from hikes to both Rick Erickson richard.ericson@att.net and Tom Calhoun tom.calhoun3@gmail.com for inclusion in the yearbook and the photo gallery on the web site.

Tuesday, April 5, 2016 - OMH Trail Maintenance - Flatside Wilderness, OT MM 177.2 to MM 179.4

Leader: Ralph Butler, 501-922-1916, rgbutler39@yahoo.com

Carpools: Hot Springs: 8:00 am, DeSoto Park on Hwy 7.

Meet at: 8:30 a.m. Jessieville Ranger District Work Center

Bring: Water, Boots, Work Gloves, Safety Glasses, Trail Snacks, and First Aid Kit.

Tools: Bring loppers or other tools that you prefer using. Tools will be provided to those needing them.

Work Plan: We will do some lopping and clear water drains. This section needs to be re-blazed. Blazing will be done if the number of volunteers is sufficient.

Please plan to help provide trail maintenance in Flatside Wilderness as OMH continues to keep this section of the Ouachita Trail in good hiking condition. Please let Ralph know if you plan to work as soon as possible.

Should be back by: 2:00

p.m.

Thursday, April 7, 2016 – OT Section 4 - Lori Creek/Tan-A-Hill Gap to FR #76 West End (mm 74.2 to mm 85.0) 12.6 miles on OT plus 1.3 mile climb to reach start of OT trail: 13.9 Miles Rated 5 - **DIFFICULT**

Hike Leader: Joy Linker, 501-915-8066, joyfullymovin@gmail.com

Carpools: HSV: Cordoba Center, West Gate 7:30 a.m. Carpool share \$13 (188 miles RT) HS: Harp's, junction of Albert Pike Rd and Hwy-227, 7:30 am. \$12 (172 miles RT).

Meet at: Both carpools will meet up at Pencil Bluff – old cafe/gas station at corner of Hwy-270 and Hwy-88 at 8:30 am. We

will then continue on to trailhead, approximately 45 miles.

To get to intersection of Hwy 270 & Hwy 88: HSV: Hwy 7 N; Left on Hwy 298 W to Hwy 27 (Story); Left on Hwy 27 South to Hwy 88 (Washita); Right on Hwy 88 to Sims; Follow Hwy 88 through Sims and Southwest to Hwy 270 (West end of Pencil Bluff). Old cafe/gas station is at corner of Hwy 270 and Hwy 88). **HS:** Hwy 270 to corner of Hwy 88 (49 miles).

Bring: Lots of WATER, good boots, trail snacks/lunch, hiking sticks, bug repellent.

Details: Today we will be celebrating **Sam Swann's** completion of the OT. A celebration with cake and champagne will be held at Big Brushy campground at the end of the hike.

This hike is starting early due to the long distance and time it will take to travel to trailhead (2 hours). It is rated **difficult** for the length of hike **13.9 miles** plus **steep climbs**. To reach OT trailhead there is a 1.3 mile rocky climb of **600 ft.** Once on the trailhead, there is a 2 plus mile, **1000 ft. climb** to the top of Fourche Mt. Long pants are recommended as there are many brier and scrub bushes. There are many excellent views along the way as the leaves are still coming in. At times the tread is rocky with overgrown brush.

Should be back by: Tentatively plan on a 7 hour hike not including travel time. As we will be celebrating Sam's completion of the OT after this hike, we will not return until very late afternoon into dinner time.

Saturday, April 9, 2016 – Garvan Woodland Gardens (3 miles, Easy)

Hike Leader: Jim Davis

jamdav@cablelynx.com

Carpools: HSV: Cordoba Center, West Gate 8:15 a.m. Carpool share: \$3.00. HS: None.

Meet at: 9:15am. Garvan Woodland Gardens Visitor Center.

Directions to trailhead: East on Hwy 270 or south on Malvern to Carpenter Dam Road, then south to Arkridge Road and west on Arkridge to Garvan Gardens.

Bring: Walking shoes and water. Money for entry fee.

Details: Jim will lead an easy walk around Garvan Gardens to view spring flowers and views of Lake Hamilton. Note: Entry fee to gardens is \$15.00.

Should be back by: Walk will be completed by 11:15 a.m. Return to HSV West Gate by noon.

***See You on the Trails,
Ouachita Mountain Hikers***