



## Ouachita Mountain Hikers

P.O. Box 371 Hot Springs, AR 71902

[www.omhikers.net](http://www.omhikers.net)

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|                                |                      |                 |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| <b>PRESIDENT</b>               | <b>Anita Moore *</b> | <b>525-3904</b> |
| Vice President / Program Chair | Joe Breashears       | 262-9871        |
| Secretary / Historian          | Rick Ericson         | 922-0379        |
| Treasurer / Membership         | Jeannie Eichler      | 915-9185        |
| Hike Chair                     | Jim Gifford          | 922-1680        |
| Trail Maintenance Chair        | Glenn Wortham        | 922-0924        |
| Publicity Chair                | Glen McClain         | 767-3099        |
| Web Master                     | Glen McClain         | 767-3099        |

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### **2012 HIKING SCHEDULE** **WINTER / SPRING**

#### **A Message from Hike Chairman**

The OMH 2012 hiking season begins with our club lacking a President. Jim Collins, elected to the post in November, has returned to work and resigned before he took office. Anita Moore has agreed to accept the position, but hasn't yet been elected. John Burns, 2010-11 President, has offered to stay in office until a special election can be held at our January club meeting. So let's have a big turnout for that.

The OMH 2012 winter/spring hike schedule has a new look - which will make it easier to read, and make it easier to maintain. Best, it makes it available, real-time, to anyone who uses the internet. The schedule is built and maintained in Google, in the mail account we use for the Hike Flash. Anyone can access this calendar directly from our web page or download it into compatible schedules. If you use Google calendar, you can add it to your calendar by looking for "hikersnews@gmail.com".

The 2012 Hiking Season has something for everyone -- old favorites, new hikes, almost 60 miles of the Ouachita Trail, overnight trips to Robber's Cave (OK), Ozark Wilderness Lodge, the Buffalo Lodge, and of course our annual trip to the Great Smoky Mountains. See you on the trail.  
- Jim Gifford

#### **Important Reminders**

**ALWAYS** contact the Hike Leader (email or telephone) **in advance** if you intend to go on a hike. Proper hike planning requires knowing how many people to expect. As a courtesy, make contact as early in the week as possible. The **Hike Leader** may cancel a hike due to weather or unforeseen circumstances. Cancellation notice will be made *only* to those who indicate they intend to participate.

**The Hike Leader** has the right to refuse to take any person who is not properly equipped or is inadequately prepared for the hike. *Group safety is the primary concern.*

**Be Properly Equipped.** **Start with plenty of WATER.** **Good foot wear** is of primary importance. Depending on the hike and weather, each hiker should have lunch or trail snacks, foul weather gear, and first aid kit. Depending on the season, you may also need insect repellent, hat, sunglasses, blaze orange, or extra layers for warmth. See "Hikers Corner" section of OMH web site for a list of other useful items.

**Carpools** typically operate from Hot Springs and HS Village. Riders are expected to contribute to cost and wear-tear on the car -- which can be significant when forest roads are used. The mileage rate for carpool share is currently **7 cents per mile, rounded to the nearest dollar, payable to the driver.** Carpool share is announced in the Hike Flash; please bring correct change if possible.

**This calendar** is available in Google Calendar (**hikersnews@gmail.com**). You may also access or download the calendar from the link on OMH web page.

**Announced Times are DEPARTURE Times.** When meeting for a hike, be courteous to the hike leader and your fellow hikers. Arrive a few minutes early to arrange carpools and organize your gear. **Don't get left behind !!**

**Weekly Hike Flash.** Current information, *including schedule changes*, is promulgated using the weekly "Hike Flash" message. If you do not receive your weekly email, the Hike Flash is also available on OMH web site. If you do NOT use E-mail but would like to receive the "Hike Flash", please provide the Publicity Chairman with stamped, self-addressed envelopes.

**Photographs** taken on hikes may be of interest to others. Please share your photos with the OMH Webmaster and the club Historian (names at top of this page). Your pictures may also get published in the OMH calendar next year.

**First Time Hikers:** *Please participate in two Saturday hikes before trying the longer, more difficult Thursday hikes.*

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## OMH Hike Schedule: *All times approximate. Always contact the hike leader.*

Thu Jan 5, 2012

### 8 am Ouachita Trail / Sect 9 [12.6 mi / Difficult]

**Where:** Ouachita National Forest

**Description:**

Times Approx. ALWAYS Contact the Hike Leader if you plan to Hike: Rick Ericson (922-0379 / richard.ericson@att.net). Hwy 9 to Flatside Pinnacle (191.8 - 179.2). This hike passes through Hillary Hollow, past Lake Sylvia, then climbs to Flatside Pinnacle at the edge of Flatside Wilderness.

Sat Jan 7, 2012

### 9 am Lake Sylvia Loop [5 mi / Moderate]

**Where:** Ouachita National Forest / Lake Sylvia

**Description:**

Debbie Van Veghel (463-9441 / dvanveghel@hotmail.com). This is a scenic loop past Lake Sylvia dam and up to Chinkapin overlook.

Thu Jan 12, 2012

### 8 am Buckeye Mountain [8.5 mi / mod - diff]

**Where:** Ouachita national Forest / Caney Creek Wilderness

**Description:**

Glen McClain (262-1334 / mgmclcl@yahoo.com). This is a tough, but beautiful loop, with broad vistas on top; a stop at Katy Falls, and several crossings of Caney Creek (may be wet crossings).

Sat Jan 14, 2012

### 9 am Womble Ramble [5 mi / moderate]

**Where:** Ouachita National Forest (west of Lake Ouachita)

**Description:**

Larry Kizer (760-5650 / lwkizer@sbcglobal.net). A rare Saturday hike on the Womble Trail will make a loop from the Hwy 27 trailhead to impressive overlooks on both the north and south side of the Ouachita River.

Thu Jan 19, 2012

### 8 am Trail Maintenance [Service]

**Where:** Ouachita Trail / Flatside Wilderness

**Description:**

Glenn Wortham (922-0924 / theworthams@suddenlink.net) OMH supports 'Friends of the Ouachita Trail' by adopting ten miles of the Ouachita Trail through beautiful Flatside wilderness. Win an OMH "Trail Crew" T-shirt with just fifty hours of trail maintenance. Trail Maintenance is strenuous work, but anyone who hikes can contribute something.

### 6 pm OMH Evening Meeting

**Where:** Garland County Public Library

**Description:** Special election: President of OMH for 2012. Program: 'tbd'

Sat Jan 21, 2012

### 9 am Sunset Trail to Balanced Rock [4.5 mi / moderate]

**Where:** Hot Springs National Park

**Description:**

Joy Linker (915-8066 / joylinker888@yahoo.com). New hike for Saturday crowd. Hike from Blacksnake Road to Balanced Rock, one of the most remote, and beautiful, spots in our "very own" National Park.

**OMH Hike Schedule:** *All times approximate. Always contact the hike leader.*

**Thu Jan 26, 2012**

**8am Little Blakely Outer Perimeter [13 mi / mod - diff]**

**Where:** Ouachita National Forest / north shore of Lake Ouachita

**Description:**

Marv Weitzenfeld (463-4829 / mdweitzenf@yahoo.com). This half-marathon route uses portions of all five loops at Little Blakely.

**Sat Jan 28, 2012**

**9am Pinnacle Mountain [5 mi / Difficult]**

**Where:** Pinnacle Mountain State Park

**Description:**

Jackie Dawson (778-9313 / jdawson9313@sbcglobal.net). This is a steep climb, but the views of Arkansas River valley are spectacular. Easier hikes, without the climb (or views) are available.

**Thu Feb 2, 2012**

**8am Ouachita Trail / Sect 8 [10.4 mi / Difficult]**

**Where:** Ouachita National Forest / Flatside Wilderness

**Description:**

Rick Ericson (922-0379 / richard.ericson@att.net). Flatside Wilderness [168.8 - 179.2]. Traverse the ten miles through Flatside Wilderness from FR 94 to FR 124. This is the section of trail maintained by Ouachita Mountain Hikers.

**Sat Feb 4, 2012**

**9am Bona Dea Nature Preserve [3 mi / Easy]**

**Where:** Dardanelle, AR

**Description:**

John Burns (922-4106 / johnburnshsv@gmail.com). This is an easy hike with relatively flat terrain. Exceptional birdwatching opportunity.

**Tue Feb 7, 2012**

**■ All day Overnight: Robber's Cave [Tuesday - Thursday]**

**Where:** Robber's Cave State Park / Oklahoma

**Description:**

Anita Moore (525-3904 / moore.anita80@yahoo.com). This Oklahoma state park has fascinating rock formations and lots of outlaw history.

**Thu Feb 9, 2012**

**8:30am Hot Springs Mountain [8 mi / Moderate]**

**Where:** Hot Springs National Park

**Description:**

Joy Linker (915-8066 / joylinker888@yahoo.com). Local hike in lieu of overnight trip

**Sat Feb 11, 2012**

**■ 9am Gulpha Gorge Litter Patrol [Service]**

**Where:** Hot Springs National Park

**Description:**

Joe Breashears (262-9871). This service in support of our very own National Park is greatly appreciated by the park. Volunteers get an easy, two-mile walk through one of the prettiest places in town.

## OMH Hike Schedule: *All times approximate. Always contact the hike leader.*

Thu Feb 16, 2012

### 8am Trail Maintenance [Service]

**Where:** Ouachita Trail / Flatside Wilderness

**Description:**

Glenn Wortham (922-0924 / theworthams@suddenlink.net). OMH supports 'Friends of the Ouachita Trail' by adopting ten miles of the Ouachita Trail through beautiful Flatside wilderness. Win an OMH "Trail Crew" T-shirt with just fifty hours of trail maintenance. Trail Maintenance is strenuous work, but anyone who hikes can contribute something.

Sat Feb 18, 2012

### 8:30am Dawn-to-Dusk in Hot Springs National Park [Special Event]

**Where:** Hot Springs National Park

**Description:**

Special Event: Jim Gifford (922-1680 / hike.arkansas@gmail.com). Hike any or all of this 13 mile route around HSNP. Short segments or long. Visit your favorite part of the park or a part you have never seen before. Shuttles provided. Party afterwards

Thu Feb 23, 2012

### 8am Athens Big-Fork Trail [10 mi / Difficult]

**Where:** Ouachita National Forest

**Description:**

Marv Weitzenfeld (463-4829 / mdweitzenf@yahoo.com). The toughest ten miles in Arkansas - are you tough enough?

Sat Feb 25, 2012

### 9am Lake Ouachita VISTA Trail [5.6 mi / Moderate]

**Where:** Lake Ouachita (south shore)

**Description:**

Chuck Dumas (870/867-0179 / dumasida@gmail.com). Homestead Trailhead to Eagle Rock Vista and back

Thu Mar 1, 2012

### 8am Ouachita Trail / Sect 8 [8.4 mi / Difficult]

**Where:** Ouachita National Forest

**Description:**

Times Approx. ALWAYS Contact the Hike Leader if you plan to Hike: Rick Ericson (922-0379 / richard.ericson@att.net). Fr 124 to Hwy 7 [160.4 - 168.8]. From the edge of Flatside Wilderness down through Sugar Creek to hwy 7.

Sat Mar 3, 2012

### 9am Ouachita Trail / Blocker Creek Cascade [4 mi / Moderate]

**Where:** Ouachita National Forest / Ouachita Pinnacle

**Description:**

Glenn Wortham (922-0924 / theworthams@suddenlink.net). This short segment of the Ouachita Trail includes a trip to Ouachita Pinnacle for views of Lake Ouachita and a little known waterfall on Blocker Creek (check your Tim Ernst Waterfall book)

## OMH Hike Schedule: *All times approximate. Always contact the hike leader.*

**Tue Mar 6, 2012**

### ■ **All day Overnight: Ozark Highlands [Tuesday - Thursday]**

**Where:** Ozark National Forest

**Description:**

Ben Glazer (525-9725 / NO email). Return to the Ozark Wilderness Lodge, in a remote part of the Ozark Plateau. Hiking will offer something for everyone -- a piece of the Ozark Highlands Trail; bushwhack to Richland Creek waterfall; or scenic highlights such as Hawksbill Crag or Alum Cave Trail.

**Thu Mar 8, 2012**

### 8:30am **Fordyce Peak (Blowout Mountain) [8 mi / mod - diff]**

**Where:** Hot Springs National Park

**Description:**

Phil Simpson (922-3205 / philhappy@suddenlink.net). Local hike in lieu of overnight trip. This is a vigorous climb to one of the remote corners of HSNP

**Sat Mar 10, 2012**

### 9am **Mt Nebo Rim Trail [4 mi / Moderate]**

**Where:** Mt. Nebo State Park

**Description:**

Jim Collins (209-1204 / jmcollins123@suddenlink.net). This is a beautiful trail with contiuing vistas of the Arkansas River valley (and perhaps a waterfall). Rocky footing in places.

**Thu Mar 15, 2012**

### ■ **8am Trail Maintenance [Service]**

**Where:** Ouachita Trail / Flatside Wilderness

**Description:**

Glenn Wortham (922-0924 / theworthams@suddenlink.net). OMH supports 'Friends of the Ouachita Trail' by adopting ten miles of the Ouachita Trail through beautiful Flatside wilderness. Win an OMH "Trail Crew" T-shirt with just fifty hours of trail maintenance. Trail Maintenance is strenuous work, but anyone who hikes can contribute something.

### ■ **6pm OMH Evening Meeting**

**Where:** Garland County Public Library

**Description:** Program: 'tbd'

**Sat Mar 17, 2012**

### 9am **Ouachita Trail / Maumelle Valley [6 mi / moderate]**

**Where:** Private Property / west of AR hwy 10

**Description:**

Rick Ericson (922-0379 / richard.ericson@att.net). See the giant Cypress Trees in the Maumelle River valley. This section of the Ouachita Trail has not been seen on a Saturday hike before.

**Thu Mar 22, 2012**

### 8am **Pedestal Rocks Adventure Hike [8 mi / Mod - Diff]**

**Where:** Ozark National Forest / Pedestal Rocks scenic area

**Description:**

Jeannie Eichler (915-9185 / prairieoriginals@hotmail.com). Jeannie has found a way to explore much more of the scenic pedestal rocks area than the normal trail route provides.

**OMH Hike Schedule:** *All times approximate. Always contact the hike leader.*

**Sat Mar 24, 2012**

**8 am Seven Hollows Trail [4.5 mi / Moderate]**

**Where:** Petit Jean State Park

**Description:**

Cliff / Pam Harrison (915-8382 / cliffh2000@hotmail.com). This is one of our favorite trails, especially in the spring. Rock formations, creeks, wildflowers, and the grotto.

**Thu Mar 29, 2012**

**8 am Black Fork Mountain [12 mi / Difficult]**

**Where:** Ouachita National Forest / Blackfork Wilderness

**Description:**

Tom Ferguson (776-0212 / tferguson623@sbcglobal.net). This out-and-back route climbs past rock glaciers into the wilderness mountain top near the AR/OK stateline (across from Qu Wilhelmina).

**Sat Mar 31, 2012**

**9 am Spring Time in Garvan Gardens [3 mi / Easy]**

**Where:** Garvan Woodlands Gardens, Hot Springs

**Description:**

Rex Greer (262-2231 / randmg@cablelynx.com). This event is scheduled to hit the Tulip Festival, but we will stroll the gardens, enjoying whatever is in bloom.

**Tue Apr 3, 2012**

**■ All day Overnight: Buffalo River Lodge [Tuesday - Thursday]**

**Where:** Buffalo National River

**Description:**

Jim Gifford (922-1680 / hike.arkansas@gmail.com). Buffalo Lodge trip will have something for everyone in the upper Buffalo River area -- scenic highlights, long hikes, river trips (water level permitting), or just sitting on the porch at the lodge.

**Thu Apr 5, 2012**

**8:30am Cedar Glades Park ("Tour du Trash") [8 mi / Moderate]**

**Where:** Cedar Glades Park, Hot Springs

**Description:**

Tom Cornelius (901-485-1563 / tomcornelius@cablelynx.com). Local Hike in lieu of overnight. This city park is built on an old landfill.

**Sat Apr 7, 2012**

**9 am Cedar Creek Trail [3 mi / Easy]**

**Where:** Hot Springs Village

**Description:**

Mike Moriarty (915-0179 / susiehsv@sbcglobal.net). Hike in what many consider the prettiest spot in HSV.

**Thu Apr 12, 2012**

**8 am Ouachita Trail / Sect 7 [13.4 mi / Difficult]**

**Where:** Ouachita National Forest

**Description:**

Times Approx. ALWAYS Contact the Hike Leader if you plan to Hike: Rick Ericson (922-0379 / richard.ericson@att.net). Hwy 7 to Ouachita Pinnacle (160.4 - 147.0). It's all uphill to one of the best scenic overlooks on the trail, with great views of Lake Ouachita.

**OMH Hike Schedule: *All times approximate. Always contact the hike leader.***

**Sat Apr 14, 2012**

**8:30am Cove Lake Loop [3.5 mi / Easy]**

**Where:** Ozark National Forest / Mount Magazine State Park

**Description:**

Jeannie Eichler (915-9185 / prairieoriginals@hotmail.com). New Hike: This scenic loop trail starts where the climb up Mount Magazine begins, but we will not climb Magazine today. We will ride up later, for those who want the short hike to the highest point in Arkansas. Stay for lunch at the Mt. Magazine lodge.

**Thu Apr 19, 2012**

**8am Trail Maintenance [Service]**

**Where:** Ouachita Trail / Flatside Wilderness

**Description:**

Glenn Wortham (922-0924 / theworthams@suddenlink.net). OMH supports 'Friends of the Ouachita Trail' by adopting ten miles of the Ouachita Trail through beautiful Flatside wilderness. Win an OMH "Trail Crew" T-shirt with just fifty hours of trail maintenance. Trail Maintenance is strenuous work, but anyone who hikes can contribute something.

**Sat Apr 21, 2012**

**8am Rich Mountain Exploration [5 mi / moderate]**

**Where:** Ouachita National Forest / Qu Wilhelmina State Park

**Description:**

Anita Moore (525-3904 / moore.anita80@yahoo.com). This hike will explore some of the lesser know trails on Rich Mountain. Stay for lunch in Mena.

**Thu Apr 26, 2012**

**8am Cossatot River Trail [14 mi / Difficult]**

**Where:** Cossatot River State Park

**Description:**

Bo Lea (870-356-5052 / blea@windstream.net). This trail has been improved over the past few years, so maybe the full 14 miles won't humble our best hikers anymore. Scenic highlight is Cossatot Falls.

**Sat Apr 28, 2012**

**8am Ouachita River Float Trip**

**Where:** Ouachita River, upstream from Lake Ouachita

**Description:**

Ben Glazer (525-9725 / NO email). Special Event. Bring your kayak or rent a canoe and float a beautiful stretch of the Ouachita River, before it gets to the lake.

**Thu May 3, 2012**

**8am Ouachita Trail / Sect 7 [8.2 mi / Difficult]**

**Where:** Ouachita National Forest

**Description:**

Times Approx. ALWAYS Contact the Hike Leader if you plan to Hike: Rick Ericson (922-0379 / richard.ericson@att.net). Ouachita Pinnacle to Hwy 298 (147.0 - 138.8). This hike uses the reroute many of our members helped FoOT build last year.

**OMH Hike Schedule:** *All times approximate. Always contact the hike leader.*

**Sat May 5, 2012**

**9am Urban Hike / Little Rock [ 4 to 5 mi / Easy]**

**Where:** Little Rock, AR

**Description:**

Tom & Jeanie Calhoun (765-4816 / jeaniecalhoun@gmail.com). Tom and Jeanie have something special planned for this day, as they always do.

**Mon May 7, 2012**

**All day Spring Trip: Great Smoky Mountains [Monday - Friday]**

**Where:** Great Smoky Mountains National Park

**Description:**

Jim Gifford (922-1680 / hike.arkansas@gmail.com). Go back to the "peaceful side" of the smokies this year - Townsend/Caves Cove area. Hiking will include Mount LeConte via Bullhead Trail, "Rocky Top" on the AT, lots of waterfalls, and a few surprises

**Thu May 10, 2012**

**8:30am Womble Trail [6.9 mi / Moderate]**

**Where:** Ouachita National Forest / west of Lake Ouachita

**Description:**

Larry Kizer (760-5650 / lwkizer@sbcglobal.net). Local Hike in lieu of spring trip. We will hike from FR 922 to the parking area on Hwy 270.

**Sat May 12, 2012**

**9am West Mountain Trails [4 mi / Moderate]**

**Where:** Hot Springs National Park

**Description:**

Tom Cornelius (901-485-1563 / tomcornelius@cablelynx.com). Hike up, over, and around West Mountain and its scenic overlooks.

**Thu May 17, 2012**

**8am Trail Maintenance [Service]**

**Where:** Ouachita Trail / Flatside Wilderness

**Description:**

Glenn Wortham (922-0924 / theworthams@suddenlink.net). OMH supports 'Friends of the Ouachita Trail' by adopting ten miles of the Ouachita Trail through beautiful Flatside wilderness. Win an OMH "Trail Crew" T-shirt with just fifty hours of trail maintenance. Trail Maintenance is strenuous work, but anyone who hikes can contribute something.

**6pm OMH Evening Meeting**

**Where:** Garland County Public Library

**Description:** Program: 'tbd'

**Sat May 19, 2012**

**9am Gulpha Gorge Litter Patrol [Service]**

**Where:** Hot Springs National Park

**Description:**

Joe Breashears (262-9871). This service in support of our "very own" National Park is greatly appreciated by the park. Volunteers get an easy, two-mile walk through one of the prettiest places in town.

**OMH Hike Schedule:** *All times approximate. Always contact the hike leader.*

**Thu May 24, 2012**

**8 am Lake Ouachita Vista Trail [9 mi / mod - diff]**

**Where:** Lake Ouachita (south shore)

**Description:**

Chuck Dumas ( 870/867-0179 / dumasida@gmail.com ) Homestead trailhead up Hickory Nut Mt for scenic vistas of Lake Ouahcita.

**Sat May 26, 2012**

**9 am Lake Catherine Dam Mountain Trail [ 5 mi / Moderate]**

**Where:** Lake Catherine State Park

**Description:**

Jerry Harris (915-9635 / Rox2ie1944@yahoo.com). Cross the waterfall and climb for the best views of the lake from this trail.

**Thu May 31, 2012**

**8:30am Arkansas River Trail / "Four Bridges" [ 10 mi / Easy]**

**Where:** Little Rock, AR

**Description:**

Jim Gifford (922-1680 / hike.arkansas@gmail.com). New Hike: Hike the river trail from the Clinton library to Two Rivers Park, crossing all four pedestrian bridges -- Clinton Bridge, Junction Bridge, Big Dam Bridge, and Two Rivers Bridge.

**Sat Jun 2, 2012**

**All day National Trails Day**

**Where:** to be announced

**Description:**

National Trails Day events are typically hosted by Hot Springs National Park, Ouachita National Forest, and nearby state parks. Details as they are announced.

**Thu Jun 7, 2012**

**9 am Little Missouri River Trail [6 mi / Moderate]**

**Where:** Ouachita National Forest (near Albert Pike campground)

**Description:**

Charline Knight (865-6214 / NO email). Little Missouri Falls to Albert Pike campground. May include wet creek crossings.

**Sat Jun 9, 2012**

**9 am Entergy Park loops [3 mi / Easy]**

**Where:** Entergy Park, Hot Springs, AR

**Description:**

Jim & Vanessa Edgar (922-4992 / lilyvind455@yahoo.com). This is a short, easy hike above Carpenter Dam with beautiful views of Lake Hamilton.

**Thu Jun 14, 2012**

**5pm Hikers Picnic**

**Where:** Avery Park (by Blakely Dam / Lake Ouachita)

**Description:**

Jeannie Eichler (915-9185 / prairieoriginals@hotmail.com). Finish the season with your fellow hikers at our annual picnic. Your dues have already paid for the picnic. The club provides the main course, hikers provide pot-luck to fill it out. No one has ever gone hungry.

**OMH Hike Schedule:** *All times approximate. Always contact the hike leader.*

**Thu Sep 6, 2012**

**9am Welcome Back Hike / Picnic: Charlton Trail [4 mi / Moderate]**

**Where:** Charlton Rec Area / Ouachita National Forest

**Description:**

Jim Collins (209-1204 / jmcollins123@suddenlink.net). Join your fellow hikers and shake the summer doldrums, as we kick off the fall hiking season with a four mile hike and potluck picnic. This is a great opportunity for new hikers to get involved.