

# Ouachita Mountain Hikers ([www.omhikers.net](http://www.omhikers.net))

**Hike Flash – September 10, 2017**

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## **What's New on the Web Site?**

Under **Hiker's Reference**, we have added to **Hike Flash History** all flashes for Spring 2017. You can find every hike flash since the beginning of 2015 under **Hike Flash History**.

As always, the most recent Hike Flash in both desktop and mobile formats may be found under the **Current Activities** tab.

**Note:** To view the web site, just click this link: [www.omhikers.net](http://www.omhikers.net).

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## **Welcome New Members...**

Sherry Lane and John Yarbrough.

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## **Homework for Hike Leaders**

Under **Hiker's Reference** on the website, take time to review **Hike Leader's Corner**. It will refresh your memory on all aspects of planning and leading a hike.

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## **Thursday , September 14, 2017 - HSNP Sunset Trail, 6 miles, Level 2-easy to moderate**

**Hike leader:** Jeanie Calhoun, 501-765-4816, [jeaniecalhoun@gmail.com](mailto:jeaniecalhoun@gmail.com)

**Carpools:** None

**Meet At:** 8:30 a.m. At DeSoto Park on Hwy 7 near the intersection with Hwy 7s.

**Details:** We will hike the Sunset Trail to Cedar Glades Road and back. There is a moderate climb to a nice walk along a ridge. The trail is washed out some on the climb, so sticks would be helpful; otherwise, the trail is in good condition. You will need hiking boots. We recommend your taking precautions against tick and chiggers on this trail. This a good warm-up hike to begin the season.

**Bring:** Water, good hiking shoes/boots, snacks, hiking poles and, **importantly, bug spray.**

**Should be back by:** Late morning.

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## **Saturday , September 16, 2017 – West Mountain in Hot Springs (4.5 Miles-**

## Moderate)

**Hike Leader:** Phil Simpson 501-922-3205 or [philhappy@suddenlink.net](mailto:philhappy@suddenlink.net)

**Carpool:** Hot Springs Village: 8:30 A.M. outside of the West Gate at the Cordoba Center. Cost share: \$3.00. Hot Springs and all other hikers who don't carpool: meet at the trail in Whittington Park at 9:00 A.M.

**Directions to Whittington Park:** Turn off Central Avenue onto Whittington Avenue and go west to Whittington Park. A creek runs through the center of the park. The trailhead is on the south side of the park.

**Bring:** Plenty of water and hiking sticks.

**Should finish by:** 11:30 A.M.

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## October 27 -29, 2017 FoOT Fall Maintenance Event – YOU are invited to help!

Friends of the Ouachita Trail's completion of the Ouachita Trail shelter system last year marked the end of an amazing three and a half years of effort to add this enhancement to the trail.

FoOT is planning the largest trail maintenance event ever on the Ouachita Trail, October 27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, and 29<sup>th</sup>. FoOT volunteers will carry out a major effort on the west end of the OT. The base of operations will be the Forest Service facility at the Cedar Lake Recreation Area. Cedar Lake is located 12 miles south of Heavener, Oklahoma and 40 miles west of Mena, Arkansas. Access is off Holson Valley Road, which goes west off Highway 270.

FoOT will be using the equestrian camping area and its pavilion. All provided meals will be at this pavilion. There are a lot of spaces for dry camping and tents. Showers and restrooms are available. Adjacent to this area is the Sandy Beach Camping loop, which will have spaces available for those needing electric and water hookups. These sites will be available at no cost to the volunteers. Accommodations will be available Thursday through Sunday.

Breakfast will be provided by FoOT on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday mornings at 7:30 a.m. Dinner on Friday and Saturday night will also be provided at 5:30 p.m. Drinks and eating utensils will be provided. Volunteers will need to bring their own trail food for lunch.

Make plans to be involved in this special event. Join us for just 1 or 2 days if your schedule does not work for the entire time. For planning of the food, accommodations, and work teams, please let us know by no later than October 15<sup>th</sup> of your plans to attend and what accommodations you will need.

There are motels in Heavener and cabins available at Big Cedar if you would rather go that route.

We hope to work on several miles of trail but we want the time to be full of fun and a chance to build the FoOT team. On Saturday night, FoOT will have its brief annual meeting after the evening meal.

It will be a great time to be out on the OT with the fall weather and the fall colors at their peak. Join with other volunteers for a special time in the Ouachita Mountains.

Bo Lea, FoOT President

501-622-8809

[Bolea66@Gmail.com](mailto:Bolea66@Gmail.com)

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## **Important notice about your OMH annual dues – They're due!**

Annual club dues correspond with our hiking year. Dues for the 2017-2018 season are now due. If you have not already paid them, you can either pay at the Welcome Back Hike/Picnic or mail them to Ouachita Mountain Hikers, P.O. Box 371, Hot Springs AR 71902. Dues are still only \$5 per person per year or \$50 per person for a lifetime membership (and you'll never have to worry about them again).

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## **We need a few good...**

**...Hike Leaders!** If you are a regular hiker or aspire to be, we need for you to volunteer to be a Hike Leader. It's some work, but you will really get to dig a bit deeper into hiking in general and the wonderful hiking opportunities in Arkansas. You may want to start with Saturday hikes to get your feet wet (which can happen when you're hiking). Saturday Hike Leaders may want to move to Thursdays. If you have an interest please contact Hike Chair, Dave Tedrahn. He can team you up with an experienced Hike leader, if you'd like, to help select and plan your first hike.

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## **Photos needed!**

Please Email your photos from hikes to both our Historian, Ernie Weidenberger [ernjac@gmail.com](mailto:ernjac@gmail.com) and Web Master, Tom Calhoun [tom.calhoun3@gmail.com](mailto:tom.calhoun3@gmail.com) for inclusion in the yearbook and the photo gallery on the web site, respectively.

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