

TOWN Meetings in 2022 **Meetings will be held on the second Monday of the month.**

Our next meeting will be Monday, August 8th, 6:00 to 7:30, Location TBD

Meeting schedule for 2022

June 13th - no meeting

July 11th - no meeting

August 8th - indoor location TBD

September 12th - indoor location TBD

October 10th - outdoor location TBD

November 14th - no meeting

December 12th - no meeting

Annual dues are \$20 for 2022

Summer Fun!

**Cool off at Karen's house,
Sunday, July 17th**

Karen Turbeville has invited us to her house on Sunday afternoon, for a get together from 3-8 PM. Relax and catch up with friends, in and around the pool. Karen will provide a main dish and a few beverages. Please bring a side dish to share, and your own towel. We'll send out a message via the group email in early July with the address (it's near Hillcrest and Walnut Hill Lane) and a way to rsvp. Mark your calendar!

Day of Fun on Cedar Creek Lake Saturday, August 13th

Come join Mary & Mar at their little piece of paradise on Cedar Creek Lake. Bring your suits, noodles, floats, sun cream, and lawn chair to spend a relaxing day at the lake. We have some floats and chairs for you to use also. There will be several kayaks available for those wanting to paddle. Mary & Mar will provide hamburgers, and bottled water. Please bring a side dish to share. Remember to car pool, as there is limited parking. We look forward to seeing you for some fun in the sun. Mary 214-316-8960, Mar 214-287-4481 2182 Hickory St. Mabank, TX 75156 Best to put in intersection of Hickory St and Elm St on your GPS. There are several Hickory Sts around the lake.

Fall Camping

Camping at Daingerfield State Park, October 6th - 9th
<https://tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/daingerfield>

We have 3 sites with electricity reserved for Daingerfield where there is plenty to do. On land, you can hike, go birding, or geocaching. In the 80-acre lake, you can swim, boat or paddle, and fish.

Trip leader: Shirley Meurer, sameurer@yahoo.com

Camping at Cooper Lake State Park, October 27th-29th
<https://tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/cooper-lake>

We have two screened shelters reserved at the Doctors Creek Unit at Cooper Lake SP. Doctors Creek (on the north side of the lake) offers tons of amenities. You can fish, picnic, swim, boat, paddle, water-ski, hike, bike, bird watch, study nature, stargaze, ride horses, geocache and camp. There's more hiking at the South Sulphur Unit a short drive to the south side of the lake.

Trip Leader: Nancy Lee, nlee002@tx.rr.com

Big Bend Camping trip

November 13th - 16th (Sunday thru Wednesday)

Big Bend National Park <https://www.nps.gov/bibe/index.htm>

We had a LOT of scrambling to get reservations in November but we finally ended up with confirmed reservations for Sunday through Wednesday November 13-16. A big thank you to Shirley and Nancy for all your help at the last minute.

We have 4 campsites and each site allows 4 tents so 16 is our max number. If you have changed your mind about going please let me know. I have one person on the waitlist so far. On 3 of the campsites you can park 2 cars but one of the sites only allow one. So please carpool. I plan on taking our tiny trailer but there is a limit for trailer size in Chisos Basin campground. The road into the campground is really steep and full of sharp turns. So check the website for max trailer size. Otherwise you can see about getting reservations at the Rio Grande campsite which is designed for trailers.

Since this trip is a day shorter than originally planned, some of you may consider extending your time by stopping at Balmorhea State Park. It's about 3 hours from Big Bend and may be a good stopover either way. <https://tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/balmorhea>

As we get closer to the trip and we have numbers finalized, we will work on meals and activities. Let me know if you have any questions.

Trip Leader Sharon Fahlberg,
sfahlberg@aol.com

Blast from the past, Big Bend National Park, April 2005



Javelinas in the Chisos Basin campground foraging.



Relaxing in the waters at Boquillas Hot Springs



Canoe and hike to Fern Canyon

Great Smoky Mountains National Park

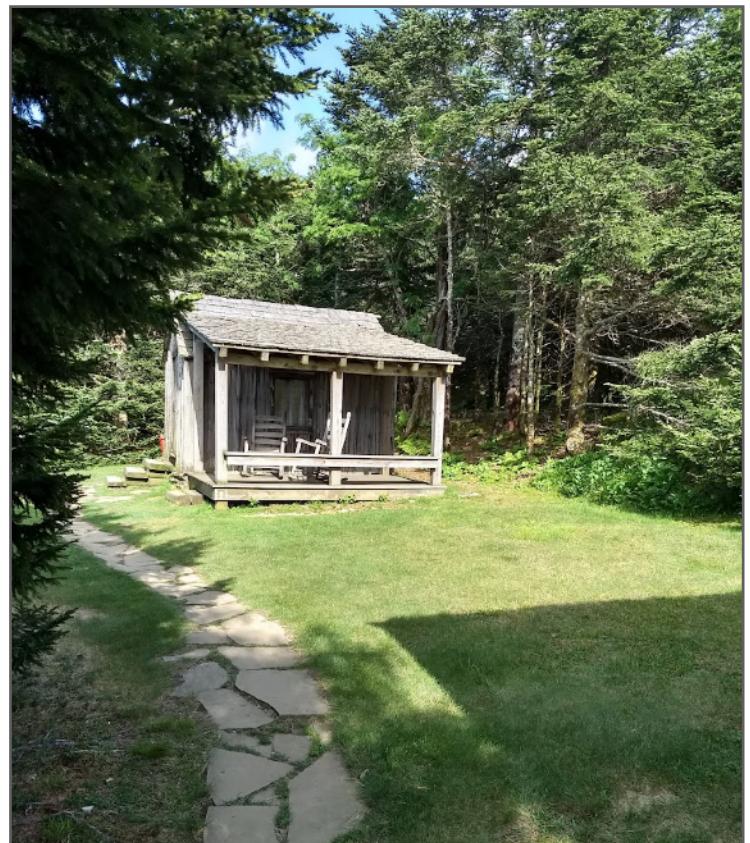
In June I had the great pleasure to take a trip to the Smoky Mountains with family for a week. Our main purpose was to hike to LeConte Lodge, recreating a trip my step-daughter had done several times in her youth. As Patti-Lynn remembers it, it was a real treat and a piece of cake to hike up The Boulevard Trail one day, stay overnight at the lodge and then hike down the Alum Cave Trail the next day. It was no piece of cake but it was beautiful and I made it.

Boulevard Trail - follow the Appalachian Trail for 2.7 miles to the junction where the Boulevard Trail branches left (North). Total distance to LeConte Lodge®: 8.1 miles. Net Climb: 2,700 feet. The Boulevard Trail is a rolling trail following a narrow ridge with steep forested slopes on both sides; the trail is steep at the final ascent to LeConte Lodge

Alum Cave Trail - Distance to LeConte Lodge®: 5.0 miles. Net climb: 2,600 feet. Although strenuous on the ascent, it is the easiest return from the summit.



Junction of the Appalachian Trail and The Boulevard Trail, 2.7 miles done, 5.4 to go.



Cabin for the night at LeConte Lodge <http://www.lecontelodge.com/>

In addition to the big hike, we had a blast white water kayaking in inflatable Ducks on the Nantahala River. Hikes to Grotto Falls and Clingmans Dome and driving the auto tours through the park to view the beautiful scenery and wildlife were enjoyed by all.



On the Roaring Fork auto tour. Mama and 3 cubs hanging out.

