



## News and Events March 10

We're at our new home in Coolidge Park, and looking forward to our grand opening on March 28 (see below). We also mourn the tragic passing of a dear friend and special member of our community. Look for the lightning bolt ⚡ to see new events and activities.

### **In Memoriam: David L. Meek**

David Leonard Meek, 51, a well-loved and respected member of Chattanooga's bicycling community, died last Fri., Mar. 6, as the result of an early morning accident while he was biking to work. David was an experienced and joyful bicycle commuter who followed the rules of the road and advocated that all other cyclists do the same.

In honor of David, we have downloaded the [Tennessee State Bicycle Code and Jeff Roth and Brian Brown Bicycle Protection Act of 2007](#), or "[3-Foot Law](#)," onto our Website. Everyone—cyclists, motorcyclists, automobile drivers—PLEASE take a few minutes to read these laws. We are all responsible for obeying the law and looking out for each other when we are on the road.

### **⚡ “Climbing Higher” Adaptive Climbing Program March and April**

Outdoor Chattanooga, [Urban Rocks Gym](#), [Rock/Creek](#), and [Therapeutic Recreation Services for Chattanooga Parks and Recreation](#) will host “Climbing Higher:” an Adaptive Climbing Program at the Urban Rocks Gym on Monday evenings from 4 to 6 p.m. The first session, which will run Mar. 16, 23, and 30, will be designed for individuals with cognitive and/or intellectual disabilities. The second session, for individuals with physical disabilities, will run Apr. 6, 13, and 20. For information or to reserve a spot, call or [email Elaine Adams](#) at (423) 697-1345.

### **⚡ Free Intro to Fly Fishing Clinic Mar. 14**

Outdoor Chattanooga and Choo Choo Fly & Tackle will offer a free Introduction to Fly Fishing Clinic this Sat., Mar. 14, from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Choo-Choo

Fly and Tackle Store in North Chattanooga. The clinic will cover equipment selection, casting techniques, and information on where to find the fish. Participation is open to adults and kids ages 16 and older when accompanied by an adult. Equipment will be provided. Classes are limited to 12. To make a reservation, call (423) 643-6889 or [email Outdoor Chattanooga](#).

### **Outdoor Chattanooga's Outdoor Expo & Gear Swap March 28**

Come on out and play with us at our new home! Outdoor clubs, conservation organizations, outfitters, gear swappers, activities, and tours of our new Outdoor Chattanooga Center at 200 River St., in Coolidge Park will highlight our [3<sup>rd</sup> annual Outdoor Expo](#). Come join us for a celebration of everything outdoors in Chattanooga on Sat., Mar. 28, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. We'll throw the party. All you gotta do is come out and play. Vendor and Gear Swap spaces are still available for \$25, but they are filling up fast. Find out more on [our Website](#).

### **Events**

#### **✍Relay for Life Team Rallies Mar. 10 and Apr. 14**

The American Cancer Society will hold team rallies for the [Relay for Life of North River](#) on Tuesdays, Mar. 10 and Apr. 14, at 6 p.m. at the Hixson Country Inn & Suites, 5105 Hwy. 153. Teams will camp out at Hixson High School on May 1 & 2 and walk/run relays to raise money for the Cancer Society. For more information, call the local American Cancer Society office at (423) 755-7425.

#### **✍Camp Sign-Ups at City Parks and Rec Mar. 14, 21, 28**

The City of Chattanooga Parks and Recreation Department will have sign-ups for [summer camps](#) on March 14, 21, and 28 at the Parks and Recreation Department Office at 1102 S. Watkins Street from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Families will have the opportunity to meet the program coordinators and staff, and get more information about camps like "All Sports" at Warner Park, Outdoor Camps at Greenway Farm, "Camp Zoo-Ability" at the Chattanooga Zoo, and many others. Camp information and registration forms are available at all of the City's recreation centers, the Fitness Center in Warner Park, the Parks and Recreation Office at 1102 S. Watkins St., and on the [City of Chattanooga Website](#).

#### **✍Bike Ride for Scenic Vistas Protection Act Mar 14-17**

The End Mountaintop Removal Action and Resource Center will host a supported, overnight group bicycle ride from Chattanooga to Nashville, Sat. - Tues., Mar. 14 - 17. The ride will take two days, followed by a day of lobbying training. On Tues., Mar. 17, the group will ride together to the Tennessee State House to lobby for the Scenic Vistas Protection Act. SAG wagons will drive everyone home. To attend or get more information about the ride, visit [LookOutdoorNews](#) or [email ride leader Sam Evans](#).

#### **✍Register Now - State Greenways and Trails Forum, April 2-4 Johnson City, TN**

The early registration deadline for the [Tennessee State Greenways and Trails Forum](#) has been extended to March 13. The conference, which will be held in Johnson City, on Apr. 2-4, will feature national, regional, state and local-level speakers and presenters, who will provide the latest information on greenway and trail building in Tennessee. Early registration fee is \$75 for three days of educational sessions and field trips. Registration after Mar. 13 will be \$100.

## **Adventures**

### **✎ Birding Walk at Chester Frost Park March 14**

The [Chattanooga Chapter of the Tennessee Ornithological Society](#) will host a birding walk in Chester Frost county park on Sat., Mar. 14 at 8:30 a.m. Participants should see many winter visitors, including gulls and ducks, as well as brown-headed nuthatches and redheaded woodpeckers. Participants should dress in layers and wear comfortable shoes. Meet at 8:30 AM at the boat launch area. Contact Harold Birch (423) 842-4623 for additional information.

### **✎ SORBA's Relaxed Pace Ride Mar. 14**

The [Chattanooga Chapter of the Southern Off-Road Bicycle Association \(SORBA-Chattanooga\)](#) will host a relaxed pace mountain bike ride on Lookout Mountain's Guild/Upper Truck Trail on Sat., Mar. 14, beginning at 10 a.m. The ride is geared for beginners, mellow riders, and hard core riders who are looking for a recovery ride. The pace will be relaxed; no one will be left behind. Bring water, a snack and a helmet. Contact ride leader Brian Grow at (423) 653-6022 for more information.

### **✎ TTA Wildflower Hike Mar. 14**

The [Soddy-Daisy Chapter of the Tennessee Trails Association](#) will host a Piney River wildflower hike on Sat. Mar. 14, at 11 a.m. EDT. The 10-mile, 6-hour hike will take participants over moderately rough terrain at a slow pace. Participants should bring a wildflower field guide, sturdy boots, a lunch, and water. To learn more, email hike leader [Don Deakins](#). Check the TTA Soddy-Daisy [calendar](#) for more regularly scheduled hikes.

### **✎ TTA Beginner Hike Mar. 21**

Join the [Soddy-Daisy Chapter of the Tennessee Trails Association](#) for a 5.5-mile hike on the Stinging Fork section of the Cumberland Trail and Twin Rocks Nature Trail near Spring City, TN, on Sat. Mar. 21, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. EDT. To learn more, contact hike coordinator [Don Deakins](#).

## **Cumberland State Park Activities**

The South Cumberland State Park in Monteagle, TN offers special hikes, seminars, and other activities every week. Visit the Friends of [South Cumberland Park](#) for a complete calendar.

## **News**

### **✎ Vote for Public Art in Renaissance Park**

The public is invited to [vote online](#) for public art that will be placed in Chattanooga's Renaissance Park. Interested people may vote for two sculptures from five choices offered. To get detailed information on the artworks, visit the Hunter Museum of American Art Web page about [Renaissance Park](#).

### **✓ Safe Routes to Schools and Environmental Stewardship Grant Deadlines Approach**

Deadlines for two grants, [2009 Safe Routes to Schools](#) and the [2008 Governor's Environmental Stewardship Awards](#) are coming up at the end of March. SRTS grants target walking and bicycling to school for grades K-8. Target area is within a 2-mile radius of the school(s), maximum grant is \$250,000 and 10-30% of the grant MUST be for non-infrastructure items such as safety education programs for walkers and bicycle riders. The 2008 Environmental Stewardship Awards will be given in several categories, including Greenways and Trails, and Environmental Education. Phone or [email Kathy Glapa](#) at 615-253-8780.

### **Classes, Clinics & Meetings**

#### **✓ Street Smarts Mar. 14**

Bicycle commuting season is here, so get some [Street Smarts](#) on Sat., Mar. 14, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the downtown Development Resource Center, 1250 Market St., Chattanooga. [League of American Bicyclists](#)-certified instructors teach basic bicycle maintenance, rules of the road, and emergency maneuvers, all tools to help you ride safely in traffic. Cost is \$25 and the class is open to adult and kids ages 16 and older. Helmet and bicycle are required. For more information or to register, [email Philip Pugliese](#) or call (423) 643-6887.

### **Volunteer Opportunities**

#### **✓ Invasive Plant Removal at Pot Point House Mar. 12**

The [Tennessee River Gorge Trust](#) will host a day of invasive plant removal at Pot Point Cabin on Thurs., Mar. 12, from 2 to 4 p.m. (weather permitting). Interested volunteers should bring rakes, hoes, and hand tools, and meet at the cabin on Mullins Cove Rd. For more information, call or [email Sarah Quattrochi](#) at (423)266-0314 ext. 3.

#### **Patrol the River Gorge with the Tennessee River Gorge Trust Mar. 12**

The [Tennessee River Gorge Trust](#) will offer volunteers a chance to patrol TRGT properties with executive Director Jim Brown on Thursdays March 12, 19 and 26. Specific properties will be patrolled each week, and volunteer space is limited to three people per trip. To learn more, call or [email Sarah Quattrochi](#) at (423)266-0314 ext. 3.

#### **✓ Tellico River Area Clean-up Mar. 14**

The [U.S.D.A. Forest Service](#), [Trout Unlimited](#), the Chattanooga Trout Association, and [American Whitewater](#) will host the annual Tellico River Cleanup on Sat., Mar. 14, beginning at 8 a.m. Interested volunteers should register at the Cherokee National Forest Tellico Ranger Station between 8 and 10 a.m. Wear

bright colored clothing, sturdy boots, and gloves are recommended. Trash bags will be provided. For more Information and/or directions contact the Tellico Ranger Station (423) 253-8400.

### ✓ **March 21- Raccoon Mountain Volunteer Trail Day Mar. 21**

[SORBA-Chattanooga](#) needs volunteers who are willing to commit four or five hours to help get the Raccoon Mountain trails back into shape following the recent freeze-thaw cycle. No trail building experience necessary. All tools and lunch will be provided. Meet at the TVA Raccoon Mountain Visitors Center at 9 am., Sat., Mar. 21.

### **Website of the Week**

Wisconsin T.V. news photographer Jeff Frings has made awareness of Wisconsin's 3-Foot passing law a personal mission. See a [MyFox video](#) of his work to make the public and law enforcement personnel more aware of the law.

### **Last Week's WebSite:**

We honor [adventurer Rob Gauntlett](#), who with partner James Hooper, won National Geographic Adventure Magazine's Adventurer of the Year award for 2008. Gauntlett was killed in climbing accident in the French Alps last January.

### **Coming Up . . .**

#### **March**

28 [Outdoor Chattanooga Outdoor Expo, Gear Swap & Grand Opening  
Rock/Creek River Gorge Trail Race - \\*\\*\\*New Date\\*\\*\\*](#)

#### **April**

2-4 [TN State Greenways and Trails Forum](#)

3 [Bike2Work](#)

3-5 [Reflection Riding Wildflower Festival & Native Plant Sale  
Ducks Unlimited State Convention in Chattanooga](#)

4 [Dusk 'til Dawn Adventure Race](#)

7 [Chattanooga EcoExpo](#)

18 [Chattanooga Dragon Boat Races  
Chickamauga Chase](#)

26 [3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Scenic City Triathlon](#)

#### **May**

1 [Bike2Work](#)

1-2 [Relay for Life of North River](#)

2 [3State/3Mountain Challenge](#)

4-9 [Chattanooga District, TN Senior Olympics](#)

7-9 [Southeastern Foot Trails Conference](#)

9 [Tour de Cure](#)

16 [Riverfront Relay for Life  
Greenway Challenge Adventure Race](#)

- 23 [Scenic City Trail Marathon & ½ Marathon](#)  
29-31 [Tennessee Valley Canoe Club Paddle School](#)

## June

- 5 [Bike2Work](#)  
6 [National Trails Day](#)  
13 [Blue Cross Riverbend Walk/Run](#)  
19-21 [Chattanooga Mountains Stage Race](#)

## July

- 3 [Bike2Work](#)  
12 [BMW of Chattanooga Waterfront Triathlon](#)

## August

- 7 [Bike2Work](#)  
8 [Greenway 5-Mile Trail Race](#)

## September

- 4 [Bike2Work](#)  
5 [Raisin' Hope Ride](#)  
26 [TN River Blueway Canoe and Kayak Race](#)  
27 [Komen Race for the Cure](#)

## October

- 2 [Bike2Work](#)  
3 [Rock/Creek Stump Jump 50K](#)  
[Sequatchie Valley Century](#)  
10 [Chattanooga Head Race](#)

## November

- 6 [Bike2Work](#)  
7/8 [Head of the Hooch](#)  
14 [Upchuck 50K Trail Race](#)

## December

- 19 [Lookout 100K & 10K Trail Race](#)