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May 17—Weverton Cliffs, Winery Hike, MD Our merry, expert winery hike leaders have come up with yet another hike with a stop at a winery at the end. The hike is the 4th in a series of hikes covering the AT in MD. Moderate hikers will take the AT south from Gathland Park to Weverton Cliffs, detouring for the view before descending to the bus. Long hikers will also start at Gathland and walk north for a short distance before retracing their path and following the moderate hikers. The winery is <https://www.breauxvineyards.com/> The stay at the winery will be two hours or slightly more before our return to Grosvenor Metro. For those wanting to do an optional wine tasting, the fee is \$20; please remember to bring your ID. Details for the event are still evolving. Please check the Wanderbirds website for details as we get closer to the hike. Est.: 8-9 miles, intermediate; 6-7 miles, intermediate. PATC Map 6. Fare: \$20/\$25. Leaders: Larry Miller, prpltoupee@gmail.com, 240-353-3143 or Laura Heaton, lauraheaton41@gmail.com, 571-212-2592. (MD)

May 24—Doyle River and Jones Run Loops, SNP, VA Today's hikes are clockwise loops to enjoy the waterfalls. All hikers will start and end at Doyle River Overlook parking area. Both hikes will split initially and rejoin at Doyle River Trail. Moderate hikers will take the AT north to the Doyle River Trail. Long hikers will initially walk south on the AT for a short distance, and bear right to complete Big Run Loop before crossing Skyline Drive and joining the moderate hikers at Doyle River Trail. All hikers will turn right to descend Doyle River Trail and then ascend Jones Run Trail. At the AT, they will turn right to return to the Doyle River Overlook parking area, completing the loops. Est.: 11.7 miles, strenuous; 8 miles, intermediate. PATC Map 11. Fare: \$20/\$25, plus park fee/pass. Leaders: Josh Silverman, betula54@msn.com,

703-582-3456 or Robert Mattaino, rcmattaino@gmail.com, 443-254-0239. (VA)

May 31—Hazel Mountain and Catlett Mountain, SNP, VA Hopefully, we will be able to see the spring flowers on this hike, as this area is known for lady's slippers and Mountain Laurel. Which one we see is dependent on the season. All hikers start at Buck Hollow Overlook, walk on Skyline Drive to Meadow Springs parking, then descend on Hazel Mountain Trail. Moderate hikers take the Catlett Loop (Catlett Mt and Spur) back to Hazel Mt before ascending to Skyline Drive. Long hikers will take White Rocks, Hazel River, and then follow moderates on the Catlett loop and Hazel Mt. Est.: 11.5 miles, 2650' elevation; 8.8 miles, 1650' elevation. PATC Map 10. Fare: \$20/\$25, plus park fee/pass. Leaders: Kiko Alvarez, kiko_a_c@yahoo.com, 607-279-3455 or Susana Mendez, susaname@yahoo.com, 607-279-4363. (VA)

June 7—Catoctin Trail to Gambrill State Park Road, MD Long hikers start at the junction of Mink Farm Rd and Gambrill Park Rd, continuing on Gambrill Park Rd, then turning right onto Creek Rd, and then right onto the Catoctin Trail. Moderate hikers start at Delauter Road. All hikers will stay on the blue-blazed Catoctin Trail south, then take the green trail to Gambrill State Park Nature Center parking lot. Est.: 13 miles, intermediate; 8.5 miles, intermediate. PATC Map 6. Fare: \$20/\$25. Leaders: Austin Doyle, elisabraver@gmail.com, 301-793-4935 or Michael Roehm, miroehm@gmail.com, 301-223-7385. (MD)

June 14—Half Moon Lookout, Great North Mountain, GWNF, WV, VA This hike has outstanding views of the Trout Run Valley and Wilson Cove. Both hikes start from Trout Run Valley Road, and will do circuits on Halfmoon Mountain. Long hikers take the Bucktail Trail to the Capon Trail, go along Waites Run Road, and ascend the German Wilson and Halfmoon Trails to reach the Halfmoon Lookout to enjoy the views and watch

hawks. They then descend on the Halfmoon and Bucktail Cutoff Trails to reach the Trout Run Valley Road and the bus. Moderate hikers follow the Bucktail Trail, ascend the German Wilson Trail, and continue on the path of the long hikers. (This includes the spectacular Halfmoon Lookout). Est.: 13 miles, 2500' elevation; 10 miles, 2100' elevation. PATC Map F. Fare: \$20/\$25. Leaders: Robert Holley, reilex@yahoo.com, 703-239-0131 or Frank Todisco, franktodisco23@yahoo.com, 917-371-2321. (VA)

June 21—Elkwallow hike circuit with Upper Knob Mt Hikes will start and end at Elkwallow. Long hikers will take the AT, Piney Branch, Pole Link, Sugarloaf and Tuscarora Trails to Matthews Arm Trail. Moderate hikers will use the Elkwallow Trail, Traces Nature Trail to Matthews Arm Trail. Hikers will join at Matthews Arm Trail. Both hikes will take Weedlewood and Heiskle Hollow to the Knob Mt Trail to Knob Mountain Cutoff, Jeremy Run, then AT to Elkwallow. Elkwallow has a little wayside that has ice cream for sale for those who would like an ice cream as a reward. Est.: 11.5-12 miles, strenuous; 8.6 miles, intermediate. PATC Map 9. Fare: \$20/\$25, plus park fee/pass. Leaders: Annetta Depompa, hikerfool@yahoo.com, 410-535-5171 or John Hanley, jchanley54@gmail.com, 703-250-7999. (VA)

June 28—Annual member picnic hike, Seneca Creek State Park, MD Annual member picnic hike. All hikers must be signed up for both picnic and hike; details will be sent to members a month in advance. Hikers will explore a number of trails in the park: Clopper Lake, Greenway, Great Seneca Trail, Old Pond, Long Draught, and Mink Hollow, before partaking in a picnic lunch. Est.: 10 miles, 1200' elevation; 7.5 miles. 950' elevation. Seneca Creek Park Map. Fare: \$20/\$25, plus state park fee. Leaders: JL Morris, morrisjl@msn.com, 240-507-3079 or Debbie Wallace, deborahawallace@hotmail.com, 301-318-1526. (MD)

SPRING SCHEDULE APRIL–JUNE 2020 VOL. 87, NO. 2

WANDERBIRDS HIKING CLUB, INC.
Washington, DC

We are a Non-profit Club Open to All

www.wanderbirds.org



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Reservations, Cancellation Policy, and Fees A reservation made to the hike leader is a commitment to attend the hike. If you make a reservation and then must cancel, please do so by 8:00 a.m. Saturday preceding the hike. All “no-shows” and cancellations made after 8:00 a.m. Saturday are asked to pay the designated fare for the hike. Fees are \$25 for nonmembers and \$20 for members.

Chartered Coach Trips All hikes are coach trips unless otherwise noted. Reservations should be made with the hike leader no later than 10 a.m. Saturday preceding a hike. If the number of reservations does not permit chartering a bus, efforts will be made to arrange carpools.

Suggestions for New Hikers All Wanderbirds hikes are for the entire day and go rain or shine. Generally, drinking water is not available. Hikers should bring lunch and water. Boots are recommended for all hikes. Depending on weather conditions, additional clothing may be necessary. Leaders have the option of refusing to allow improperly dressed persons to hike.

Responsibility Hikers are responsible for their own safety and must assume all risk and liability when hiking with the Wanderbirds. Club leaders and officers shall not be liable for any injuries, loss, or damage to persons or property arising from any hikes, activities, or travel by car or bus.

Membership Dues are \$20 per calendar year, which allows you to vote at membership meetings and attend members-only events. Please notify hike leader or the Vice President of any change in your home address or other data.

Park Fees Shenandoah National Park entrance fees are \$8.00 per bus passenger Mar. thru Nov. and \$5.00 Dec. thru Feb. Golden Eagle or Golden Age pass holders do not pay a fee and are allowed 3 guests. This rule typically allows the bus to enter the park free.

Meeting Place Departure point for all chartered coach hikes is 17th and K Streets, NW unless otherwise noted. Bus departs at 8:00 a.m. from that location unless specified otherwise. (VA) indicates an additional pickup in Virginia (Vienna Metro) and (MD) indicates an

additional pickup in Maryland (Grosvenor-Strathmore Metro).

Hike Distances We schedule a long hike of 10–13 miles and a moderate hike of 6–9 miles each Sunday. Additional mileage is generally possible with the permission of the leaders for fit, experienced hikers at their own risk with the understanding that they will return to the bus by the specified time. An easy hike, less than 7 miles, may be offered if the trail permits. Hikers new to the club must hike the moderate hike.

Hike Info Please check the website for any updated information on the scheduled hikes.

HIKES

April 5—Appalachian Trail, Black Rock to High Rock to Pen Mar, MD This is the 3rd in a series of Appalachian Trail hikes to do most of the trail in MD. All hikers will get off on Wolfsville Rd where the Appalachian Trail crosses. The long hikers will go south on the Appalachian Trail for 1.5 to 2 miles, then turn around and go north. Moderate hikers will go north on the Appalachian Trail. All hikers will go over Buzzard Knob and pass Raven Rock Cliff MD and High Rock. From High Rock, hikers will take the road to descend to the PenMar parking area. An optional short hike starts where Raven Rock Road meets the Appalachian Trail. Est.: 13 miles, 2100’ elevation; 9.5 miles, 1600’ elevation. PATC Map 5. Fare: \$20/\$25. Leaders: Mariayne Brodnicki, mariayne.brodnicki@gmail.com, 954-536-5407 or Kay Weston, kweston70@gmail.com, 240-381-7845. (MD)

April 12—Appalachian Trail, Crescent Rock, Northern Virginia Celebrate Easter with an invigorating and scenic AT hike. Both hikes include the Crescent Rock Overlook near Raven Rocks, VA and mileage on the rocky, up-and-down, “Roller Coaster” section of the Appalachian Trail. Long hikers start at Keys Gap and head southbound on the Appalachian Trail, passing by Buzzard

Rock Overlook. Moderate hikers ascend to the Appalachian Trail on the Ridge to River Trail and go southbound on the AT. Both hikes end at Snickers Gap. Est.: 14 miles, 2900’ elevation; 9.5 miles, 2200’ elevation. PATC Map 7. Fare: \$20/\$25. Leaders: Jeff Thompson, jefferyathompson@comcast.net, 703-859-0157 or Brian O’Konski, brian1642@gmail.com, 202-362-2982. (VA)

April 19—Virginia Bluebell hike, Bull Run Occoquan Trail, VA There are literally acres of Virginia Bluebells on the banks of Bull Run, the result of rich, seasonally-flooded, sandy soil. We have timed the hike so we will see vast stands of these flowers in full bloom. Trout lilies, beavers, heron, kingfishers and migratory warblers also vie for attention. Moderate hikers start at Hemlock Overlook and proceed north (upstream) on the Bull Run Occoquan Trail to Bull Run Regional Park. Long hikers start hiking north from Bull Run Marina; extra-long hikers start at Fountainhead Regional Park. Est.: 12 miles, intermediate; 8 miles, intermediate. Bull Run Occoquan Trail Map. Fare: \$20/\$25. Leaders: Bob Malkowski, bmalkowski@cox.net, 703-731-9983 or Jeannie Fauntleroy, jeannie.fauntleroy@outlook.com, 703-851-6592. (VA)

April 26—Rose River and Lewis Falls, Central SNP, VA Count ‘em ... one, two, three waterfalls, scenic view of Fall foliage, and a beautiful mountain meadow. It’s all there on the Rose River and Lewis Falls hike. All hikers start at the Crescent Rock Overlook and follow the AT to Fishers Gap. Hikers then go left and descend on the Rose River Trail, passing Rose River Falls and continuing on to the Rose River Fire Road. At this point both groups can visit the Dark Hollow Falls, but then they split. Moderate hikers follow the Rose River Fire Road to Fishers Gap and the waiting bus. Long hikers ascend the Dark Hollow Falls Trail to Skyline Drive and follow it a short distance to Lewis Falls Road. Long hikers then descend the Lewis Falls Road to the intersection with the AT, and continue on

Lewis Falls Road to Lewis Falls Trail. After a steep descent, long hikers visit the Lewis Falls. Returning to Lewis Falls Trail, long hikers ascend it to the AT and follow the AT back to the bus at Fishers Gap. Est.: 12.2 miles, 3000-3500’ elevation; 7.5 miles, 1500’ elevation. PATC Map 10. Fare: \$20/\$25, plus park fee/pass. Leaders: Michael Ollinger, edward_ollieollie@yahoo.com, 301-933-2196 or Anna Ollinger, anika_o_99@yahoo.com, 301-933-2196. (VA)

May 3—Trillium Hike, Thompson Wildlife Management Area, VA Celebrate the spring flowers with one of our standard hikes. Long hikers start at Manassas Gap and follow the AT north past Manassas Gap Shelter and the junction with Verlin Smith Trail, to continue on the AT to a point just south of Dicks Dome Shelter. Here they turn right and follow Verlin Smith Trail around Lake Thompson and to parking area #4 and the waiting bus. Moderate hikers begin at parking area #4 and complete a circuit by joining the path of the long hikers. Est.: 12 miles, 2600’ elevation; 8.9 miles, 1600’ elevation. PATC Map 8. Fare: \$20/\$25. Leaders: Christian Buerger, buerger.spring.2020@gmail.com, 571-222-5926 or Susan Whiteman, Susanwhiteman1@gmail.com, 240-723-5091. (VA)

May 10—Big Devils Stairs, Bluff and Mount Marshall Trails, SNP, VA Moderate hikers start at Jenkins Gap, walk for 300 ft south on Skyline Drive, and turn left down the Mount Marshall Fire Road (which becomes Mount Marshall Trail), turn right (south) on the Bluff Trail (frequent views east), and left on the Big Devils Stairs. Hikers descend the Stairs (frequent views east) to the first overlook, then climb back up and turn left onto the Bluff Trail to Gravel Springs Gap. They then follow Skyline Drive for 1/3 mile to Range View Overlook. Long hikers will start at Compton Gap on the AT and hike 2 miles south to Jenkins Gap, where they follow the moderate path. Est.: 11.5-12 miles, 2500-2700’ elevation; 9.5 miles, 2200’ elevation. PATC Map 9. Fare: \$20/\$25, plus park fee/pass. Leaders: