Friends of Panthertown hosted a hike in Panthertown Valley on National Trails Day

Cashiers, NC - June 6th, in celebration of National Trails Day in Panthertown Valley, more than 20 happy hikers explored Panthertown, met up with equestrians and mountain bikers along the way, and challenged themselves to a fun 5 mile guided hike led by Jason Kimenker, Friends of Panthertown Executive Director. Hikers went up Blackrock Trail, over Overlook Trail, down Carlton’s Way to North Road, then across Panthertown Valley Trail to Mac’s Gap to view Granny Burrell Falls. We also hiked Great Wall Trail to the Shelter, Deep Gap to Frolictown Falls, then up Wilderness Falls, and back to Salt Rock. What a great way to share a beautiful day in Nantahala National Forest!

Picnic & Concert at Camp Merrie-Wood on Fairfield Lake to benefit Friends

August 22 from 3 to 8 pm
Music and food start at 5 pm

Join us for our annual family fun membership event. Free admission. Parking is $10 per vehicle, includes a prize ticket.

Bring your family and friends to enjoy a picnic and concert to benefit Friends. Enjoy live music by Strange Brew (featuring members of Hurricane Creek), kid’s activities, games, hike around the lake, and view a magnificent waterfall from the lakeside moss garden. Dinner prepared by a local chef (available for purchase) or bring your own. We hope to see you!

Camp Merrie-Woode is adjacent to Panthertown at 100 Merrie-Woode Rd in Sapphire, NC off US 64 about 5 miles between Cashiers and Toxaway.
News & Happenings

Welcome to our summer 2015 edition of The Panther’s Roar.

Please welcome Virginia Willard, our newest Trustee, a great volunteer, and a wonderful person.

In loving memory of our Friends and their loved ones who have recently passed: David R. Beard (1945 - 2015), and Friends co-founder William McKee (1952 - 2014). They remain forever in our hearts.

U.S. Forest Service: Cold Mountain Parking Lot Improvement Work Scheduled for Month of July

Toxaway, NC - After many years of planning, and with the help of funding from Friends of Panthertown and a 2012 RTP grant, the U.S. Forest Service will start work in July on a parking lot improvement project at the Cold Mountain entrance to Panthertown located at the end of Cold Mountain Road, off NC 281 in Toxaway. Expect heavy equipment and temporary overnight parking restrictions over several days this summer. For updated info, visit our website, call (828) 269-HIKE (4453), or send us an e-mail to: friends@panthertown.org

Be Safe In Panthertown This Summer

Waterfall safety tip: Avoid risk of injury or death from slips and falls by viewing waterfalls from below. Be aware that bears, snakes, and yellow jackets can be summer hazards to watch out for. They live here. Practice bear safety and hang your food in scent-proof bags to avoid encounters. Please see our website for more safety tips.
Find out how you and your group can get involved, enjoy community service, and help us protect and maintain Panthertown for all to enjoy.

Adopt-A-Trail in Panthertown Valley

Sapphire, NC - The most popular activity in Panthertown is hiking, followed by camping and backpacking along any of over 30 miles of trails. But did you know that equestrians and their horses also enjoy many of the trails in Panthertown Valley and have access to park their horse trailers at Salt Rock Gap and Flat Creek parking areas? Trail markers indicate designated uses for each trail. For safety and courtesy, hikers should always yield to horses when passing on designated trails.

Special thanks to our generous equestrian friends in the Bald Rock community for adopting the multi-use Deep Gap Trail once again this year. Find out more about our Adopt-A-Trail program and how you and your group can adopt one or more of your favorite trails in Panthertown. For more details e-mail us at friends@panthertown.org or visit our web page:

www.panthertown.org/trails
Friends of Panthertown
PO Box 51
Cashiers, NC 28717

Buy a raffle ticket for a chance to win a Big Green Egg Grill with proceeds to benefit Friends of Panthertown. Raffle tickets are $5 each or 5 tickets for $20. Tickets available through August 22 event. You do not need to be present to win. Contact us at: friends@panthertown.org (828) 269-HIKE (4453)

Join or renew your membership online. Now is the time to renew your membership or join Friends as a new member. Become a supporter of your favorite national forest trail system. Each membership dollar you invest today goes towards necessary conservation and stewardship projects, and helps us to protect and maintain Panthertown for all to enjoy. Thank you for being involved!

Contact Jason Kimenker, Executive Director at (828) 269-4453 to discuss planned giving, in-kind donations, and employer matched contributions.

www.panthertown.org/join

Upcoming Events

Check our website for updates: www.panthertown.org/calendar-of-events and our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/panthertown for invitations to upcoming guided hikes, member events, and volunteer opportunities.

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