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## **Greetings!**



**Welcome to the Blue Wall Weekly, your source for what's going on outside along the Southern BlueRidge Escarpment. Feel free to share your own photos, videos, and adventures along the Blue Wall by sending them to the email address at the bottom of the page, and we'll do our best to make you (locally) famous!**

## **The Blue Wall Weekly**

**Everything changes. This week change comes to this newsletter, after eleven years, seven months, and a few days. That equals 582 weeks of the Blue Wall Weekly. The**

first two editions crashed and did not go public; the third edition did not display graphics. In January of 2017 our mailing list was hacked and our incredibly responsive web host “cut the cord” to keep you all safe, resulting in the loss of our template, nearly four years worth of archives... and the sudden disappearance of the one person who had put it all together. The BWW rebounded with a slightly different look and layout, which we’ve kept until last week. Now, with a new, streamlined format, it’s time for a fresh new look. It will not be perfect. We hope you like it. Thanks for reading edition 583. ~K



It never gets old, writing about this magnificent Blue Wall...

### **SPECIAL EVENTS WITH JOCASSEE LAKE TOURS**

Sunset Lake Tours [Book Now!](#)

May 11: 6:30-8:30 PM

May 18: 6:30-8:30 PM

Happy Mother’s Day [Book Now!](#)

May 12: 10:00 AM-2:00 PM

May 12: 2:30-5:30 PM

Kayak Tours [Book Now!](#)

May 19: 10:00 AM-4:00 PM

**CALL OR BOOK ONLINE TO  
RESERVE SEATS**

[www.jocasselaketours.com](http://www.jocasselaketours.com)

### **WEEKLY EVENTS WITH JOCASSEE LAKE TOURS**

Warm Season Lake Tours\*\*

Tues-Thurs, Sat & Sun: 10:00 AM-

2:00 PM [Book Now!](#)

\*\*Please note the new times!

Sunday Afternoon Tour: 2:30-5:30

PM [Book Now!](#)

Fishing Adventures w/ Capt. Zach

8:00 AM-12:00 PM

Call (864) 280-5501 to Book!

**PRIVATE TOURS ARE ALWAYS  
AVAILABLE! Book online or call  
864-280-5501**

**THIS WEEK ON LAKE JOCASSEE**

**May 6, 2024**



Photo by Betsy Lewis



Photo by Deborah Girard



Photo by Kerry McKenzie

This week, I had a serious case of FOMO - Fear Of Missing Out. After 5 years of leading the Jocassee Wild Child (JWC) Adventures, I stood on the dock, helped untie the boat lines and watched the kids and their awesome guides wave back at me, saying “bye, see you later!” It took everything in my power to not run down the dock, jump in and scream “wait for me!!!” I didn’t want to miss a single adventure. Letting go is hard BUT we have some of the most AWESOME ‘Wild Child’ guides - Sheryl, Deborah, Steve, Betsy, Madison, David, and Matt. This program would not be what it is today without this creative and fun team! After all the boats arrived after the big adventure, I messaged them asking “what’d ya do, where’d ya go, what’d ya see?” I thought ‘Ok team, you had fun without me, now give me my boat full of kids back!!!’ Ha!!

I can hear a 6th grade teacher saying “now Kerry, you must share!”

What I’ve heard over the past few weeks:

Kids: “This is the best field trip ever!”

Guides: “This is the best job ever!”

Kids: “This place is paradise!”

Guides: “This place is heaven on earth”

Kids: “I’ve learned so much!”

Guides: “Jocassee is such an awesome laboratory/classroom!”

Kids & Guides singing to the tune of Frère Jacques:

“Lake Jocassee, Lake Jocassee.

We love you, We love you.

We promise to protect you,

We promise to protect you.

From now on, From now on.”



Photo by Kerry McKenzie

If you are singing this and have 'stuck song syndrome' the rest of the day - you can thank Sheryl White. ~Kerry McKenzie, Director of Jocassee Wild Child (and sometimes, the Wildest Child of all)

## **THIS WEEK ON LAKE JOCASSEE** **May 6, 2024**

### **STATE PARK EVENTS**

**Oconee Station State Historic Site**  
**Park Grounds Open Daily: 9:00**  
**AM-5:00 PM**

**Table Rock State Park**  
**May 11: 2:00-6:00 PM**  
**Music on the Mountain**

Enjoy traditional Blue Grass music as local musicians gather at TRSP to keep this inspirational talent alive. Visitors are invited to bring their acoustic instruments and join in a jam session!

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### **OTHER OUTDOOR EVENTS**

**Mushroom Mountain**  
**May 9: 2:00-4:00 PM**  
**Medicinal Mushroom Mini Clinic**

Join MM for an exciting class covering several of the most important and most potent medicinal mushrooms known today. Learn what makes these adaptogens work with your body

## **NEW EVENTS** **COMING IN MAY**

### **STATE PARK EVENTS**

**Table Rock State Park**  
**May 11: 2:00-6:00 PM**  
**Music on the Mountain**

**Oconee State Park**  
**May 23: 8:30-10:00 PM**  
**Full-Moon Hike**

**Table Rock State Park**  
**June 1: 9:00 AM-3:00 PM**  
**National Trails Day**

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### **OTHER OUTDOOR EVENTS**

**Friends of Jocassee (FOJ)**  
**May 13: 12:00-2:00 PM**  
**Perk Up the Park: Keowee-**  
**Toxaway State Park**

**Conserving Carolina**  
**May 14: 6:00-7:30 PM**  
**Landrum Library Speaker Series:**  
**Using genetics to aid recovery of**  
**the federally endangered Bunched**  
**Arrowhead**

**Mushroom Mountain**  
**May 16: 2:00-3:30 PM**  
**MM Farm Tour**

to bring balance to your body's systems and promote stress-less living.

### **Conestee Nature Preserve**

May 9: 4:00-5:30 PM

Nature Discovery After School Club - Middle School, Student's Choice!

### **GNHA**

May 11: 8:00 AM-3:00 PM

Silver Springs / Jones Gap / Tom Miller Loop

This is a beautiful trail in the Mountain Bridge area with lots of water crossings and some good climbs, much of which are along the Middle Saluda River.

### **KOBA**

May 11: 9:00-11:00 AM

2nd Saturday Litter PickUp

Meet at the Food Lion parking lot at the corner of Hwy 123 and Old Clemson Highway.

### **Upstate SCNPS**

May 11: 9:00-11:00 AM

Upstate Spring Native Plant Sale at Conestee Park

With 200+ species of native trees, shrubs, vines, perennial wildflowers, grasses, and ferns for sale, we recommend bringing your own cart/wagon to transport your plant purchases. Cash, checks and credit cards are accepted.

### **GNHA**

May 11: 9:00 AM-4:00 PM

Foothills Trail Maintenance Event - Sassafras / Pigeon Gap

### **Greenville County Bird Club**

May 18: 7:00 AM-12:00 PM (Longer Walk)

May 18: 8:00-10:30 AM (Shorter Walk)

Conestee Nature Preserve

### **Foothills Trail Conservancy**

May 18: 9:00 AM

FTC Hike w/ Bill Ranson

### **GNHA**

May 18: 9:00-11:00 AM

Foothills Trail Conference Trail Maintenance Hike

### **Hagood Mill Historic Site**

May 18: 10:00 AM-4:00 PM

Mountain Roots Herb Festival

### **Conestee Nature Preserve**

May 18: 7:30-9:30 PM

Night Hike

### **Holly Springs Center**

May 18-19: 9:00 AM-4:00 PM

Pickens County Ag + Art Tour

### **GNHA**

May 19: 8:30 AM-4:00 PM

Laurel Valley TH to Virginia Hawkins Falls, Foothills Trail

### **Highlands Biological Foundation**

May 21: 3:00-4:00 PM

BEE Kind: Experiencing Nature

### **Upstate Forever**

May 21: 5:30-7:30 PM

Generations Campaign Launch

### **Upstate SCNPS**

May 21: 7:00-8:00 PM

Upstate Chapter Meeting (May 2024)

### **Sierra Club of South Carolina**

June 1: 9:00 AM-12:30 PM

National Trails Day - Trail Maintenance at ChauRam County Park

### **Foothills Trail Conservancy**

GNHA has coordinated with the FTC on a group maintenance event to work on this 10 mile, remote and hard-to-maintain section of trail, and we would like to see a great GNHA turnout!

### **GNHA**

May 11: 10:00 AM-2:00 PM  
East Fork to Spoonaugh

We'll pass through the lush East Fork Gorge into the Ellicott Rock Wilderness Area that provides a backdrop for all but the start and finish of this trail.

### **Hagood Mill Historic Site**

May 11: 10:00 AM-2:00 PM  
Plants are Medicine: Early Spring Wild Edibles & Medicinals

Learn to identify common plants and trees that offer food, drink, and medicine and how to use these beneficial wild edibles.

### **Conestee Nature Preserve**

May 11: 10:30 AM-12:30 PM  
History Hike Part 2 - A Naturalist-led Walk and Talk about Conestee's Past

You'll leave this program with a better appreciation for the early development of Greenville, as well as the unique ecological resource that CNP now provides to both wildlife, and this community.

### **Sierra Club of South Carolina**

May 11: 10:00 AM-3:00 PM  
Hike: Eastatoee Passage of the Palmetto Trail

This passage provides access for hiking, birdwatching, and excellent

June 1: 9:00 AM-3:00 PM  
National Trails Day!

### **SC Botanical Garden Events**

May 17: 10:00-11:30 AM  
Monthly Garden Walks Spring 2024

May 18: 9:00 AM-5:00 PM  
Sustainable Landscaping

May 25: 9:00 AM-5:00 PM  
South Carolina Native Plant Certificate Core Class: Tree Identification

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## **BORROWED GLIMPSES**

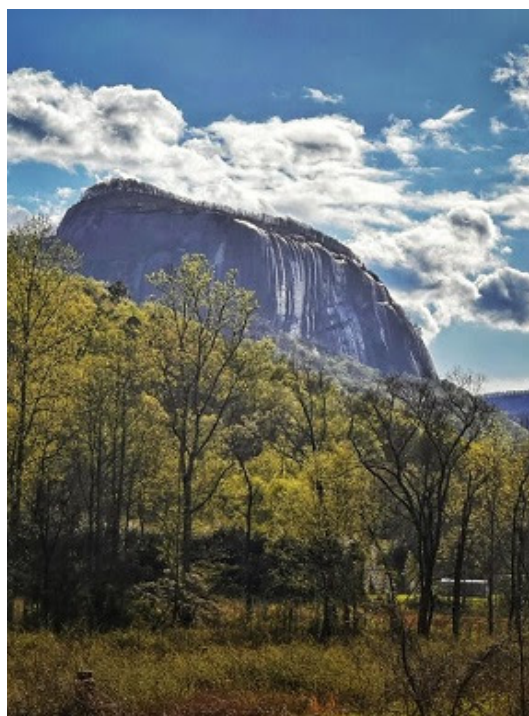


Table Rock, South Carolina,  
a mountain monadnock  
Photo by George Humphreys

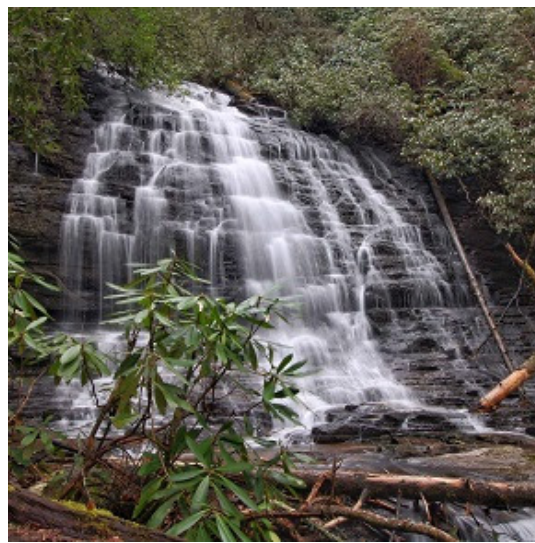
trout fishing, through a protected wilderness area.

### SC Botanical Garden Events

May 10: 9:00 AM-4:00 PM

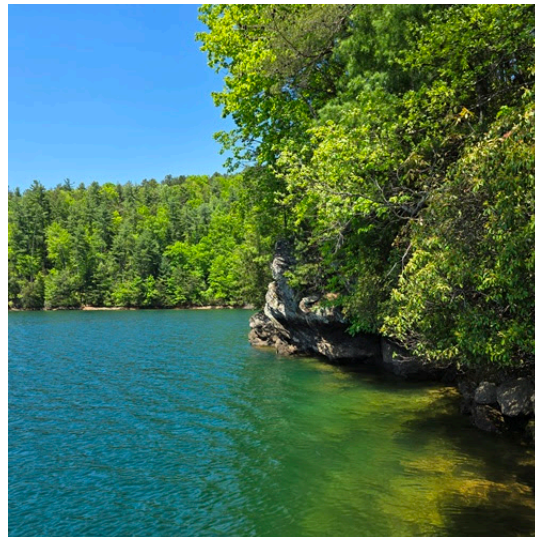
SCNP Elective: Ferns

Join naturalist Tim Lee to learn about the basic ecology, natural history and identification of ferns through classroom lecture and time exploring the state's diverse habitats.



Spoonauger Falls

Photo by VisitOconeeSC.com



BEAUTIFUL Lake Jocassee!



Watch the DFSP webcam as kids from

Faith Montessori School leave the dock on May 10: 10:00-ish am

Your support makes  
Jocassee Wild Child Adventures  
happen!

<https://www.jocasseewild.org>  
and follow Jocassee Wild Child  
Adventures on Facebook!  
<https://www.facebook.com/jocasseewild>

SPONSOR A JOCASSEE WILD  
CHILD TODAY!

Watch them return at 2:00-ish  
pm!

Current conditions at Lake  
Jocassee via Devils Fork State  
Park webcam  
Sponsored by Friends of  
Jocassee!



### **DID YOU KNOW**

Table Rock is an example of a monadnock, a rock mass or mountain that rises isolated above the relatively level surrounding area. According to tribal legend, God used Table Rock as his dining table. At its peak, the gneissic-granitic monolith reaches 3,124 feet above sea level.

### **ABOUT THE BLUE WALL**

Spanning three states (North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia) and encompassing 859,000 acres, the Southern Blue Ridge Escarpment, known as the 'Blue Wall' by Native Americans, contains some of the highest natural diversity of rare plants and animals found anywhere in the world.





[www.JocasseeLakeTours.com](http://www.JocasseeLakeTours.com)

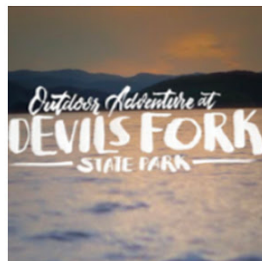
[info@jocasseelaketours.com](mailto:info@jocasseelaketours.com)

Thanks to Sheryl White for compiling the Blue Wall Weekly calendar,  
and to all JLT GUIDES for photos and continuous inspiration!

Jocassee Lake Tours Depart from the Main Dock  
at Devils Fork State Park, 528 Jocassee Lake Road

**PLEASE CALL 864-280-5501 AT LEAST 24 HOURS IN ADVANCE TO  
RESERVE YOUR SEATS!**

**SUPPORT OUR JOCASSEE PARTNERS!**



**JOCASSEE**  
REAL ESTATE  
*Dream it. Live it.*

**CURRENT CONDITIONS @ LAKE JOCASSEE VIA DEVILS FORK STATE  
PARK WEBCAM  
SPONSORED BY FRIENDS OF JOCASSEE**