



OVTA Mission Statement

The Overmountain Victory Trail Association will protect, preserve and interpret the route of the Overmountain Men to the Battle of Kings Mountain.

2023 March Detailed Schedule

Revised 9/17/2023

Every person participating on the March must sign the OVTA Liability Waiver and Code of Conduct Form and attend a safety briefing.

Anyone firing a firelock must have the OVTA Blackpowder training.

Meals on your own unless listed on daily schedule.

Following is a day-by-day schedule of the Annual March including a short description of each day's walk, logistics and planned activities. Last minute changes to the schedule will likely occur so please be patient when that happens.

Trail walking information is a separate document and can be found on the OVTA website. The trail information is a work in progress and needs a lot of updating. Information for the updates is being collected.

This year's March Officers are:

Grand Marshall	David Doan	423-366-8091	daviddoan@hotmail.com
Trail Marshall	Tom Vaughn	423-366-8639	tpvaughan@aol.com
Director of Interpretations	Steve Ricker	423-278-0439	primitivetrails@gmail.com
Safety Officer	Jane Doan	423-366-8092	
Safety Officer	Dalton Wade	423-620-8297	
Ordinance	Mel McKay	423-930-5552	
Wilkes/Surry Marshall	R G Absher	336-902-1760	
Marion Marshall	John Garrou	828-925-4533	
Morganton Marshall	Bryant Lindsey	828-448-2921	
NPS	William Caldwell	864 461-2828 x2109	william_caldwell@nps.gov
NPS	Jeffrey Ellison	864-490-0865	jeffrey_j_ellison@nps.gov

Saturday, September 16

10:00am-5:00pm OVTA Day: Kings Mountain: The Overmountain Men Story Rocky Mount State Historic Site

Sunday, September 17

2:00pm Campbell gravesite service

Following Campbell service Brody gravesite service

Address: Broady Cemetery, 30291-30437 Rich Valley Rd, Meadowview, VA

Address: Aspenvale Cemetery, 303 Seven Mile Rd, Marion, VA

Contact: John Gullion, 276-378-6605

Monday, September 18

9:00am-2:00pm Abingdon Call to Arms Muster Grounds Abingdon, VA

Abingdon Call to Arms School Day: Washington, Smith, Russell County, and other Virginia/Tennessee schools. Expecting 250-300 children each day. OVTA is managing this event and members may be asked to participate on an as-needed basis.

Walk the trail: Muster Grounds trail. See Walk the Trail information on the OVTA website.

Daily Support: Showers in visitor's center. Stores, gas, laundry & restaurants nearby. Lunch provided, other meals on own.

Camping: Sleep in your vehicle, set up your own tent or local motels.

Address: Muster Grounds, 1780 Muster Place, Abingdon, VA.

Directions to The Muster Ground, Take exit 15 off I-81. Turn right and travel pass McDonalds about 1/2 mile to Highway 11. Turn right onto Highway 11. Go approximately .75 miles to Colonial Road and turn right. There is a sign for the city of Abingdon at this intersection. Follow Colonial road about 1/3 mile. The Muster Ground is on the right.

Contact: John Gullion, 276-378-6605, Leigh Ann Hunter 276-605-1937

Tuesday, September 19

9:00am-2:00pm Abingdon Call to Arms Muster Grounds Abingdon, VA

See Monday schedule for event details.

Wednesday, September 20

9:00am-2:00pm Abingdon Call to Arms Muster Grounds Abingdon, VA

See Monday schedule for event details.

Friday, September 22

8:30am-11:30am Sullivan East Middle School program

6:00pm-8:00pm The Parting Shots @ "The Tavern" The Tavern Restaurant, Abingdon, VA

Address: Sullivan East Middle School 4500 Weaver Pike, Bluff City, TN

Contact: Ambre Torbett, 423-943-2560

Address: The Tavern Restaurant, 222 East Main St, Abingdon, VA

Contact: Jeffrey Ellison, 864-490-0865

Saturday, September 23

10:00am Fort Watauga Muster Sycamore Shoals State Historic Park
10am, 1pm, 4pm Guided Hikes (NPS) Muster Grounds, Abingdon, VA
5:00pm The Night Before Muster Grounds Abingdon, VA

Address: Sycamore Shoals State Park, 1651 West Elk Avenue, Elizabethton, TN 423-543-5808

Address: Muster Grounds, 1780 Muster Place, Abingdon, VA

Sunday, September 24

Col William Campbell and his men leave the Muster Grounds. Col Shelby & Col Sevier's men head toward Fort Watauga

10:00am	Fort Watauga Muster	Sycamore Shoals State Historic Park
10:00am	Muster Grounds Muster	Muster Grounds Abingdon, VA
2:00pm	Muster Grounds Ceremony	Muster Grounds Abingdon, VA
2:00pm	Constitution Week Bell Ringing	Bogart Bowman Cabin
6:00pm	Rocky Mount Public Program	Rocky Mount

Encamp: Rocky Mount

Actual: Ft Womack

Walk the trail: Choates Ford Trail, Bluff City. See Walk the Trail information on the OVTA website.

Daily Support: Rocky Mount will provide evening meal at 5pm. Showers, hot water, restrooms at Rocky Mount. Stores and gasoline nearby.

Address: Sycamore Shoals State Park, 1651 West Elk Avenue, Elizabethton, TN 423-543-5808

Address: Muster Grounds, 1780 Muster Place, Abingdon.

Address: Bogart Bowman Cabin, 5012 Unicoi Dr, Unicoi, TN

Address: Rocky Mount State Historic Site, 200 Hyder Road, Piney Flats, TN. Phone number (423) 538-7396.

Directions: Rocky Mount Historic Site is located on Hyder Road just off US 11E about 5 miles north of Johnson City, Tennessee. There are several directional signs that lead you to the site. There is a large entrance sign on Highway 11E just before you turn onto Hyder Road. The park entrance is about 100 feet up Hyder Road from US 11E.

Contact: Cody Boring 706-455-4302, Rocky Mount 423-538-7396

The Gathering

Monday, September 25

Col's Campbell, Shelby, and Sevier and their men arrive at Fort Watauga

2:00pm	Watauga River crossing	Sycamore Shoals State Historic Park
Following river crossing	"Campaign to Kings Mountain" public program	Sycamore Shoals State Historic Park
Following public program	Jerry Mustin memorial service	Sycamore Shoals State Historic Park

Encamp: Sycamore Shoals

Actual: Sycamore Shoals (Fort Watauga)

Daily Support: DAR will provide evening meal at 5pm.

Camping: Sycamore Shoals

Address: Sycamore Shoals State Park, 1651 West Elk Avenue, Elizabethton, TN 423-543-5808

Directions: The park is located on US 19E (West Elk Avenue) as you enter Elizabethton from the west. From Rocky Mount, no easy way, follow someone or GPS

Contact: Chad Bogart 423-543-5808 or Park staff

The March Begins

Tuesday, September 26

The Overmountain Men leave Fort Watauga heading toward Shelter Rock/Resting Place looking for Major Patrick Fergusson

11:00am	Rev Doak	Sycamore Shoals	Elizabethton, TN
9:00am	Walk Yellow Mountain	Meet at Roan Mountain Community Park	
6:00pm	Roan Mountain program & music (Virginia Boys)	Roan Mountain Community Park	

Encamp: Roan Mountain Community Park **Actual:** Shelving Rock/Resting Grounds

Yellow Mountain hike: Bob Hardin (423-612-0242) will be the guide. Meet at Roan Mountain Community Park. Carpool from Roan Mountain Community Park to Hampton Creek Cove Trailhead. Hike from the Hampton Creek Cove Wildlife Trail Head up and over Yellow Mountain (about a 2500 foot elevation climb). This is approximately 5 miles. Pickup will be provided. Be at Park on time or will leave without you.

Walk the trail: Roan Mountain Community Park trail (around the park area). See Walk the Trail information on the OVTA website.

Walk the trail: Birchfield and Yellow Mountain Trails (Hampton Cove), see Walk the Trail information on the OVTA website.

Walk the trail: Trail #308 and Road #1238 (near North Cove), see Walk the Trail information on the OVTA website

Daily Support: Breakfast and lunch on your own. Supper at Roan Mountain Community Park.

Address: Roan Mountain Community Park: 146 Carter Street, Roan Mountain, TN 37687

Directions: South on Highway 19E from Elizabethton

Contact: David Doan 423-366-8091

Wednesday, September 27

The Overmountain Men cross Roan Mountain at Yellow Mountain Gap, drill and roll call, find two men are missing Col Cleveland and his men leave Wilkes Surry

9:00am	Sibelco School Day and Sevier gravesite
6:00pm	Orchard at Altapass meal and program

Sibelco School program. Expecting around 275 students. Tents, tables, chairs, portable outhouses, hand washing stations, and food planned.

Encamp: Apple Orchard **Actual:** Roaring Creek

Walking the Trail: Walk from Sibelco parking lot to field next to Robert Sevier's gravesite. Very close to OVH Trail.

Walk the trail: The Orchard Trail, see Walk the Trail information on the OVTA website

Daily Support: Lunch at Sibelco. Camp in vehicles at Apple Orchard. Supper at Orchard at Altapass

Address: Sibelco School House Mine, 107 Harris Mining Co Road, Spruce Pine, NC

Address: Apple Orchard at Altapass, 1025 Orchard Road, Spruce Pine, NC, 828-765-3437

Directions: From the Mineral Museum at the Blue Ridge Parkway, North to the Apple Orchard on right

Thursday, September 28

The Men continue along trail

9:00am	Carson House Living School Day	Carson House, Marion, NC
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Encamp: Carson House **Actual:** Grassy Creek

Daily Support: Camp at Carson House. Restaurant next door at Camping Center.

Address: Carson House, 1805 US-70, Marion, NC

Directions: US 221 to Hwy 70W, 1.5 miles on right.

Contact: Martha Jordan, Executive Director of the Carson House. Work Phone: 828-724-4948, Mobile: 828-559-0556

Friday, September 29

The Overmountain Men divide into two groups to follow the two trails (North Cove & Turkey Cove) off the mountain

5:00pm	Guided Hike (NPS)	Visitor Center, Lake James State Park
6:00pm	Patty Creek evening program	Visitor Center, Lake James State Park

Encamp: Patty Creek Visitor Center **Actual:** North Cove & Turkey Cove

Daily Support:

Address: Paddy's Creek Visitor Center, 2229 Lake James State Park Rd, Nebo, NC.

Saturday, September 30

The two groups join back together and camp at Quaker Meadows, Wilkes Surry Militia under Col Ben Cleveland join the Overmountain Men at Quaker Meadows

10am, 1pm	Guided Hikes (NPS)	Visitors Center, Lake James State Park
1:00pm-5:00pm	Living History Day	Charles McDowell House, Morganton, NC

Encamp: Patty Creek Visitor Center **Actual:** Quaker Meadows

Walk the trail: Lake James Trail, see Walk the Trail information on the OVTA website

Walk the trail: Paddy's Creek Trail, see Walk the Trail information on the OVTA website

Walk the trail: Catawba River Greenway, see Walk the Trail information on the OVTA website

Daily Support: Meals on your own

Address: Charles McDowell House, 119 St. Mary's Church Road, Morganton, NC

Address: Paddy's Creek Visitor Center, 2229 Lake James State Park Rd, Nebo, NC.

Sunday, October 1

The combine Militia head toward Gilberttown crossing the Catawba River, heavy rain begins, camp at Bedford Hills

11:00am	Sunday Church service	Quaker Meadows Presbyterian Church
12:00pm	Guided Bike Ride (NPS)	Catawba Greenway, Morganton, NC
2:00pm	Monument dedication & River crossing (actual date)	Greenlee Ford, Morganton, NC

Encamp: Lucky Strike Campground **Actual:** Bedford Hills

Daily Support: Lunch at Quaker Meadows Presbyterian Church

Address: Quaker Meadows Presbyterian Church, 2698 Highway 181 NC Highway 181, Morganton, NC

Address: Greelee Ford (old Judge's Restaurant), 128 Greenlee Ford Rd, Morganton, NC

Address: Lucky Strike Campground, 251 Lucky Strike Cir, Marion, NC

Monday, October 2

Heavy rain continues, Overmountain Men remain in camp, officers elect Col Campbell as overall commander

Pond Mountain?

Encamp: Lucky Strike Campground **Actual:** Bedford Hills

Daily Support:

Address: Lucky Strike Campground, 251 Lucky Strike Cir, Marion, NC

Tuesday, October 3

Militia head toward Gilbertown

9:00am	Wilkes School Day	Wilkes Heritage Museum
4:30pm	Guided Hike (NPS)	Purple Martin Trail
6:00pm	Rutherfordton program	Kiwanis Park

Encamp: Second Baptist Church (next to Kiwanis Park) **Actual:** Marlins Knob

Walk the trail: Surry County Muster Field Trail, see Walk the Trail information on the OVTA website

Walk the trail: Smoot Park Trail, see Walk the Trail information on the OVTA website

Walk the trail: W. Kerr Scott Reservoir, see Walk the Trail information on the OVTA website

Daily Support:

Address: Wilkes Heritage Museum, 100 East Main Street (NC 268), Wilkesboro, NC

Contact: R G Ashber 336-902-1760

Address: Purple Martin Trail, Skyline Dr, Rutherfordton, NC (about 5 minutes from Kawanis Park)

Address: Kawanis Park, Green St, Rutherfordton, NC

Address: Second Baptist Church, 191 Green St, Rutherfordton, NC

Contact: Chivous Bradley, cbradley@bellsouth.net, 828-289-5689

Wednesday, October 4

Arrive at Gilbertown, Ferguson is gone

9:00am	Elkin School Day	Elkin Municipal Park	
7:00-8:00am	Breakfast by DAR	Rutherfordton Scout Cabin	
8:50am	Gilbert School Day	Gilbert Town	
4:00pm	Guided Hike (NPS)	Alexanders Ford	Gray's Chapel
	Gray's Chapel public evening program		Gray's Chapel

Encamp: Grays Chapel Church **Actual:** Gilbertown

Walk the trail: Rutherfordton Trails, see Walk the Trail information on the OVTA website

Daily Support: Breakfast provided by DAR at Scout Cabin, lunch at Gilbertown, supper at Gray's Chapel

Address: Elkin Municipal Park, 399 North Carolina 268 W, Elkin, NC

Contact: R G Ashber 336-902-1760

Address: Scout Cabin, 271 N Toms St, Rutherfordton, NC

Address: Gilbertown, no phone. House across from Gilbertown address is 1001 Rock Road, Rutherfordton, NC

Directions: Gilbertown is located on Rock Road a little less than 2 miles north of highway 64 in Rutherfordton. There are several certification signs and a historic marker denoting the site.

Contact: Chivous Bradley, cbradley@bellsouth.net, 828-289-5689

Address: Gray's Chapel, 500 Gray's Chapel Church Rd, Rutherfordton, NC

Directions: Gray's Chapel, Follow highway 108 south (west) from Rutherfordton. Turn left onto Simms/Sandpit road. When Simms/Sandpit Road crosses Pleasant Hill Road, its name changes to Grays Road. Follow Gray's Chapel Road south 2.6 miles to the inter-section with County Line Road. Turn left. The chapel is located about ¼ mile on the right.

Thursday, October 5

The Militia head southwest and camp at Alexander's Ford on the Green River. They learn from scouts that Ferguson is marching toward Charlotte Town and the protection of Cornwallis's army.

7:00am	Breakfast	Pleasant Hill Church
9:00am	Polk County School Program	Gray's Chapel/ Alexanders Ford

Encamp: Cherokee Co History & Arts Museum **Actual:** Alexanders Ford

Walk the trail: Alexander's Ford Trail, see Walk the Trail information on the OVTA website

Daily Support: Breakfast at Pleasant Hill Church

Address: Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, 563 Pleasant Hill Church Rd, Rutherfordton, NC

Address: Grays Chapel, 500 Grays Chapel Church Rd, Rutherfordton, NC

Address: Cherokee Co History and Arts Museum, 301 College Dr, I-85 SC Exit 92, Gaffney, SC

Directions: I-85, Exit 90, South on Rt 105, to Left on Granard St, to Right on Colledge (follow signs toward Limestone Colledge)

Friday, October 6

The Militia head toward Cowpens and join with militia from South Carolina, Georgia and Lincoln Co., NC. At 9 pm militia of best 900 men leave in pouring rain and head toward Kings Mountain

TBA	Possible side trip	Gaffney, SC area
4:00pm	Cherokee Ford Trail hike (NPS event)	Wolf Den Lane, Gaffney, SC
5:00pm	Guided Walk (NPS)	Cowpens National Battlefield
6:00pm	The Night before Kings Mountain program	Cowpens National Battlefield

Encamp: Cherokee Co History & Arts Museum **Actual:** Cowpens

Walk the trail: Lake Whelchel Trail (near Gaffney), see Walk the Trail information on the OVTA website

Walk the trail: Cowpens National Battlefield Trails, information in Visitor's Center

Daily Support: Evening meal provide (location tba)

Address: Cowpens National Battlefield, 4001 Chesnee Hwy (Hwy 11), Gaffney, SC (864) 461-2828

Address: Cherokee Co History and Arts Museum, 301 College Dr, I-85 SC Exit 92, Gaffney, SC

Saturday, October 7

Before 3 pm militia arrive at Kings Mountain and battle begins at 3 pm

8:30am (tentative)	Guided Hike "The Patriot Advance" (NPS)	Kings Mountain Military Park
11:00am	Wreath Laying Ceremony	Kings Mountain National Military Park.
2:15pm	Meet at the Visitor's Center to prepare for March finale	
3:00pm	Walk into the amphitheater at Kings Mountain NMP for traditional ceremony.	
7:00pm	Candle tours	Kings Mountain National Military Park

Encamp: Kings Mountain **Actual:** Kings Mountain

Daily Support: Park at Antioch Church and shuttle to Kings Mountain, lunch at Antioch Church

Address: Antioch Church, 811 State Road, Blacksburg, SC

Address: Kings Mountain National Military Park, 2625 Park Rd, I-85 NC Exit 2, Blacksburg, SC. (864) 936-7921