General Information:

1 — All hikers must have read “Chickamauga and Chattanooga Battlefields,” Series No. 25 issued by the Superintendent of Documents, Washington 25, D.C., or from the Superintendent of Chickamauga Park, Ft. Oglethorpe, Ga. Cost 25c.

2 — Schedule your hike so that your group will pass through Lookout Point Park between 8:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M. Chattanooga time (E.S.T.)

3 — This is copperhead and rattlesnake country. STAY ON THE TRAILS. Be alert and carry snake-bite kits.

4 — Overnight facilities:

   WINTER QUARTERS:

   A — Col. Simpkins
   Tennessee National Guard
   1801 Holtzclaw Avenue
   Chattanooga, Tenn.
   Phone 624-2639

   B — Comdr. Sharpe
   Naval Training Center
   12 Meadow Avenue
   Chattanooga 5, Tenn.
   Phone 267-2111

   SUMMER CAMP SITES — Tentage needed

   A — Hamilton County Park
   Park Supt.
   Gold Point Circle
   Hixson, Tennessee
   Phone 877-6596

   B — Harrison Bay State Park
   Park Supt.
   Harrison, Tenn.
   Phone 344-6214

   Note: Both parks have city water, bath room facilities and swimming.

5 — All scouts must walk the full trail observing all scout safety precautions, courtesy, and displaying conduct that will favorably impress all persons on the trail route.

6 — Marking or defacing any of the monuments, buildings, or other property on the trail will result in disqualification of the hiker or his group.

7 — Completed Credential cards must be sent to the Blue Beaver Trail Comm. after the completion of the hike.

8 — Purchase of trail awards is optional.
BLUE BEAVER TRAIL

It's History:

"The Beavers in Blue" was a phrase coined by the Confederates to describe the activity of the Unions bottled in the Chattanooga area who were busy clearing trees for fuel, shelter, and fortifications. It is from this random phrase made in 1863 that the trail name was chosen.

On Oct. 26-27, 1863, Grant ordered 1500 men on pontoons to float down the river from Chattanooga while another group had orders to march across Moccasin Point. The pontoon crossing was made just below Brown's Ferry.

This action and Hooker's advance from Bridgeport allowed the Unions to re-open a short line of supply and communication toward Nashville.

By Nov. 24th Hooker again moved into action. From the area of Brown's Ferry, the Unions sought up the rugged, steep and heavily timbered terrain of Lookout Mountain. About halfway up the mountain and on a level area, stood Craven's farm. By noon Hooker's forces were in possession of the farm. The Confederates made a determined stand beyond the house and by 2 p.m. the fog that had covered the mountain side became so heavy that it was impossible to see. At a later date, this action was called the "Battle Above the Clouds."

The hike will take you through the area of Brown's Ferry Raid and up the slopes that culminated in the "Battle Above the Clouds," at Cravens House, and then on to the very point of the Mountain which is now a historic park and called Lookout Point Park.

Trail Requirements:

1 - Any registered Scout or Explorer can walk the trail to earn the award.
2 - Scouts and Explorers must be in complete scout uniform.
3 - During June, July, August, and September official scout or camp tee shirts may be worn.
4 - The hike must be completed in one day and all groups must clear Lookout Point Park no later than 5 P.M.
5 - One adult leader must accompany each group of ten Scouts or Explorers.
6 - Out of Council hikers will need either Form No. 4426 if within 250 miles, or Form No. 4419A if over 250 miles from Chattanooga, Tenn.
7 - This trail is also open to all registered members of the Girl Scouts. Requirements No. 4 and 5 must be observed and any other requirements of the G. S. A.
APPLICATION BLANK

Please print all information in spaces below:

FROM ___________________________ of ___________________________ of the ___________________________ Council

We plan to hike the Blue Beaver Trail on ___________________________ ___________________________ ___________________________

Adult Leader: ___________________________

Leader's Address: ___________________________

City ___________________________ State ___________________________

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Note: • Hike request must be mailed two weeks before you plan to hike the trail.
• Trail credentials will be mailed as soon as hike request has been received.
• You may change the hike date after you have received the trail credentials.
• Trail fee is $2.00 per hiker.
• Full refund will be made to any paid hiker unable to walk with his group.

Fees for $_____________________ for _______________________ hikers is enclosed.

Please make check or money order payable to the Blue Beaver Trail. Don’t send cash through the mails.

Credentials Issued By: ___________________________ Date ___________________________
Its History:

“The Beavers in blue” was a phrase coined by the Confederates to describe the activity of the Unions bottled in Chattanooga, who were busy clearing trees for fuel, shelter, and fortifications. It is from this random phrase made in 1863 that the trail name was chosen.

On October 19-22, 1863, Grant ordered 1500 men on pontoons to float down the river from Chattanooga, while a second group had orders to march across Moccasin Bend. The pontoon crossing was made just below Brown’s Ferry.

This action coupled with Hooker’s advance from Bridgeport toward Chattanooga allowed the Unions to re-open a short line of supply and communication with Union Headquarters and supply at Nashville.

The area around Brown’s Ferry and Tavern to Lookout Creek was in control of the Union forces. By November 24th, Hooker again moved into action. Previous attempts to scale Lookout Mountain from the west side had been thwarted by Confederates stationed on Signal Mountain who had signaled information about Union movements to their forces on Lookout. On this eventful day, a heavy fog capped the mountain and all signal attempts were in vain. The Unions fought up the rugged, steep, and heavily timbered terrain of Lookout Mountain.

About halfway up the mountain and on a level area, stood Craven’s farm. By noon, Hooker’s forces were in possession of the farm. The Confederates made a determined stand to the south of the house, and by 2 p.m. the fog moved down to Craven’s house making visibility and shooting impossible. At a later date, this action was called the “Battle Above the Clouds.”

Later, the fighting moved to Missionary Ridge. Gradually the way opened for Sherman’s eventual march to the sea, and peace once more came to this area.

The Trail:

All hikers will assemble and start from the Red Caboose No. 148 located at the junction of Highways 11 and 148. Scout leaders, please keep your hikers off this Caboose.

From the Caboose at the Tourist Center, follow the Reflection Riding (RR) markers. RR is a non-profit corporation of about 400 acres designed to preserve and maintain the natural beauty of this area. Trees, shrubs and flowers are marked thereby providing an excellent opportunity to study the characteristics of these marked specimens. Please use only the established roads through RR and don’t allow hikers to walk across planted areas.

It is strongly suggested that you take your time hiking through RR. There is an interesting legend of an Indian Chief and a view of Sunset Rock that is worthy of your time.

At the southern boundary of RR, just before you enter the National Park area, notice the markings indicating how the Unions lined up. Historically, the Unions formed a line from Lookout Creek straight up the side of the mountain. This line moved as a segment from the west toward the east side of the mountain. The major encounter of the “Gray and Blue” was at Craven’s House.

Craven’s house has been restored by the Tenn. Historical Society. Here one can see Missionary Ridge to which the Confederates withdrew after fog made fighting impossible there. On November 25th, Union soldiers took the mountain top with only token sniper resistance.

Water is usually available at Craven’s house, except during the winter months. This spot is usually a good spot for a lunch break. Look up toward Point Park and you’ll have a good view of the escarpment and the natural ruggedness of this beautiful country.

The trail continues to gradually weave back and forth until you are at the base of the escarpment. A good iron stairway will make it possible to reach Point Park with ease.

At Point Park, you are approximately 105 miles from the start of the trail and some 1600 ft. above the elevation at the Caboose.

Trail Requirements:

1. Any registered Scout or Explorer can walk the trail to earn the trail awards.
2. Scouts and Explorers must be in complete scout uniform.
3. It is advisable to wear summer uniforms from May through September. Tee shirts are acceptable.
4. The hike must be completed in one day and all groups must clear Lookout Point Park no later than 5 PM (E.S.T.)
5. One adult scouter must accompany each group of ten hikers.
6. Check with your council and observe travelling requirements.
7. This trail is also open to all registered members of the Girl Scouts. Uniforms are optional.
8. Hiking groups, other than scouts, are also invited to walk the trail.
9. All hikers must have read “Chickamauga and Chattanooga Battlefields” Series No. 25. These are available from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington 25, D.C.
PART A:

Before Hiking The Trail...

COMPLETE AND MAIL TO BLUE BEAVER TRAIL, INC., P. O. BOX 38, HIXSON, TENN. 37343

TR/POST of CITY AND STATE

Plan to hike the BBT on DATE

Hike leader will be STREET

CITY, AND STATE

Estimated number of hikers, including adults, will be

AVAILABLE TRAIL AWARDS:

TRAIL MEDAL $2.25 TRAIL PATCH $1.25

General Information:

1. Average trail time is 4½ hours.
2. Schedule your hike so that your group will pass through Lookout Point Park between 8:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M. Chattanooga time (E.S.T.)
3. This is copperhead and rattlesnake country. Stay on the trails. Be alert. One snake-bite kit per troop is recommended.
4. All scouts must walk the full trail observing all scout safety precautions, courtesy, and displaying conduct that will favorably impress all persons on the trail route.
5. Marking or defacing any of the monuments, buildings, or other property on the trail route will result in disqualification of the hike or his group.
6. The trail can be hiked any year except during snow or ice conditions.
7. Completed Credential cards (Form 65-1) must be returned with the "Application for awards" Part A after you have completed hike.
8. Purchase of trail awards is optional.
9. Compass readings are shown for the lower part of the trail, and can serve as a valuable training aid for your scouts.
10. Encourage scouts to pocket gum wrappings and other litter. Litter cans are available in Point Park.
11. Troops outside the Cherokee Council jurisdiction are requested to mail "Part A" of this form two weeks prior to their proposed hike.
12. Orange-yellow trail blazes will be found beyond the R.R. area on trees and rocks. These have been placed at critical points along the trail where there might be some doubt as to the trail routing.

Overnight Facilities

WINTER QUARTERS:

1. Commanding Officer
   Tennessee National Guard
   1801 Holtzclaw Avenue
   Chattanooga, Tenn.
   Phone 624-2639

SUMMER CAMP SITES: (Tentage Required)

1. Hamilton County Park
   Gold Point Circle
   Chattanooga, Tenn.
   Phone 877-6596

2. Harrison Bay State Park
   Park Superintendent
   Harrison, Tenn.
   Phone 344-6214

Note: Both parks have city water, bathroom facilities, and swimming areas.

Camping facilities are also available at the Tourist Center at the start of the trail. City water is available.

ADDITIONAL HIKING TRAIL IN THE AREA

Chief John Ross Canoe Trek
Cherokee Area Council, Inc.
6321 E. Brainerd Rd.
P.O. Box 21226
Chattanooga, Tenn. 37421

River Mill Cave Historic Tr.
P.O. Box 122
Bridgeport, Ala. 35740

Chickamauga Trails
P.O. Box 488
Rossville, Ga. 30741

Craven's House

Start of Trail
BLUE BEAVER TRAIL, INC.

CHATTANOOGA, TENN.
DEVELOPED: NOV. 10, 1962

COMPASS CHECK POINTS:
1. 60°
2. 160°
3. 30°
PART B:  

Application for Awards

Blue Beaver Trail, Inc.  
P. O. Box 38  
Hixson, Tennessee 37343  

NATIONALLY APPROVED,  
AUGUST, 1966  
AS A B.S.A.  
HISTORICAL HIKING TRAIL

Please print all information in spaces below:

From ___________________________ of _______________ of the _______________ COUNCIL

We hiked the Blue Beaver Trail on ___________________________ ____________ _______________

MONTH DAY YEAR

Please list all hikers in your party regardless of whether or not awards are desired.

Trail medal $2.25  
Trail patch $1.25

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Fee of $_______________ enclosed.  
Please make check or money order payable to the Blue Beaver Trail.  
Don’t send cash through the mails.

Mail Awards to:

NAME
STREET
CITY STATE ZIP

Number of Awards

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