

Blue Ridge Hiking Club - Second Quarter 2018 Hikes

Monday, April 2: Trout Lake to Manor House & Figure 8 Trail: Meet at Trout Lake parking lot at 9:30 (1st exit left off Parkway just south of Cone Manor going to Rt. 221 and then take an immediate right, a U turn, onto Shull's Mill Rd going under parkway), and an immediate angling right onto single lane access to parking around the lake. 5 miles or less, relaxed pace. Done by noon. Guests and non-members welcome. No dogs.

Wednesday, April 4 – Doughton Park Trails: this is a moderate hike, which will start at Alligator Back, go up steeply Bluff MT, continues to the Fodder Stack Tr. (may hike it) and back to the Wildcat Rocks Overlook from where the Caudill Cabin can be seen and could end up at the Basin Cove Overlook. Approx. 7-10 miles with slow and relaxed pace. No dogs. Call hike leader Allmuth "Curly" Perzel 336-982-8591

Saturday, April 7, Three Top: Three Top hike is all uphill on old logging roads, no views until the summit. It is a moderate hike of slow and steady hiking. I estimate the round trip will take approx. 3 hrs. 30 min, which includes a lunch break at the summit offering 360 degrees views all the way into VA. We will carpool from Ingles, W Jefferson. If the summit is not in the clear, there is no point of hiking the mountain. I will think of an alternative hike, probably the New River Park Trails of Access 221 and Wagoner. Dress for the weather, bring water. No dogs, Call hike leader Allmuth "Curly" Perzel 336-982-8591.

Monday, April 9: Bass Lake to Cone Manor loop. Meet at Bass Lake lower parking area at 9:30, off Rt. 221 just west of Blowing Rock. 5 miles or less, relaxed pace. Done by noon. Guests and non-members welcome. No dogs.

Wednesday, April 11, Mountains-to-Sea Trail, Meet at Elk Mountain Overlook, MP 274.3, BRP, and hike north to Jeffress Park Cascades and beyond.. Easy to moderate, 5 miles or so. No dogs. Contact hike leader, Pam Hoffman, 828-262-9779

Saturday, April 14, Roan Mountain Carvers Gap to Grassy Bald 6 miles, 4 hours. Rated: moderate/ strenuous. Starts at the Carvers Gap parking area which is on the NC/TN line at the top of NC 261 (143 on the TN side.) Spectacular 360 degree views along part of the AT that crosses the bald. Great valley views from Grassy Ridge. Trail is rocky with 3 steep slopes to climb in each direction. 5,000 ft. elevation. No dogs. Call hike leader Carol Ann Mitchell Tel. 423-772-4280, text 423-9957-1207, camitchell21@gmail.com.

Monday, April 16: The Maze and Apple Barn at Cone Manor. Meet at Bass Lake lower parking area at 9:30, off Rt. 221 just south of Blowing Rock. 5 miles or less, relaxed pace. Done by noon. Guests and non-members welcome. No dogs.

Wednesday, April 18 – Orchard Creek Falls: Valle Cruces Trails, from the Valle Cruces Conference Center to Orchard Creek Falls and beyond. Easy to moderate hike to beautiful waterfall and then hike up to ridge top. WELL BEHAVED DOGS ON LEASHES. Contact Lory Whitehead, loryaw44@gmail.com

Saturday, April 21, Elk Knob, 3.8 mi. round trip, with 900 ft. gain in elevation. Spectacular views at the summit. The trails are mostly moderate, but steady incline; steep in some places. 2 ½ - 3 hrs. No dogs. Call hike leader Lory Whitehead at 828-355-9071.

Monday, April 23: Mountain-to-Sea Trail: Meet at the Raven Rock Overlook at 9:30, hiking south & north, BRP MP 289.5. 5 miles or less, relaxed pace. Done by noon. Guests and non-members welcome. No dogs.

Wednesday, April 25 – Watauga Dam via AT. (Carter/Johnson Co., TN). ~ 7 miles, 4+ hrs. Rated moderate. Views of Watauga Lake and Dam. Behind the dam spillway one can see an interesting ecological phenomenon: Iron Mountain Fault. Old sediments slid up and over limestone, bending the fault downward so that it appears as a great diagonal slash in the cliff. Meet at asphalt park area across from Shook Branch Road. Carol Ann Mitchell leader: 423-772-4280, text 423 957-1207, camitchell21@gmail.com. No dogs. No dogs allowed.

Saturday, April 28, Price Lake plus Boone Fork: from the Price Lake Picnic Area at the Boone Fork Trail starting point, then crossing the parkway to pick up the Price Lake Loop and then on to the Boone Fork Trail; approximately 7 miles; 4 hours. Moderate to strenuous. No dogs. Call hike leader Roger Bodo at 828-260-2019.

Monday, April 30: Trout Lake to Rich Mountain: Meet at Trout Lake parking lot at 9:30. 1st exit left off Parkway just south of Cone Manor going to Rt. 221 and then take an immediate right, a U turn, onto Shull's Mill Rd going under parkway, and an immediate angling right onto single lane access to parking around the lake. 5 miles or less, relaxed pace. Done by noon. Guests and non-members welcome. No dogs.

Wednesday, May 2, Wildflower Crawl on the Lower Profile Trail. Explore the Spring Wildflowers on the LOWER part of the Profile Trail. Time and pace will be determined by the Gifts that Mother Nature has provided. Moderate about a mile round trip. No Dogs. Susan Moore - moore2157@bellsouth.net - 828-733-5748.

Saturday, May 5, Hawksbill Mountain: Meet at Christa's (Christa's Country Corner, Hwy 181, Mile-marker 312 off of the Blue Ridge Parkway) Pineola, NC at 9:00 am and carpool to Hawksbill (due to limited parking). Moderate to strenuous 1.8 miles up and back, with 670 ft. elevation gain; approximately 2 hrs. Fantastic views of the Gorge. Bring hiking sticks. No dogs. Call hike leader Bob Heath at 828-773-0471.

Monday, May 7: Price Lake plus. Meet at Boat ramp parking area at 9:30, BRP MP 297. Since this is a short hike, be prepared to hike over to and up a bit of the Tanawha Trail. 5 miles or less, relaxed pace. Done by noon. Guests and non-members welcome. No dogs.

Wednesday, May 9, Mountains-to-Sea Trail, Meet at Osborne Mountain Overlook on BRP. Milepost 277.9 and hike south to Wildcat Road and beyond. Moderate. About 5 miles. No dogs. Contact hike leader, Pam Hoffman, 828-262-9779

Saturday, May 12, Appalachian Trail from US 321 to Watauga Dam: (Carter/Johnson Co., TN). About 7 miles, 4+ hrs. Rated moderate. Views of Watauga Lake and Dam. Behind the dam spillway one can see an interesting ecological phenomenon: Iron Mountain Fault. Old sediments slid up and over limestone, bending the fault downward so that it appears as a great diagonal slash in the cliff. Meet at parking area on 321 across from Shook Branch Rd. No dogs. Call hike leader Carol Ann Mitchell Tel. 423-772-4280, text 423-9957-1207.

Monday, May 14: Green Knob Trail: This is a short trail with a bit of elevation. Meet at Sims Pond Overlook at 9:30, BRP MP 295.9. 5 miles or less, relaxed pace. Done by noon. Guests and non-members welcome. No dogs.

Wednesday, May 16 – Laurel Fork Falls Hike. This hike is in the Pond Mountain Wilderness and Cherokee National Forest, and will begin from the trailhead parking area on US 321/TN 67 in Hampton, TN. We will follow the Hampton Blue line Trail to its intersection with the Appalachian Trail, then south on the AT, up the high water route, and down to the falls for a lunch stop. We will then make our way back to the trailhead along the low water route. Total distance approximately 5 miles. Moderate. Rendezvous in Boone for carpooling possible based on interest. No dogs. Contact Sheryl McNair, 443-360-9933 or sammcnair@yahoo.com.

Saturday, May 19, Table Rock and Crest Trail, Table Rock is 2 mi. of moderately strenuous hiking roundtrip. After returning to the parking area, hike the Mountains To Sea trail toward Shortoff Mountain which affords many beautiful views of the Linville Gorge. Stop at “The Amphitheater” for lunch then return. Total hike will be approximately 4-5 mi. No dogs. Call hike leader Skip Rackmill at 828-355-9303.

Monday, May 21: Old John's River Road to Price Lake, and a visit to King's marker. Meet at Sim's Pond Overlook at 9:30, BRP MP 295.9. 5 miles or less, relaxed pace. Done by noon. Guests and non-members welcome. No dogs.

Wednesday, May 23 – Hughes Gap to Roan High Knob on the AT, up the NW part of the Roan Massif, ~ 10 miles, moderate to strenuous in parts, 2,220 ft. elevation gain. Beautiful trail, boreal spruce pine forest, unlike others in the area. Carol Ann Mitchell leader: 423-772-4280, text 423-957-1207, camitchell21@gmail.com. No dogs. No dogs allowed.

Saturday, May 26, Story Teller Rock and Flat Rock from Boone Fork Parking area on the BRP. The hike will follow the Nuwati Trail to Storyteller Rock with the return trip via the Cragway, Daniel Boone Scout and Tanawha Trails. Storyteller and Flat Rock afford beautiful vistas of the Boone Bowl and beyond. Approx. 5 mi., some parts strenuous and rocky. No dogs. Call hike leader Bob Heath at 828-773-0471.

Monday, May 28, Flat Top Observation Tower + Cone Memorial. Meet in front of the Carriage House by Cone Manor at 9:30, BRP MP 294.1. 5 miles or less, relaxed pace. Done by noon. Guests and non-members welcome. No dogs.

Wednesday, May 30 – Glen Burney: The trail starts at Annie Cannon Gardens parking lot on Laurel Lane in Blowing Rock. The trail meanders down through a gorge past 3 waterfalls on the

New Years Creek. It is 3.2 miles total. Easy going down but the 700 foot elevation change is a good workout coming back up. No dogs. Sherrey Murray, 828-737-0248, smpa@att.net

Saturday, June 2, Wilson Creek, Lost Cove Creek. 7 miles, 5 hours. This is a loop trail starting with a moderate climb to the top of the ridge then a steep descent down to Hunt Fish Falls and a large swimming pool where we have lunch. The return has several climbs & follows several tributaries of Lost Creek where there are falls, cascades and swimming holes. 6-8 water crossings. This beautiful hike is a favorite as it affords the most variety. Poles recommended, change socks or water sandals. No dogs. Call hike leader Carol Ann Mitchell Tel. 423-772-4280, text 423-9957-1207, camitchell21@gmail.com.

Monday, June 4: Old John's River Road to Boone Fork and the new MST bridge. Meet at Sim's Pond Overlook at 9:30, BRP MP 295.9. 5 miles or less, relaxed pace. Done by noon. Guests and non-members welcome. No dogs.

Wednesday, June 6 – Flat Rock Loop and Nuwati Trail to Storyteller Rock: Meet at 9:30 at Boone Fork Parking area Milepost 299.9 on the BRP the hike will take the Boone Fork Loop to the Nuwati Trail to Storyteller Rock where there are beautiful vistas of the Boone Bowl and beyond. Approx. 3 miles round trip. No dogs. Hike Leader, Roger Bodo 828-260-2019

Saturday, June 9, Quarterly Meeting and Potluck lunch at Linville Land Harbor picnic pavilion. Bring a dish to share. No need to reserve. Contact hosts if questions, Larry Mallett, Pam Hoffman, 828-262-9779

Monday, June 11: Tanawha Trail to Holloway Mountain Road, and on to an older community cemetery. Meet at boat ramp parking at Price Lake at 9:30, BRP MP 297. 5 miles or less, relaxed pace. Done by noon. Guests and non-members welcome. No dogs.

Wednesday, June 13 – AT from Carver's Gap to Grassy Ridge Bald: Moderate stroll about 5 miles out and back. Meet either at Carver's Gap parking area 10:00 or carpool from Banner Elk parking lot by the park 9:15. Optional pizza lunch at the Smoky Mountain Bakers in Roan Mountain on the way home. No dogs. Contact Mike Lobban at mjlobban@bellsouth.net or 305-905-7000.

Saturday, June 16, Tanawha at Holloway Mtn. Rd. to Boone Fork Trail. Loop: Hike the Tanawha from Holloway Mtn. road east to the Boone Fork Trail, then on to Hebron Falls. To get to the top of the falls, hikers can rock-hop up or work your way up through the bushes along the water. After the Falls, finish Boone Fork loop back to the Tanawha and Holloway Mtn. Rd. Rated moderately strenuous. 7 ¾ mi. round trip. No dogs. Call hike leader Bob Heath at 828-773-0471.

Monday, June 18: Carriage Barn to Blowing Rock Stables: Meet in front of the Carriage House by Cone Manor at 9:30, BRP MP 294.1. 5 miles or less, relaxed pace. Done by noon. Guests and non-members welcome. No dogs.

Wednesday, June 20 – Historic Over Mountain Victory Trail (Revolutionary War) starting in Hampton Creek Nature Area in Roan Mountain hooking into the AT at Yellow Mountain Gap to Little Hump Mountain. Little cover on the Balds so wear wide brim hat, sunscreen, lots of fluids,

salty snacks. About 10 miles, mostly strenuous, requires strength and endurance for all the ups. Poles helpful. Carol Ann Mitchell leader: 423-772-4280, text 423 957-1207, camitchell21@gmail.com. No dogs.

Saturday, June 23 Tanawha Trail at Holloway Mtn. Road to Cold Prong and Beyond, About 4.5 mi., moderate walking. No dogs. Call hike leader Roger Bodo at 828-260-2019.

Monday, June 25: Mountain-to-Sea Trail to 321. Meet at Thunder Hill Overlook at 9:30, first overlook on BRP north of 321, MP 290.4. 5 miles or less, relaxed pace. Done by noon. Guests and non-members welcome. No dogs.

Wednesday, June 27 – Stone Mtn. State Park: Stone Mountain Loop Trail: Approximately 3 hrs. 4.6 miles, 800' elevation gain. This strenuous loop takes us to the summit of 600' granite monad Stone Mountain, then continues to the 400' Stone Mountain Falls. From the falls, the trail leads to the base of Stone Mountain and to an old farm settlement. Address: 3042 John Frank Pkwy, Roaring Gap, NC 28668. Let's meet at the Visitors Center at 9:30. For carpooling, let's plan on meeting in the New Market Shopping Center near the ATM kiosk at 8:00am. It takes about 1 1/4 hrs to get to the Visitors Center from Boone. There are sheltered picnic tables near the Visitors Center so please bring snacks and water for the hike, and a picnic lunch for afterwards. Contact hike leader Eva Rand at 301-758-4375 or twowheels28@hotmail.com so I'll know who is coming and if you plan to carpool. No dogs. Map: <https://files.nc.gov/ncparks/maps-and-brochures/stone-mountain-park-map.pdf>

Saturday, June 30 TBD: Wes and Sheryl McNair