

Blue Ridge Hiking Club – Fourth Quarter 2017 Hikes

Monday, October 2, Trout Lake to Manor House & Figure 8 Trail: Meet at Trout Lake parking lot (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). Meet at the Trout Lake parking lot, at 9:30. About 5 miles, relaxed pace. Done by noon. Guests and non-members welcome. No dogs.

Wednesday, October 4, 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. No dogs. Contact Lory Whitehead loryaw44@gmail.com (828) 553-4777.

Saturday, October 7 North Harpers Creek Falls, Meet at main recreation hall big parking lot at Linville Land Harbor, (probably 10:00, with decent weather, but contact Bob for details). Rated moderate. No dogs. Contact Bob Heinrich, 828-733-9174.

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

Wednesday, October 11, Mountains-to-Sea Trail from NC 128 to Walker Knob Overlook (Mt. Mitchell area) Donn Levine of the Mt. Mitchell Lands hikers has generously offered to lead this hike from the Mt. Mitchell SP entrance (Hwy 128) walking up to the summit of Blackstock Knob at 6359' and then gradually descending to The Walker Knob Overlook (Balsam Gap) on the BRP, taking in outstanding views, huge rock formations, and beautiful forest. The one-way hike is 5 miles. Moderately strenuous. Elevation gain 1610 feet. We will stage vehicles at Walker Knob Overlook BRP mile 358.9 and drive back to NC 128 BRP mile 355 to begin the hike. We will break for lunch during the hike, so bring sandwiches, snacks, plenty of water, stick(s) etc. No Dogs. Call Juin Adams 828-295-9607 for details and carpooling.

Saturday, October 14 Table Rock and Crest Trail: c

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

Wednesday, October 18, Doe River Gorge - near Hampton TN. Out-and-back hike (about 5 miles total) along part of the former Tweetsie Railroad line. Beautiful rock outcroppings and views of the Doe River. Easy, flat. No dogs. About a one hour drive from Boone - we can carpool. Contact Larry Mallett at larry_mallett@yahoo.com or (828) 260-1675

Saturday, October 21 Upper Creek Falls and Hawksbill Mountain, 4.7 mi. Meet at main recreation hall big parking lot Linville Land Harbor (probably at 10:00 with decent weather, but contact Bob for details). Moderate to strenuous. No dogs. Hike leader, Bob Heinrich, 828-73-9174.

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

Wednesday, October 25, Hike/walk up Sugar Mountain ski slope. This is one of the best "cardio" walks around here. Awesome long range views at the top! We will start at the lodge & walk up to the top which is approx. 1 mile with an elevation gain of 1200 ft. Time-wise, it can be done in 30 mins with no stops, or 50-60 mins with stops, dependent on the pace. We can have lunch at the top (or a snack), then lunch at one of the restaurants nearby, as the group wishes. The walk down is 30-50 mins. Bring your camera....this will be a FUN experience or your money back!! Meeting time will be 10:00. No dogs. Call for directions, & so we can expect you...walk leader Harvey Crouch, 828-773-5265.

Saturday, October 28 AT from Carver's Gap to Grassy Ridge Bald: Meet either at Carver's Gap parking area or carpool from Banner Elk parking lot by Bank of America on 194. Optional pizza lunch at the Smoky Mountain Bakers in Roan Mountain on the way home. No dogs. Contact Mike Lobban at 305-905-7000 or mjobban@bellsouth.net

Monday, October 30: Rich Mountain: Meet at Trout Lake parking lot (1st exit left off Parkway just south of Cone Manor onto Rt. 221 and then take an immediate right onto Shull's Mill Rd going under parkway) at 9:30. About 5 miles, relaxed pace. Done by noon. Guests and non-members welcome. No dogs.

Wednesday, November 1 Profile Trail: Starting from the new entrance off Rte. 105 near the intersection with Rte. 184 in Banner Elk. "Trail starts out easy then gradually increases in steepness, going from easy to moderate to very strenuous near the summit. We will go as far as the group wants to go depending on weather and conditions. Hiking poles are recommended for the moderate to strenuous stretches. Please bring adequate fluids and food. No dogs. Contact hike leader, Eva Rand 301-758-4375 or twowheels28@hotmail.com

Saturday, November 4 Hwy. 221 Pre-Viaduct Parkway Ramp to Rough Ridge: Hike the old roadbed from Hwy. 221 to Rough Ridge via the closed entry ramp to the Parkway at Wilson Creek Overlook, then the Tanawha to Rough Ridge and return. Approximately 5 mi. roundtrip; moderately strenuous, some rock scrambling. Meet at the entry on Hwy. 221. No dogs. Call hike leader Bob Heath at 828-773-0471.

Monday, November 6: Price Lake plus. Meet at Boat ramp parking area, BRP MP 297. Since this is a short hike, be prepared to hike over to and up a bit of the Tanawha Trail at 9:30. About 5 miles, relaxed pace. Done by noon. Guests and non-members welcome. No dogs.

Wednesday, November 8 Mount Jefferson - climb to the top via a section of the new Mountain Ridge Trail to the parking/picnic area - and then continue uphill to the peak to hike the two top trails. Wonderful views of Ashe County, New River Valley. About 5 miles, moderate to strenuous. No dogs. Contact Pam Hoffman, 828-262-9779.

Saturday, November 11 Story Teller and Flat Rock: From Boone Fork Parking area mile 299.9 on the BRP. The hike will follow the Tanawha and Nuwati Trails to Storyteller Rock and will return via the Cragway, Daniel Boone Scout and Tanawha Trails. Story Teller and Flat Rock afford beautiful vistas of the Boone Bowl and beyond. Approx. 5 miles, some parts steep and rocky. Moderate to strenuous. Bring lunch, water, stick(s). No Dogs. Call hike leader Juin Adams at 828-295-9607.

Monday, November 13: Green Knob Trail: This is a short trail with a bit of elevation. Meet at Sims Pond Overlook, BRP MP 295.9 at 9:30. Less than 5 miles, relaxed pace. Done by noon. Guests and non-members welcome. No dogs.

Wednesday, November 15 Linville Falls: BRP MP 316.5 Hike down to both the plunge basin overlook and on to the Plunge Basin lower area followed by a walk out the upper falls trail. Snack by the river or at one of the overlooks. Ice cream at Christa's on the way back. Bring water, snack, stick(s) etc.

Relaxed pace, moderate to strenuous. Expect a 3-4 hour hike. No dogs. Call hike leader Juin Adams 828-295-9607 for details and carpooling.

Saturday, November 18 Boone Fork Trail + Hebron Falls: Meet at the Price Lake picnic ground (by the toilets/bridge) near MP 296 on the BRP. 5 mile loop, approx. 3 1/2 hrs. Hike includes views of rivers, rapids, waterfalls, meadows, water crossings (easy-difficult, depending on water levels), rhododendron tunnels. Rated moderately strenuous. Hiking sticks are suggested. No dogs. Contact hike leader Mike Lobban - mjlobban@bellsouth.net / 305-905-7000.

Monday, November 20: Old John's River Road to Price Lake, and a visit to King's marker. Meet at Sim's Pond Overlook, BRP MP 295.9 at 9:30. About 5 miles, relaxed pace. Done by noon. Guests and non-members welcome. No dogs.

Wednesday, November 22 Rocky Knob - Boone. We will explore the trails at Boone's newest outdoor activity site. Trails are for mountain biking and hiking. Easy to moderate. Round trip hike distance approx. 5 to 6 miles depending how far up we go. From downtown Boone, take US 421 S. towards Wilkesboro. Meet at the park entrance just off of 421 east of Boone city limits, about 3/4 mile past Bamboo Road and the Marathon Gas Station. If entrance gate is down, park and meet outside gate: otherwise, proceed past gate to the parking area. No dogs. Contact hike leader Roger Bodo at 828-260-2019. Roger Bodo bodoira@gmail.com (828) 260-2019

25 Thanksgiving Weekend – no organized hike scheduled.

Monday, November 27: Flat Top Observation Tower + Cone Memorial. Meet in front of the Carriage House by Cone Manor, BRP MP 294.1 at 9:30. About 5 miles, relaxed pace. Done by noon. Guests and non-members welcome. No dogs.

Wednesday, November 29, Basin Creek Trail Hike to Caudill Cabin: (Alleghany/Ashe Co.). 9.6 miles, all-day hike. Rated moderate to strenuous. Elevation gain of 1,560 ft., 34 stream crossings, mostly by rock-hopping. Streams are not deep or wide. Chimneys are left standing from cabins washed away in the terrible flood of 1916. The Caudill cabin, however, is newly restored. Dress for the weather, bring 2 quarts of water, flashlight, hiking sticks for stream hopping, a small towel, and lunch. No dogs. Contact Curly Perzel at allmuth@skybest.com 336-982-8591

Saturday, December 2 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 1/2 - 3 hrs. No dogs. Call hike leader Bob Heath at 828-772-0471.

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

Wednesday, December 6 Mountains-to-Sea Trail from Boone Trace (MP 285.1, BRP) to Grandview Overlook (MP 281.2, BRP) - one way. We will spot cars. The adventurous may wish to do round trip. Travel up and down through forest and pasture. Easy to moderate. No dogs. Contact Pam Hoffman, 828-262-9779.

Saturday, December 9 Quarterly Meeting: Annual Holiday party and quarterly meeting This is a potluck event followed by a gift exchange. Each person will draw a number to determine their place in the gift giving. Bring one gift per person, wrap it, but do not put any name on it. Cost \$20 or under. Host: Juin Adams. Call Juin at 828-295-9607 to help with meeting setup/ cleanup. Driving directions will be sent in early December.

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

Wednesday, December 13 Otter Falls Trail at Seven Devils. We will explore the short trails to a beautiful waterfall. Easy. New platform and hiking path along creek allow for exploration and rock-hopping, if desired. No dogs. Very limited parking - will need to carpool depending on number of participants. Contact Pam Hoffman, 828-262-9779.

Saturday, December 16 Trout Lake to Rich Mountain and Price Park Picnic Area: via MST and short section of Boone Fork Trail. Moderate 3.5 mile uphill walk from Trout Lk. to Rich Mtn., then all downhill to the picnic ground. Approx. 6 miles, moderate. Bring lunch and a drink for a snack break up on Rich Mtn. No dogs. Call hike leader Juin Adams at 828-295-9607.

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

Wednesday, December 20 Bass Lake to Cone Manor Loop: 5 miles, 3 hrs. Rated easy. This pretty hike goes along Bass Lake, climbs through woods up to the Cone manor house and then winds back down to Bass Lake, making a beautiful loop. Meet at Bass Lake parking area off Rte. 221 in Blowing Rock. No dogs. Contact hike leader Roger Bodo at 828-260-2019. Roger Bodo bodoira@gmail.com (828) 260-2019

23 Christmas weekend – no organized hike scheduled.

Wednesday, December 27 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 Year's 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. Contact Sherrey Murray smpa@att.net (828) 737-0248

30 New Years Weekend No organized hike scheduled.