

2nd Quarter 2025 Hikes



Monday Hikes

All hikes meet at 9:30 am, are 5 miles or less in length, offer a relaxed pace and are done by noon, mostly. No dogs please. Children and grandchildren, guests, visitors, and non-members are very welcome.

Apr 7: **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, nearly a U turn, onto Shull's Mill Rd going under parkway), and an immediate angling right onto single lane paved access to parking around the lake.

Apr 14: **The Maze and Apple Barn at Cone Manor.** Meet at Bass Lake in the lower parking area, off Rt. 221 just south of Blowing Rock.

Apr 21: **Bass Lake to Blowing Rock Stables.** Meet at Bass Lake in the lower parking area off 221 just south of Blowing Rock.

Apr 28: **Trout Lake to Rich Mountain.** Meet in the parking area of Trout Lake off Shull's Mill Road near BRP Milepost 294.6. Flat

May 5: **Bass Lake to Cone Manor Loop.** Meet at Bass Lake in the lower parking area off 221 just south of Blowing Rock.

May 12: **Bass Lake to Apple Barn & return via old trail.** Meet at Bass Lake in the lower parking area off 221 just south of Blowing Rock.

May 19: **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.

May 26: **Green Knob Trail:** This is a short trail with a bit of a climb. Meet at Sims Pond Overlook, BRP MP 295.9.

Jun 2: **Tanawha Trail to Holloway Mountain Road,** and on to an older community cemetery. Meet at the boat ramp parking at Price Lake, BRP MP 297.

Jun 9: **Boone Fork Trail to the new MST bridge** and Old John's River Road. Meet at Price Picnic area. BRP MP 296.4.

Jun 16: **Flat Top Observation Tower + Cone Memorial.** Meet in front of the Carriage House by Cone Manor, BRP MP 294.1.

Jun 23: **Mountain-to-Sea Trail:** Meet at the Raven Rock Overlook, hiking south toward Thunder Hill and return. BRP MP 289.5.

Jun 30: **Old John's River Road to Price Lake,** and perhaps a visit to King's marker. Meet at Price Picnic area. BRP MP 296.4.

Wednesday Hikes

April

2 - **From Flannery Fork Road to the Fire/Viewing Tower.** I propose starting from where the Cone Manor Trail from Trout Lake crosses Flannery Fork Road, where we can park cars. We will hike up the hill to the bridal trail from the Manor then turn up to the Cone Graveyard, then to the Tower. Our start time will be 9:30, and food and water are optional. We should finish at lunchtime. The usual club rules will apply. Hike Leader, Bill Baker, williamr.baker@prodigy.net, 828-295-8677

9 - **Bear Paw Natural Area, Dutch Creek Road.** Hike up to ridgeline for views of Seven Devils/Foscoe and Grandfather. 2.9 mi, 1177ft., rated challenging, but we will take it slow. **No Dogs** Email juinadams@yahoo.com or call 828-295-9607 (landline-no texts) for meeting time, place and carpooling opportunities.

16 - **Crab Orchard Falls & Hermitages:** Meet at waterfalls parking behind Holy Cross Episcopal Church at 122 Skiles Way, Banner Elk, near Valle Crucis. Moderate, but somewhat steep, 5-mile hike up the logging road to the Hermitages, back down via the Loop, and on to the beautiful falls. Text or call Sheryl Yatsko @ 908-797-4016 or email samdee57@gmail.com.

23 - 2-3m hike mtg at main LLH parking lot by pool. Choice of hawkbill or up creek falls or Harper creek falls. Call me Bob Heinrich C: 859.779.8986 bheinrichky@gmail.com

30 - **Carvers Gap on AT to Murray shelter,** wildflower walk, beautiful!!! Moderate to strenuous in few sections. No Dogs. Covid precautions. Carol Ann Mitchell 423-772-4280; 423-957-1207; camitchell21@gmail.com

May

7 - **Laurel Fork Falls:** We will meet at the Laurel Fork Falls trailhead, near Hampton, TN. The hike is rated moderate, with a climb down many rock steps to the waterfall. 5 miles, some steep areas. Bring a lunch, water. No dogs Hiking poles recommended. Contact Sheryl McNair at sammcnair@yahoo.com or 443-306-9933.

14 - **Hughes Gap to Overlook** 4+miles, moderate. follows TN/NC star line along ridges, very few switchbacks, beautiful views. Covid precautions. Carol Ann Mitchell 423-772-4280; 423-957-1207; camitchell21@gmail.com

21 - **This hike will start on the Tanawha Trail / MST at Holloway Mtn. Rd.** following the Boone Fork trail to the MST bridge crossing Boone Fork Creek and finish at Shulls Mill Rd. Bring sticks, lunch and water. 5-6 miles rated moderate. We will spot cars. Contact Mike Lobban at 305-905-7000 / mjlobban@bellsouth.net.

28 - **AT: Roaring Creek across Humps**— Approx. 9+ miles, moderate to strenuous. There are magnificent vistas with steep climbs up Little Yellow Mtn., Little Hump and Big Hump. (4 miles 1900') followed by a 5-mile 2713' rocky descent to 19E--hard on the knees, poles helpful, as well as knee strapping **or group can choose to return from Big Hump to Roaring Creek Road.** Bring sticks, a hat (no trees), water and lunch. No Dogs. Email juinadams@yahoo.com or call 828-295-9607 (landline-no texts) for meeting time, place and carpooling opportunities

June

4 - **Elk Knob:** 3.8 mi. round trip, with 900 ft. gain in elevation. Moderately strenuous. Spectacular views at the summit. The trails are mostly moderate, but steady incline, steep in some places. Bring water, a snack and hiking sticks if desired. No dogs. Contact Cyndi for start time plantseeds3@gmail.com or text 941-720-1299

11 - **Hughes Gap to Overlook,** 4-5 miles, moderate, fantastic views. no dogs. Covid precautions. Carol Ann Mitchell 423-772-4280; 423-957-1207; camitchell21@gmail.com

18 - **Fonta Flora Trail:** Start at the Fonta Flora County Park trailhead at the intersection of Fish Hatchery Road and NC 126. Will hike the trail through the park until we reach the Boat Launch. Approximately 6-7 miles, moderate terrain. Text or call Sheryl Yatsko @ 908-797-4016 or email samdee57@gmail.com.

25 - **Flat Rock Ridge Trail: (Doughton Park MP 244.7)** We will hike a portion of the trail, which descends from Basin Cove Overlook to the banks of Basin Creek. The hike will include a number of ups, downs and switchbacks. The maximum distance to be hiked could be 10 miles, but likely will be shortened, depending on the group's desires. Email juinadams@yahoo.com or call 828-295-9607 (landline-no texts) for meeting time, place and carpooling opportunities.

Saturday Hikes

April

5 **AT around Watauga Lake:** 5-8 miles to dam or visitor center. Moderate. No dogs. Covid precautions. Carol Ann Mitchell 423-772-4280; text 423-957-1207, camitchell21@gmail.com.

12 **Boone Fork Trail:** Meet at the Price Lake picnic ground near MP 296 on the BRP. 5-mile loop, containing rivers, rapids, waterfalls, meadows, water crossings (easy-difficult, depending on water levels), and rhododendron tunnels. Includes 2 trail ladders. Hiking sticks are suggested. Text or call Sheryl Yatsko @ 908-797-4016 or email samdee57@gmail.com.

19 **Shortoff Mountain:** Starting from Wolf Pit Road above Lake James, the first mile of the hike is a strenuous, rocky trail with switchbacks and sweeping views of Lake James. One mile up, the trail merges with the Mountains to Sea Trail. The last 1¼ mile is mostly level across the summit at 2883 feet, passing by many panoramic views and a rare mountain-top bog. We'll lunch at a rock outcropping with the best view of Table Rock and the Linville Gorge. Hiking sticks suggested.

Sunscreen, hat, water and snack/lunch needed. 5 mi., 1321 ft., rated strenuous. No dogs. Email hike leader, Juin Adams at juinadams@yahoo.com or call 828-295-9607 (landline-no texts) for meeting time, place and carpooling opportunities

- 26 **Caudill Cabin Basin Creek:** 9.6 mile, all day hike. Rated moderate to strenuous. Elevation gain 1560 ft. 34 stream crossings; Chimneys are left standing from cabins washed away in the terrible flood of 1916. The Caudill Cabin stood. Bring lunch, water, a headlamp and sticks helpful for stream crossings. No dogs. Call hike leader Allmuth „Curly“ Perzel 336-983-8591 no text, no emails please.

May

- 3 **AT around Watauga Lake to Visitor Center:** Moderate, approximately 6 or 8 miles depending on where we turn around (at dam or visitor center) moderate. Fantastic views of the lake and hopefully we'll see some wildflowers by the dam. Bring water, lunch and hiking stick(s) recommended. Covid/upper respiratory precautions, no dogs. Contact Cyndi for the start time and meeting location. Plantseeds3@gmail.com or text 941-720-1299
- 10 **Grandfather Trails: Daniel Boone Scout, Cragway, Nuwati (Loop):** Round trip from Boone Fork Parking. Approx, 6 mi., 4 hrs. Rated moderate. Mostly wooded up Dan'l Boone and along Nuwati, open skies down Cragway. Call / text / email: Mike Lobban - 305-905-7000 / mjlobban@bellsouth.net. Bring snacks / lunch to eat on Flat Rock. No dogs. Sticks and lots of fluids suggested.
- 17 **China Creek- Upper Thunder Hole Loop:** Includes easy water crossings and a little rock scrambling. Lunch by a lovely little waterfall before starting back up. The hike starts downhill across from stables, then back up to HWY 221 following an old logging road above a pretty stream with cascades. Opportunities to stop along the way. Moderate to Strenuous. 5-6 miles. elevation gain approx. 1700 feet. No Dogs. Bring sticks, water and lunch. Email juinadams@yahoo.com or call 828-295-9607 (landline-no texts) for meeting time, place and carpooling opportunities.
- 24 **Cold Prong to Storyteller:** This hike will follow the Tanawha Trail from Cold Prong Pond parking area (299 BRP) to the Nuwati Trail and Storyteller Rock. 7 mi. round trip; steady uphill with 1,489' elevation gain. Rated moderate. No dogs. Contact hike leader, Sheryl McNair, email sammcnair@yahoo.com & phone 443-306-9933
- 31 **Grandfather Trail to Boone Fork Parking via Daniel Boone Scout Trl.:** Very Strenuous; 6.5 miles of fantastic hiking and mountain viewing. This hike will encompass McRae Peak, Attic Window Peak, Calloway Peak, and Cragway Trail and ultimately end up at Boone Fork Parking. This hike includes cables, ladders, crevasses, and scaling rockslides. This is a challenging hike for experienced hikers with proper equipment. Will meet at Boone Fork Parking at MP 299.9 for carpooling. No dogs. Text or call Sheryl Yatsko @ 908-797-4016 or email samdee57@gmail.com. Or contact via text or email to Cyndi 941-720-1299; plantseeds3@gmail.com.

June

- 7 **AT - Carvers Gap to Grassy Ridge (Pizza Hike):** Out and back hike, approx. 5 miles - 3 hours, rated moderate to strenuous. Spectacular 360 deg. views along part of the AT that crosses the Balds. Trail is rocky in parts with steep slopes in each direction, reaching 6,000+ ft. elevations. Bring sticks, lots of fluids, sunscreen, and a hat (no shade). No dogs. Call / text / email hike leader, Mike Lobban

for correct time and carpool locations. 305-905-7000 / mjlobban@bellsouth.net. Optional PIZZA lunch at Smoky Mountain Bakery on the way home. 36.106329,-82.110229 ([map](#))

14 **Quarterly Meeting Host:** Amy Tidd

21 **Hughes Gap to Cloudland:** Steady climb up Beartown Mountain with rest stop and then final ascent to clearing at Cloudland. 8 miles, elevation gain 2158' rated moderate. Bring water and lunch. No Dogs. Email hike leader Juin Adams at juinadams@yahoo.com or call 828-295-9607 (landline-no texts) for meeting time, place and carpooling opportunities.

28 **Huntfish Falls:** Down and back; steep switchbacks. Approximately 2mi., 470' elevation gain; rated moderate. Then on down to Mortimer to go out and back to Harper's Creek Falls, approximately 3 mi.; 472' elevation gain; rated moderately strenuous. No dogs. Contact hike leader, Wes McNair at wesmcnair@charter.net or 443-949-2818.