

2016 Johnson City Hiking Club Schedule for Oct, Nov and Dec
Founded March of 1990 by Sam Lloyd



MacAfee's Knob area----photo by James Price

Oct-1	MacAfee's Knob---Moderate 7.4 mile in/out hike near Salem, Va. (about 3 hour
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	drive) to the most photographed spot on the A.T. We will climb to this famous, fantastic rock ledge overlook of Catawba valley and Tinker Cliffs which is a popular hike and most of us have never been there. It will require a clear day, so it could be exchanged for a later hike; watch for postings. Leave Kroger's 8am. Please notify Marcia Pruner, hike leader, if you are interested asap for planning purposes. 276-889-5714 or cell 276-614-5504
Oct-8	Strenuous 10.5-mile hike on the Straight Fork Ridge Trail and the Devil's Fork Loop Trail to Devil's Bathtub in Scott County, Virginia. This route involves only one minor stream crossing. Meet at Kroger* at 8 AM. Leader: Bill Strang 423-534-8665 or strangwn@yahoo.com The MAH Club will join us for this hike.
Oct-15	Strenuous 7 to 8.2 mile in & out hike on the Profile and Grandfather Trails of Grandfather Mtn. The 7 mile hike will turn around at the north west facing rocky ledge with views of Banner Elk, Sugar & Beech Mtns. The longer version will continue on through "The Chute", where hands must be used to navigate the dramatic tumble of rocks, and on to the top of MacRae Peak with its 360 degree views. Over 2000' of climbing. The 45 mile drive will take one hour. Leave Long John Silver's at 8am. If you would like to be met at Food City in Elizabethton at 8:20 contact the leader, Joel Zabel (423)631-6385 .
Oct-22	Rogers Ridge or Tri-Corner hike---Thomas Jefferson's father, Peter Jefferson, gave Pond Mountain its name in the 1700s after he surveyed the line that would become the border of North Carolina and Virginia. Jefferson chose the name because of the many natural ponds that dotted the mountain's high ridgeline. The historic ponds point to the mountain's special significance as an important water resource. Several important streams and creeks originate on Pond Mountain, including Big Laurel, Ripshin and Big Horse Creeks, all of which flow into the New River, a National Heritage River and one of the oldest rivers in the world. Our hike would be approximately 10 miles round trip (in and out). Drive is 63 miles and will take about 1:40 minutes. Moderate hike mostly on dirt roads. Destination would be the corner of Tenn., Va., and N.C. There is a short version of this hike --about 5 to 6 mile hike--if in high clearance vehicles one drove part of the way in on the dirt road. The leader also says we might want to wear orange or a bright color as hunters do hunt here. Leave Long John Silver's at 8 am. Leader: James Foster 423-946-0536 ; The MAH Club will join us for this hike.
Oct-29	A moderate 9.1 mile hike on A.T. between Hughes Gap and Iron Mountain Gap. The trail follows the ridgeline on Iron Mountain, straddling the state line between NC / TN and passing Little Rock Knob, Clyde Smith Shelter, Greasy Creek Gap, and remnants of an old farm and orchard. Climbing is 2100 ft. hiking southbound and 2400 ft. northbound. Halloween costumes are optional. Leave Long John Silver's /Arby's at 8am. Leader: Judy Middlemas, 282-6987 This is a hike with MAH Club.
Nov-5	Strenuous 9 mile out and back hike in the Sampson Mountain Wilderness on the Middle Spring Ridge Trail. We'll follow the Squibb Creek trail from the Horse Creek Recreation Area to the Middle Spring Ridge Trail, and then climb it to Buzzard Rock overlook with nice views for lunch. This hike is strenuous due to 2800' of climbing. Leave Jonesborough Post Office at 8 AM. Contact leader Joel Zabel at 423-631-6385 with questions.
Nov-12	A strenuous 6 mile loop at Weaver's Bend on the Paint Mountain and Chimney Rock Trails off Houston Valley road south of Greeneville. Good views of the French Broad River. Leave the Jonesborough Post Office at 8am. Leader:

	Howard Guinn 423-753-4072 cell 423-741-7755
Nov-19	A 10 mile loop hike on Holston Mountain from Griffith Branch to the towers and back. Leave Long John Silver's at 8am. Leader: Howard Guinn 423-753-4072.
Nov-26	This 5 mile easy to moderate hike includes Little Lost Cove Cliffs and Big Lost Cove Cliffs in the Grandfather Ranger District. The cliff area overlooks the Wilson Creek basin, with Grandfather and Grandmother Mountains in the background. Our in / out hike(s) will be on 2 separate trails. There is some moderate climbing on each end, but overall there is little change in elevation. The vegetation along the trail includes hemlock and hardwoods with rhododendron and other heath plants in the under story. This is one of the few times of year that these trails are open to hikers since they are closed January 15 to August 15 each year to protect Peregrine Falcons which nest in the cliffs area. Our drive distance is 48 miles. Leader: James Price, 423-213-0042. Depart Arby's/Long John Silver's** at 8:00 a.m. This is a hike with the MAH Hiking Club.
Dec-3	Strenuous 6 mile hike on the north side of Holston Mtn. We will hike the steep Short Spur Trail from Flatwoods Rd to Panhandle Rd, continue west on Panhandle, then take the Morrill Trail down to Big Creek Rd. Nice views from the steep mountain side. Leave Kroger's at 9 am. If you would like to be met at 9:20 in Bluff City by the caboose park next to the bridge, contact leader Joel Zabel (423)631-6385.
Dec-10	This 10.4 mile strenuous out-and- back hike from Devil Fork Gap south on the A.T. will take us to the Shelton graves, the burial site of two unfortunate Union army soldiers, William and David Shelton, who were gunned down by the Confederates. We will pass by the Flint Mtn Shelter and Flint Gap on the way. Drive distance is 30 miles. Leader: Eric Middlemas (423) 282-6987; email: emiddlemas@live.com. Depart Arby's/Long John Silver's at 8:00 a.m. This is a hike with the MAH Hiking Club.
Dec-17	Moderate 8 mile hike from Spivey Gap. We'll follow the AT, old forest roads and trails to the Honey Rock on the steep northern flank of Flattop Mountain, where we'll have lunch with nice views of the Nolichucky River. Leave Long John Silver's at 9 AM or call the leader Joel Zabel at 423-631-6385 to be met next to Pal's in Erwin at 9:20 AM.
Dec-24	Christmas Eve---Merry Christmas
Dec-31	A 6 mile moderate in and out hike from Iron Mountain Gap to Cherry Gap Shelter; breakfast at Clarence's. Leave Long John Silver's at 9am. Leader: Howard Guinn 423-753-4072 cell 423-741-7755
Sunday Jan-1	Start your hiking year by joining us for a 9 mile moderate in and out hike in Unicoi to the Pinnacle Fire Tower. The trailhead is on exit 32 off of I26 in Unicoi. Form your carpools at Long John Silver's at 9am and meet the leader at the trailhead or if you wish just meet the leader at the trailhead at 9:10am. Leader Howard Guinn 423-753-4072 cell 423-741-7755

Guests are welcome on all hikes, and at meetings. We request that newcomers select hikes within their capabilities; if in doubt, please contact hike leaders for more information about terrain. Participation in club activities carries with it the obligation to hold the club and its representatives free of liability for individual safety. Please bring rain gear, food, plenty of water, gas money, and appropriate clothing on all hikes. No beverages containing alcohol are allowed on the hikes or at the trailheads, if you are involved in activity with the club. We are an alcohol free activity. We request that no pets be brought on hikes. Persons interested in joining the Johnson City Hikers Club and receiving the schedule should contact Faye Guinn at 753-4072 or wegonehiking@embarqmail.com, OR THE SCHEDULE IS POSTED ON THE WEBSITE ---

www.jchikers.weebly.com---CHECK THE WEBSITE BEFORE EACH HIKE TO SEE IF THERE HAVE BEEN CHANGES TO THE HIKE.