

2017 Johnson City Hiking Schedule for April-May-June
 Founded March of 1990 by Sam Lloyd

Guests are welcome on all hikes but please contact Joel Zabel at 423-631-6385 if it is an over 10 mile hike or if you have any questions about hiking—most of our hikes will have an “in and out” option. Participation in club activities carries with it the obligation to hold the club and its representatives free of liability for individual safety. We request that newcomers select hikes within their capabilities. Any hike over 10 miles will be rated as strenuous-because a 10 mile walk in the mountains is strenuous for most of us. There is also a certain amount of elevation gain on almost any hike SO-- if in doubt, contact hike leaders for more information about terrain. 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. Persons interested in joining the Johnson City Hikers Club and receiving the schedule should contact Faye Guinn at 423-753-4072 or wegonehiking@embarqmail.com OR THE SCHEDULE IS POSTED ON THE WEBSITE-<http://jchikers.weebly.com> ---Hike leaders please send any changes as soon as you are aware of them to the webmaster Joel Zabel @ joyjoelz@yahoo.com. Hikers check your e-mail and the website the day before each hike to be sure there has not been a change.

April-1	8.4 mile strenuous, 6.6 mile moderate or 5.2 mile easy hike in Rocky Fork State Park, with other options available. The 8.4 mile hike will first follow the Rocky Fork trail, then climb steeply to the panoramic view from Whitehouse Cliffs; hiking poles recommended. It will then follow the Flint Creek, Blockstand Crk Access, Blockstand Crk trails, and reconnect to the Flint Crk and Rocky Fork trails. 1900'+ climbing. The 6.6 mile hike will skip the Whitehouse Cliffs and have 1000' climbing. The 5.2 mile hike will be an in & out on the Rocky Fork & Flint Crk trails with 700' of climbing. Upper Flint Creek Trail can be very wet after rain; wear appropriate footwear. Leave Long John Silver's at 8am, or contact leader Joel Zabel (423-631-6385) to be met by Pal's in Erwin at 8:20.
April-8	Strenuous to very strenuous 8.5 mile hike on the AT between Carvers Gap and Hampton Creek Road. This will be a key-swap hike and a joint hike with the MAHC. Those starting on Hampton Creek Road will have over 3400' of climbing. This hike will utilize the Overmountain Victory Trail to pass through Hampton Cove State Natural area to reach Yellow Mountain Gap where it connects with the AT. Along the AT our hike covers the open "balds of Roan. Leave Long John Silver's at 8 am, or to be met at Food City in Elizabethton at 8:20, contact Leader: Joel Zabel (423-631-6385) MAH Club leader: Roy Holcomb, 423- 926-1313.
April-15	A 7 mile keyswap hike from Bays Mountain Park to Laurel Run Park. One group will begin at Laurel Run Park, while the other group will start at Bays Mountain. We will use the Laurel Run Trail; connect to Kiner Hollow Trail and the Indian Pipes Trail. Group leaders will decide on possible other trails within Bays Mountain, adding more miles if desired. Spring wildflowers can be abundant along Laurel Run Trail and the entrance road into the park.

	Leaders: Joel Zabel, 423-631-6385 and Eric Middlemas, 423- 282-6987. Depart Arby's / Long John Silver's at 8:00 a.m. Second meeting point at Meadowview Conference Center at 8:20 a.m.
April-22	Moderate 7 mile loop hike on Holston Mountain. We'll hike up to the Holston Mountain fire tower, and then follow Holston Mountain Trail and Flint Mill Trail to Flint Rock for lunch. Flint Rock has great views of South Holston Lake, Holston Valley and Clinch Mountain. We'll hike back on unused forest road 4202 (Flint Mill Gap Rd). Leave Long John Silver's** at 9:00AM. If you have questions or want to be met at Food City in Elizabethton at 9:20, contact the leader Joel Zabel at 423-631-6385 .
April-29	Strenuous 6, 9, and 11 mile hikes on the AT from Hughes Gap up Roan Mountain and back. There is a nice overlook at Beartown Mountain for all hikers at 2.5 miles. The 6 mile hike is a climb of 1200' to Ash Gap & back. Ash Gap may be filled with blooming wildflowers if our timing is right. The 9 mile hike is a climb of over 2300' to the Cloudland Hotel site. Hikers can choose that as a turnaround point, or can continue on the 2.4 mile round trip on the relatively flat trail to the Roan High Bluff (6267') overlook. Leave Long John Silver's at 8 AM. Call leader Joel Zabel at 423-631-6385 with questions or if you would like to meet at Food City in Elizabethton at 8:20.
May-6	Moderate to strenuous 9 mile hike around Flattop Mtn. Starting near Devil's Creek Gap on NFSR 278 above Spivey Gap, we follow Devil's Creek Gap Trail 188 around the rocky northern flank of Flattop Mtn. We then climb the Lost Cove Trail to have lunch at Joe Lewis Fields with its broad vistas. We will take the closed section of NFSR back to our start. Over 1000' of climbing. Leave Long John Silvers at 8am. If you would like to be met on the west side of Pal's in Erwin at 8:15, contact leader Joel Zabel (423-631-6385) .
May-13	Strenuous 9-mile hike on Pine Mountain along the Virginia/Kentucky border to Bad Branch Falls and High Rock ending at US 119. A shuttle of approx 3 miles will be needed. On past hikes we have seen Showy Orchids, Trilliums and Pink Lady Slippers in bloom and Susan once found a Whorled Pogonia Orchid in bloom. MAH Hiking Club will be joining us for this hike. Leave Kroger at 8 AM or meet the leader at McDonald's at 1st Big Stone Gap exit on US 23 at 9 AM. Leader: Bill Strang 423-534-1462 , strangwn@yahoo.com . You might want to contact Bill if you are going to meet him at McDonalds.
May-19-20-21 overnight hike Smokies; Questions Call Leader at 423-676-1767	On Friday afternoon we will travel to the Cosby Campground for a weekend of Hiking with Jamie in the Smokies. If you are going please contact Jamie the week of the hike and see if there is a chance for carpooling and also any questions you may have about the weekend. Saturday's hike will be a difficult to strenuous 17 miles in the Greenbriar Area of the Smokies. We will hike the Old Settlers Trail (15.8) to Maddron Bald Trail (1.2). Beginning at the Ramsey Cascade Road trailhead. Hiking this trail we will see more traces of the 19th and early 20th century mountain like than any other place in the park. We will see chimneys, rock walls, and non-native plants such as daylilies, boxwood and lilac. We will be crossing the headwaters of over a dozen creeks and the small communities that populated these watersheds. A myriad of historic sites are all along this CCC constructed trail. Hike leader:

	Jamie Wheeler <u>423-676-1767</u> . The Sunday hike will be; A moderate 7.2 miles on the Porters Creek Trail in the Greenbriar Area of the Smokies. Wildflowers Fern Branch Falls and a long footbridge are just a few of the treats along the pathway. One of the most peaceful and rewarding hikes in the Smokies. Hike Leader: Jamie Wheeler <u>423-676-1767</u>
May-27	A 6.9 mile moderate shuttle hike from Elk Gardens to Buzzard Rock to US-58—Summit Cut. The elevation at Elk Garden is 4430 feet, the high point is 5350 feet and Summit Cut is 3160 feet .We will drop a shuttle car at Summit Cut and all hike together from Elk Gardens. Leave Long John Silver's at 8am. Leader: Howard Guinn 423-753-4072 cell 423-747-4881
June-3	An 8 mile moderate hike on Holston Mountain from Griffith Branch to Hinkle Branch. Leave Long John Silver's at 8am. Leader: Howard Guinn 423-753-4072 cell 423-747-4881
June-10	Strenuous 16 mile hike on the AT from between Wilbur Dam Rd and Hwy 91. This is a key-swap hike: one group will start at Wilbur Dam Rd (2250') with the other group starting at Hwy 91 (3450'). It is strenuous mainly for the distance, though the group starting from Wilbur Dam Rd will have 1200' more climbing. There are nice views of Watauga Lake from this high ridge of the Iron Mountains. Bring lots of liquids and extra food for this long hike. This is a joint hike with the MAHC. Leave Long John Silver's at 8am or contact leader Joel Zabel (<u>423-631-6385</u>) to be met at Food City in Elizabethton at 8:20.
June-17	An easy to moderate 6 mile hike at Roan Mountain. Starting at Carvers Gap we will hike to Jane Bald and then take a side trail out to lunch with a nice view. Leave Long John Silver's at 9am. Leader: Howard Guinn 423-75-4072
June-24	Strenuous 12 mile loop hike @ Hungry Mother Park, Va. starting on 4.5 mile Clyburn Ridge, a new trail for the park and for us. This takes us back to our parking spot where we will cross the road and a bridge using the Lake Loop Tr. Then we follow the CCC, Molly's Knob, Vista & Ridge Trails. The more level Lake Loop Tr will take us back to our cars. Easy to do a shorter hike if desired; contact leader for a plan. Hike leader: Marcia Pruner <u>276-889-5714</u>. Leave Kroger* Browns Mill Rd at 8:00 am.

*Kroger 112 Sunset Dr, JC, TN 37604-- Brown's Mill Road and North Roan—we meet at the upper end of their parking.

**Long John Silver's 1903 S. Roan Street, JC, TN 37601—after you pass LJS make a left and come to the back of that parking area.

***Meadowview Conference Center- 1901 Meadowview Parkway, Kingsport TN 37660, meets at entrance of parking lot closest to I-181

****Jonesborough Post Office at 121 Boone Street

***** McDonalds: 529 Jonesborough Rd, Erwin TN 37650, Erwin Linear Trail parking area directly across from McDonalds on N Industrial Rd/Willow Park Rd

Persons interested in joining the Johnson City Hikers Club and receiving the schedule should contact Faye Guinn at 753-4072 or wegonehiking@embarqmail.com. Guests are welcome on all hikes. We request that newcomers select hikes within their capabilities; if in doubt, please contact hike leaders for more information about terrain. We are an alcohol free activity.