

2018 Johnson City Hiking Schedule for January, February and March
 Club was 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.

Monday Jan,1	Start your hiking year off with a hike 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 9:15 am . Leader Howard Guinn 423-753-4072 cell 423-747-4881
Jan,6	A moderate to strenuous 7+/- mile hike to the grassy summit of Big Yellow Mountain. We will begin on the North Carolina forest road side trailhead, continue up the gravel lane passing by the famous Overmountain Barn AT Shelter to Yellow Mountain Gap. Continuing to the AT and historical Overmountain Victory Trail intersection. Traveling north along the AT we will climb to the Big Yellow Mountain side trail. Traveling along the ridge of Big Yellow Mountain to the summit and the "Bench" overlooking the views of Road Highlands, Grandfather, Grandmother, Hawksbill, Tablerock and the Black Mountains. Hike leader: Jamie Wheeler 423-676-1767. Leave Long John Silvers at 9:00 am or contact hike leader to meet at Food City in Elizabethton at 9:20 am .
Jan,13	Moderate 5-mile hike on the ridge above Wilbur & Watauga Lakes. We'll hike the abandoned AT from Wilbur Lake to a high point above Watauga Dam. Great views from high above the lakes, dam, and surrounding valleys. There are some steep, strenuous sections and over 1600' of climbing: hiking poles recommended. Leave Long John Silver's at 9 am or contact leader Joel Zabel (423-631-6385) if you wish to meet at Food City in Elizabethton at 9:20
Jan,20	Strenuous 10-mile hike to the Nolichucky overlook. This loop hike starts near Indian Grave Gap and follows closed forest service roads. We will lunch at the popular rocky outcrop perched 900' above the Nolichucky River at the top of one of the steepest walls along the gorge. 1600' of climbing. Leave Long John Silver's at 9 AM . Leader: Joel Zabel (423)631-6385.

Jan,27	A 7-mile moderate hike from US 19-E to Jones Falls and then on to Elk River Falls. We will drop a car at Elk River Falls trail head, then return to start our hike where the AT crosses 19 E. Heading north, we will take a side trail to Jones Falls, then take a blue blaze to Elk River Falls. Leader: Judy Middlemas, 282-6987; judy.middlemas@gmail.com. Depart Long John Silver's/ Arby's 8:00 a.m. We will be joining the MAH club for this hike.
Feb,3	Kingsport's Warriors' Path State Park's short trails have overall gentle elevation changes. We will walk on 9 of their trails including Whitetail, Boneyard, Paw Paw, etc. to traverse 6 miles. Leave Long John Silver's 9 am. Hike leader: Marcia Pruner 276-614-5504 or home: 276-889-5714
Feb,10	Moderate 8.3-mile key swap hike on the AT between Chestoa and Indian Grave Gap. The group starting at Chestoa will have 1650' more climbing than the group starting at Indian Grave Gap. This is a joint hike with the MAHC. Leave Long John Silver's/ Arby's at 9am. If you would like to be met next to Pal's in Erwin at 9:20, contact leader Joel Zabel (423)631-6385. MAHC leader: Jeannine Edwards, 423-202-7207; 901-351-1377(cell); jeannine21@bellsouth.net. Drive distances/times: Chestoa - 18 miles/19 min, Indian Grave Gap - 19 miles/25 min.
Feb,17	A moderate 7 +/- miles in and out hike to the summit of Roan Mountain and the Roan Overlook. We will begin at Carver's Gap (elev. 5,512') and travel south along the AT passing thru dense balsam trees and the highest shelter on the AT, the Roan High Knob Shelter (elev. 6,285'). At 2.4 miles we reach the site of the old Cloudland Hotel, with views of the high points of the Black Mountains. We will leave the AT and hike to the Roan Overlook for Lunch. Returning to Carver's Gap to finish our hike. Hike Leader Jamie Wheeler 423-676-1767. Leave Long John Silver's at 9:00 am. or contact hike leader to meet at Food City in Elizabethton at 9:20 am.
Feb,24	Moderate to Strenuous 6.5 to 8-mile key swap hike between Devil's Fork Gap and Rocky Fork State Park. One group will start at RFSP, hiking first up the challenging Whitehouse Cliffs Trail for the 360-degree view from the top (800' climb). They will then follow the Flint Crk Tr. west out of the park and up to the AT. Next, they head generally south by compass, but north on the AT, past Flint Mtn Shelter to Devil's Fork Gap. The other group will reverse the route, with the climb up Whitehouse Cliffs optional. This is a joint hike with the MAHC. Leave Long John Silver's/ Arby's at 9am. If you would like to be met next to Pal's in Erwin at 9:20, contact leader Joel Zabel (423)631-6385. MAHC leader: Eric Middlemas (423)282-6987. Drive distances/times: Rocky Fork - 27 miles/30 min, Devil's Fork Gap - 30 miles/34min.
March,3	I am leaving this date open in case a hike has to be called because of winter weather. If not used I will announce hike the week of this date. --Faye
March,10	Moderate 9.2-mile key swap hike on the AT between Iron Mtn Gap and Hughes Gap. This is a joint hike with the MAHC. Leave Long John Silver's/ Arby's at 8am. JCHC/MAHC leaders: Joel Zabel (423)631-6385/ Eric Middlemas (423)282-6987. Drive distances/times: Iron Mtn Gap- 19 miles/25 min, Hughes Gap - 32 miles/45 min.
March,17	Moderate 9-mile hike in Unaka Springs/Temple Hill Gap area. We'll make a

	loop using the Lost Wagon Trail, Temple Hill Trail, AT, and the upper end of Unaka Springs Road. 1500'+ of climbing. Meet at Long John Silver's at 9 AM . Contact leader Joel Zabel at 423-631-6385 if you would like to be met by Pal's in Erwin at 9:20 AM .
March,24	Moderate 8-mile hike to Honey Rock. From Spivey Gap, we'll follow the AT, old forest roads and trails to the Rock on the steep northern flank of Flattop Mountain, where we'll have lunch with nice views. Leave Long John Silver's at 9 AM or call the leader Joel Zabel at 423-631-6385 be met next to Pal's in Erwin at 9:20 AM .
March,31	A 10-mile loop hike on Holston Mountain from Griffith Branch to the towers and back. Leave Long John Silver's at 8 am. Leader: Howard Guinn 423-753-4072. Please check your e-mail the day before this hike as it could change.

*Kroger location at Brown's Mill Road and North Roan, in Johnson City—we meet in the SE corner of parking lot near the back of the Red-Pig Bar-B-Q.

**Long John Silver's at corner of University Pkwy and S. Roan in Johnson City, behind bldg.

***Meadowview Conference Center – meet at entrance of parking lot closest to I-181

****Jonesborough Post Office at 121 Boone Street in Jonesborough

***** Parking area across from Pal's in Erwin—turn right just as you cross the bridge in front of McDonalds