

2018 Johnson City Hiking Schedule for July, August and September
 Founded March of 1990 by Sam Lloyd

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.

July-7	<p>SAT. & SUN. JULY 7 & 8 AUDIE MURPHY MONUMENT & AT: MCAFEE KNOB (Joint Hike: Johnson City Hiking Club and MAH Club)</p> <p>Hike: one mile & 7.8 miles [in and out] Rating: Easy / Moderate</p> <p>This will be an overnight trip with hikers either camping in campground or staying in hotel. [for details on where those going are staying contact leaders] On Saturday we will visit the Audie Murphy Monument. On May 28, 1971, Audie Murphy, the most decorated US soldier in World War II, died in an airplane crash on the slopes of Brush Mountain, near New Castle, VA. Three years later, the Veterans of Foreign Wars placed a stone monument near the site of the crash. We drive up the winding, graveled road which ends at the parking lot on Brush Mountain. From there it is an easy 1/2-mile hike to the monument. After viewing the monument, we may take the short trail to the rocky overlook to get beautiful views of the Craig Creek Valley.</p> <p>Then on Sunday we will drive to the trail head of McAfee Knob, the most photographed spot on the A.T. We will climb to this famous, rock ledge overlooks Catawba Valley and Tinker Cliffs. Afterwards we will return to Johnson City. Please let the leaders know if you are interested in making this trip. Leaders: James Price, (423) 213-0042 and Marcia Pruner ((276) 889-5714 Or (276) 614-5504. Depart Long John Silver's/ Arby's 8:00 a.m. On July 7. Drive: 181 miles (\$25)</p>
July 14	<p>AT: DEVIL'S FORK GAP TO SHELTON GRAVE SITE or BIG BUTT</p> <p>Hike: 10.8 or 15 miles (in/out) Rating: Strenuous</p> <p>Beginning at the road TN 352 crossing, this section of AT follows the old state line (NC/TN) ridge trail. We will pass Flint Mountain Shelter at 2.7 miles and at 5.9 miles we reach the Shelton Grave on Coldspring Mountain.</p> <p>Civil War Union soldiers William and David Shelton from Shelton Laurel were returning to the area to rendezvous with family when they were ambushed by Confederates and killed. A young boy lookout was also killed. There are tombstones for each of the three. Those wishing for a longer hike may continue another 1.6 miles to Big Butt, the center of the summit of Coldspring Mountain. Leader: David Polon (423) 302-8368. Depart Long John Silver's/Arby's 8:00 a.m. We are joining David and the MAH Club for this hike.</p>

July-21	Strenuous 10.5 or 7.5 mile in & out hike on the Overmountain Victory Trail and AT. We climb the historic trail from Hampton Creek road to Yellow Mt. Gap. The 7.5 hike goes to the Overmountain AT shelter and back (2000' of climbing). The 10.5-mile hike continues up the AT to Little Hump Mtn at 5459' for lunch (2900' of climbing). We may find big blackberries on the OVT. Leave Long John Silver's** at 8 AM. If you wish to be met at Food City in Elizabethton at 8:20, contact leader Joel Zabel at (423) 631-6385 .
July-28	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 8:00 am. Leader: Joy Cook 423-913-2220
Aug-4	Strenuous 8-mile loop (2300' climbing) or moderate 5.5 mile in & out (1500' climbing) from Martin Creek to the AT. All hikers start from the Martin Creek parking area, walking up the closed forest road (FS 410). A short detour after one mile reveals Martin Creek Falls, one of Erwin's little known natural gems. At 1.2 miles, hikers can choose either the loop or the in/out hike. The loop group will climb the Martin Creek Trail to intersect the AT at Curley Maple Gap, then head north on the AT. The in/out hikers continue up FS 410, turning off on an old yellow blazed trail that connects to the AT. Both groups meet at a sharp switchback on the AT, about 1.5 from Indian Grave Gap. We continue off trail for ¼ mile to Fort Foster, the rocky ridge visible when driving down from Indian Grave Gap. We'll lunch there with nice views. Everyone returns the way the in/out group came up. Leave Long John Silver's /Arby's at 8 AM. If you would like to be met at the Erwin Linear Trail parking area next to the Erwin Pal's at 8:20, contact leader Joel Zabel: (423) 631-6385 . The MAH Club will be joining this hike.
Aug-11	FIRESKALD RIDGE LOOP ----Hike: 10 miles Rating: Strenuous This hike starts on the Jerry Miller trail (Trail #286), formerly known as Whiteoak Flats Trail, which is located off of FS Road 111 (State Road 1312) in the Shelton Laurel backcountry area. The trail makes a steady climb of about 2500 feet in 4.5 miles along Whiteoak Flats branch to the AT at Bear Wallow Gap. About a mile from the trailhead, there is a vigorous, 100-foot cascade/waterfall just before entering the Whiteoak Flats wildlife clearing. The hike then follows the Appalachian Trail north for about 2-3 miles across Fireskald Ridge to the intersection with the Fork Ridge Trail, which descends steeply to FS Road 111. A short distance along FS Road 111 completes the loop. Leader: Eric Middlemas (423) 282-6987; Depart Arby's / Long John Silver's 8:00 a.m. We will be joining the MAH Club for this hike.
Aug-18	SMOKIES AT—NEWFOUND GAP TO CHARLIE'S BUNION + Hike: 8 + miles--Rating: Moderate to Strenuous Drive: 126 miles (\$17) We will be joining the MAH Club for this hike. Two major events formed the rock cliff face on Mt. Kephart known as "Charlie's Bunion". In 1925 a devastating fire from logging operations on the NC side destroyed all vegetation. Following in 1929 heavy rains triggered a major landslide, leaving the barren rock face known as Charlie's Bunion. Early park proponent Horace Kephart named the location because he thought it stuck out like the bunion of his hiking friend Charlie Conner. The view from this location is possibly the park's finest. Leader: James Price, (423) 213-0042. Depart Long John Silver's / Arby's 7:00 a.m. NOTE: EARLY

	<u>DEPART TIME DUE TO LONG DRIVE.</u>
Aug-25	A 12-mile difficult hike near Konnarock, VA; starting on The A.T. from Fox Creek and back. We will go 2.3 miles and take the Iron Mt Tr approx. 5 miles to Comers Cr Falls where we will again join the AT for 5 miles passing the Hurricane Shelter. Meet at Long John Silver's 8:00 am. If you want to meet the group at Elizabethton, notify the hike leader. We will make a stop at Cowboys in Damascus. Hike leader Marcia Pruner 276-614-5504 or 276-889-5714/home.
Sept-1	AT: WALNUT MTN RD <--> 19 E ---Hike: 10.4 Miles --Rating: Strenuous Among the highlights of this section of AT are Elk River, Jones Falls, Splash Dam Falls, Mountaineer Falls, Isaacs Cemetery, and old meadows with views of Grandfather and the Roan Highlands. This joint hike will be a key swap which will eliminate a car drop or shuttle. Leaders: Joel Zabel, (423) 631-6385 and Judy Middlemas, 282-6987. Depart Long John Silver's / Arby's 8:00 a.m. This will be a join hike with the MAH Club.
Sept-8	Allen Gap to Tanyard Gap Hike: 8.8- 9.0 miles Rating: Moderate -Drive: 50 miles, (\$7) North to south the AT ascends steadily from Allen Gap along Spring Mountain toward Rich Mountain, crossing the Rich Mountain Fire Road in Hurricane Gap. From here we climb a steep ascension on the northern slope of Rich Mountain. We cross Roundtop Knob and descend to Tanyard Gap. We will take a side trip to the Rich Mountain Fire Tower. Leader: Roy Holcomb, 926-1313 Depart Long John Silver's/Arby's 8:00 AM. We are joining Roy and the MAH Club for this hike.
Sept-15	A 6.8 mile moderate in and out hike North on the AT from Devils Creek Gap to No Business Knob Shelter. Leave the Jonesborough Post Office at 8am. Leader Howard Guinn 423-753-4072 cell 423-747-4881
Sept-22	Moderate 5 mile, strenuous 8.5 mile, and very strenuous 12.4-mile hikes west of the Black Mtn Crest. Starting at 4200', above the town of Pensacola, we hike 2.5 miles north on an old mtn road to the abandoned Cattail (also called Isom) Mine at 5200'. This former mica mine was in operation off & on between the late 1800's and 1955. The large, deep, dark mine opening is still intact. The tailings pile, bright with mica, runs down the open mountain slope. It's a great place to take a lunch or snack break, as it affords wide views of the Black Mtn Crest & southern Black Mtns. If we explore, we may find evidence of the aerial tramway or the opening for the horizontal tunnel leading into the 210' deep mine shaft. This is the turnaround for the 5-mile hike. All others will continue on an old railroad grade, then turn on a trail that connects to the Black Mtn Crest Trail just below Celo Knob at 6100'. There are wonderful views of the entire Black Mtn chain. This is the 8.5-mile turnaround. The remaining hikers will continue south on the Black Mtn Crest over Horse Rock, Gibbs, and Winter Star Mtns to Deep Gap, then follow a trail to the railroad grade and back to the start. Leave Long John Silver's/Arby's at 8am. If you would like to be met at the Linear Trail parking area next to the Erwin Pal's at 8:20, contact leader Joel Zabel <u>(423) 631-6385</u> . Drive: 62 miles/1hr 20min. MAH Club will be joining this hike
Sept-29	This date will be left open in case of a cancelled hike and will be announced the week of the hike.

*Kroger 112 Sunset Dr, JC, TN 37604-- Brown's Mill Road and North Roan—we meet at the side of the fuel pumps that is away from the store, sort of behind the Red Pig Barbecue place.

**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

Questions-----2732 Hwy 81-South-Jonesborough, Tenn. 37659---423-753-4072