

2022 Johnson City Hiking Schedule for July-August-September  
Founded in March 1990 by Sam Lloyd

Guests are welcome on all hikes. Before coming on your first hike with the club, read the "Info for New Hikers" page at [jchikers.weebly.com](http://jchikers.weebly.com) and call Joel Zabel at 423-631-6385. Participation in club activities carries with it the obligation to hold the club and its representatives free of liability for your individual safety. Only attend hikes that are comfortably within your ability; if in doubt, contact the hike leader or Joel Zabel. Please bring rain gear, food, plenty to drink, gas money, and appropriate clothing on all hikes. No alcoholic beverages are allowed on the hikes or at the trail heads. No pets are allowed on hikes. CHECK the [jchikers.weebly.com](http://jchikers.weebly.com) homepage on Friday evening for changes and updates to the next morning's hike. Open dates may be filled with previously canceled hikes.

Check the MEETINGS SPOTS page at [jchikers.weebly.com](http://jchikers.weebly.com) for zoomable maps showing the locations listed below and precisely where we park:

\*Long John Silver's, South Johnson City: 1903 S Roan Str, 37601 - corner of University Pkwy & S Roan Str, in east part of parking lot behind LJS and Parkway Wine & Liquor

\*\*Jonesborough Post Office: 121 Boone Str, 37659 - in parking lot south of the PO building, next to the Jonesborough Visitor Center building

\*\*\*Kroger, North Johnson City : 112 Sunset Dr, 37604 - near Browns Mill Rd & N Roan Str , in the SE part of parking lot, behind Red Pig Bar-B-Q.

\*\*\*\*Elizabethton Food City: 920 Broad Str, 37643 - corner of Broad Str & Hwy 19E, NE corner of parking lot, nearest to the intersection of Broad and 19E.

\*\*\*\*\*Erwin Linear Trail parking: N Industrial Dr, 37650 - in gravel parking area next to Erwin Linear Trail, on the northwest side (toward Interstate) of Pal's.

\*\*\*\*\*MeadowView Convention Center, Kingsport: 1901 Meadowview Pkwy, 37660 - NW corner of parking lot, closest to Hwy 26/23 Exit 3

July 2: Strenuous 7.4 mile AT maintenance hike between Beauty Spot Road and Iron Mtn Gap. This will be the summer clean-up of the AT section that JCHC maintains. We will be trimming weeds and encroaching vegetation, and removing any small blowdowns. You don't have to do any maintenance to join us - you can just hike. If you do plan to take a turn on a weed wacker, wear long pants, and a long sleeve shirt that will not be ruined by the green, juicy weed bits that fly. Tools and protective head gear will be provided, but bring your own gloves and safety glasses. Leave Long John Silver's\* at 8 EIGHT AM. Leader: Joel Zabel 423-631-6385.

July 9: An 11 mile moderate to strenuous key swap hike with the MAHC on the AT between Spivey Gap and Chestoa. MAHC will start at Spivey Gap and hike north on the AT through open woods and along a beautiful stream (1800' of climbing). JCHC will hike south from Chestoa, starting with wonderful views of the Nolichucky River (3300' of climbing). Leave Long John Silver's\* at 8 EIGHT AM. Leader: Joel Zabel 423-631-6385.

July 16: Moderate 9-mile hike near Grandfather Mt. We'll drive 44 miles (1 hour) and park at the Linn Cove Visitors Center on the BRP. Our hike begins on the Tanawha Trail (a segment of the Mountains-to-Sea Trail), following it 1.5 miles SW to its start at Beacon Heights, where we'll add about a half mile to enjoy the views from Beacon Heights. From here, our out-&-back on Grandmother Mt is 5.4 miles and will include a lunch stop. Back at Beacon Heights, we retrace our 1.5 miles on the Tanawha Trail. Meet behind Long John Silvers\* at 8 AM or contact hike leader Jeff Miller (423-833-7889) if you'd like to join the caravan at Food City\*\*\*\* in Elizabethton at 8:15

July 23: Open

July 30: Moderate 8 mile hike on Roan Mtn. Starting at Carvers Gap, we follow the AT, the Cloudland Trail, a closed forest road, and several unnamed trails to have lunch at a secluded, rocky outcrop high on the west side of Roan. It provides a stunning vista toward the Smokies, 60 miles to the southwest. This is the only place on Roan Mtn with an open view in this direction. 1600'+ of climbing. Leave Long John Silver's\* at 8 EIGHT AM. Leader: Joel Zabel (423) 631-6385.

August 6: Strenuous 10 mile hike in the Sampson Mountain Wilderness. We'll all follow the Squibb Creek trail from the Horse Creek Rec Area to the Turkey Pen Cove Trail, then climb it to the intersection with the Middle Spring Ridge Trail (MSRT). We continue up the ridge to Buzzard Rock overlook with high, open views for lunch: Rocky Fork is below, while Big Bald rises 9 miles east. This hike has 2800' of climbing. Leave JONESBOROUGH POST OFFICE\*\* at 8 EIGHT AM. Leader: Joel Zabel 423-631-6385

August 13: Very strenuous 8.7 to 13 mile in and out hike on the Black Mtn Crest Trail. We start from the northern trailhead at Bowlen's Creek, climbing steadily 3100' to 6150' elevation in 4.3 miles, where we reach a dramatic open view of the Black Mtn range and its highest peaks. This spot just below Celo Knob (6,327 ft.), the northernmost major peak in the Blacks, is the turnaround for the 8.6 mile hike. Those continuing on will first have a western panorama: on clear days the high peaks of the Great Smoky Mtns NP are visible over 50 miles away. The trail follows the rocky spine of the Crest, never dropping below 6000', with intermittent vistas in all directions. The 13 mile turn around is the end of the high ridge before Winter Star Mtn. Harsh weather at this elevation may force a hike change or cancellation; check your email or the website the Friday evening before this hike for updates. Leave Long John Silver's\* at 8 EIGHT AM. Leader: Joel Zabel, 423-631-6385.

August 20: Open

August 27: 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 a broad view of the Nolichucky Gorge. Leave Long John Silver's\* at 8 (EIGHT) AM. Leader: Joel Zabel 423-631-6385.

September 3: Moderate 9.5-mile hike. We'll park on Dry Creek Rd at Horse Cove Gap, across from the Buffalo Mt ATV/OHV parking lot. Our first 4 miles take us NE through Horse Cove, turning SW at Basil Gap and ascending to about 3040 ft (we parked at 2400 ft). Here we turn left and follow the northern part of Forest Service Rd 4354 a half mile, through a section kept clear by mountain bikers, to a high point where FSR 4354 becomes more prominent. 4353 then winds SW 1.2 miles to FSR 4354A, where we turn right and go 2.6 miles to the ATV trail. Our walk on the ATV trail is only about .1 mile. After that, we descend 1.2 miles back to our parking spot (following a clear but unmarked trail). Meet behind Long John Silvers\* at 9 NINE AM. Hike leader Jeff Miller (423-833-7889)

September 10: Strenuous 11.5-mile hike from Hampton to Coon Den Falls and back. We'll start on the Hampton Blue Line and continue on the AT to Laurel Fork Shelter and then to Dennis Cove Road. On the way up to Dennis Cove Road we'll take side trails to two small waterfalls and to Potato Top. We'll then continue on the AT beyond Dennis Cove Road, eventually leaving the AT toward Coon Den Falls. Our high point is at 3500 ft., an elevation gain of 1700 ft. from Hampton. After viewing this waterfall, we'll descend to Dennis Cove via Coon Den Branch. We'll walk Dennis Cove Road 7/10 of a mile back to the AT. Upon rejoining the AT, we'll hike down to Laurel Falls for lunch, then back to our vehicles in Hampton. Meet behind Long John Silvers\* and leave at 8:00 AM. Contact hike leader Jeff Miller (423-833-7889) if you'd like to leave from Food City\*\*\*\* in Elizabethton.

September 17: Open

September 24: Very strenuous and scenic 13.4 mile AT hike between Spivey Gap and Sams Gap. This is a key swap with the MAHC. Starting from Spivey, our first stop will be to enjoy the vista from High Rocks, before dropping to Whistling Gap. We then climb Little Bald, follow the ridge past the Bald Mtn shelter, and savor the mile high views as we walk through the open field of Big Stamp, before reaching our lunch spot at the hike high point of 5516', atop the panoramic Big Bald summit. After descending to Street Gap, we climb through one last open meadow, turning around to see the mountain just conquered, before finishing at Sams. Over 4300' of climbing. Leave Long John Silver's\* at 8 EIGHT AM. Leader: Joel Zabel, 423-631-6385.