



October-November-December Hikes 2021

Monday Hikes, 4th Quarter, 2021

All hikes meet at 9:30 am, are 5 miles or less in length, offer a relaxed pace and are done by noon, mostly. No dogs, and please be prepared to observe Dave's 4 Covid Rules, at least for now. Children and grandchildren, guests, visitors, and nonmembers are very welcome.

Oct 4: Trout Lake to Manor House & Figure 8 Trail: Meet at Trout Lake parking lot (1st exit left off Parkway just south of Cone Manor going to Rt. 221 and then take an immediate right, nearly a U turn, onto Shull's Mill Rd going under parkway), and an immediate angling right onto single lane paved access to parking around the lake.

Oct 11: The Maze and Apple Barn at Cone Manor. Meet at Bass Lake lower parking area, off Rt. 221 just south of Blowing Rock.

Oct 18: Mountain-to-Sea Trail: Meet at the Raven Rock Overlook, hiking south to Thunder Hill and return. BRP MP 289.5.

Oct 25: Flat Top Observation Tower + Cone Memorial. Meet in front of the Carriage House by Cone Manor, BRP MP 294.1.

Nov 1: Price Lake plus. Meet at Boat ramp parking area, BRP MP 297. Since this is a short hike, be prepared to hike over to and up a bit of the Tanawha Trail.

Nov 8: Green Knob Trail: This is a short trail with a bit of a climb. Meet at Sims Pond Overlook, BRP MP 295.9.

Nov 15: Trout Lake to Rich Mountain. Meet in parking area of Trout Lake off Shull's Mill Road near BRP Milepost 294.6.

Nov 22: Old John's River Road to Boone Fork and the new MST bridge. Meet at Sim's Pond Overlook, BRP MP 295.9.

Nov 29: Tanawha Trail to Holloway Mountain Road, and on to an older community cemetery. Meet at boat ramp parking at Price Lake, BRP MP 297.

Dec 6: Carriage Barn to Blowing Rock Stables. Meet at Cone Manor House in front of the Carriage Barn BRP Milepost 294.1.

Dec 13: Old John's River Road to Price Lake, and a visit to King's marker (maybe). Meet at Sim's Pond Overlook, BRP MP 295.9.

Dec 20: Bass Lake to Cone Manor Loop. Meet at Bass Lake lower parking area off 221 just south of Blowing Rock.

Dec 27: Trout Lake to Rich Mountain. Meet in parking area of Trout Lake off Shull's Mill Road near BRP Milepost 294.6.

Wednesday Hikes 4th Quarter 2021

October

6 - **Story Teller Rock and Flat Rock** from Boone Fork Parking area on the BRP. The hike will follow the Tanawha Trail to the Nuwati Trail and on to Storyteller Rock with the return trip via the Cragway, Daniel Boone Scout and Tanawha Trails. Storyteller and Flat Rock afford beautiful vistas of the Boone Bowl and beyond - should be some good color showing at this time. Approx. 5 mi., some parts strenuous and rocky. Bring sticks, water, and snacks / lunch. Contact hike leader Mike Lobban - 305-905-7000 / mjlobban@bellsouth.net

13 - **Trout lake to Cone Memorial**, 5 miles, well behaved dogs on leashes welcome. Hike Leader, Lory Whitehead, (828) 553-4777/loryaw44@gmail.com

20 - **Hughes Gap to AT shelter**. Approx. 7+ miles. Moderate. Beautiful views. Hike leader Carol Ann, no dogs. Camitchell21@gmail.com, 423-772-4280.

27 - **Calloway Peak via Daniel Boone Scout Trail**. Hike from Boone Fork Parking area on the BRP. 5 - 6 hrs., approximately 7 mi. round trip, rated strenuous. Steady uphill trail with many sections strenuous and rocky with ladders. Hiking sticks are highly recommended. Elevation gain 2,060 ft. Enjoy beautiful long-range views to 3 states from the top of Calloway. Fully vaccinated hikers only. No dogs. Contact hike leader Juin Adams at juinadams@yahoo.com or 828-295-9607(landline) No texts please.

November

3 - **Linville Falls**: Meet at 9:30 am at the Linville Falls Parking lot, BRP, MP 316.5. Moderate to strenuous hike to both the Plunge basin overlook and Plunge Basin lower area depending on conditions, and given time, also part of the Upper falls trails. Expect about a 3.0-hour hike. Snack at one of the overlooks. Hike Leader Sherrey Murray, smpa@att.net or 828-737-0248. Dave's Covid rules apply, No dogs.

10 - **Glen Burnie soup hike.** Trail starts at Annie Cannon Gardens parking lot on Laurel Lane in Blowing Rock. The trail meanders down through a gorge past 3 waterfalls on the New Year's Creek. Easy going down, but steep coming back up. We will leave the trail part way back up and hike up to Juin's house for hot soup and salad. Non-hiking spouses are welcome to join us for the soup. After lunch, we will walk back to the trail and complete the hike. 600 ft elevation change. Approximately 3.7 miles total. Rated moderate to strenuous. Fully vaccinated hikers and spouses only. No dogs. Call hike leader Juin Adams 828-295-9607.

17 - **around Watauga lake to visitor center.** Moderate, lovely. Hike leader Carol Ann, no dogs. Camitchell21@gmail.com, 423-772-4280.

24 - Thanksgiving Eve

December

1 - **Stone Mtn. State Park:** Stone Mountain Loop Trail: Approximately 3 hrs.; 4.6 miles, 800' elevation gain. This strenuous loop takes us to the summit of 600' granite monad Stone Mountain, then continues to the 400' Stone Mountain Falls. From the falls, the trail leads to the base of Stone Mountain to an old farm settlement. We will caravan from Boone. Contact Juin Adams juinadams@yahoo.com 828-295-9607. (landline) for meeting time and place. No texts please.

8 - **Cone Manor to Flat Top Tower** : 5.6 mile out and back on carriage trails. The hike is rated moderate, with approximately 600 ft. elevation gain. At the top, climb a 30' tower for panoramic views of the area. Meet at Cone Manor parking area. Hike Leaders, John Prickett and Mitch Murray, smpa@att.net or 828-737-0248. Dave's Covid rules apply, No dogs.

15 - **Hughes Gap to Rhododendron gardens,** moderate, 8 miles. Spectacular views this time of year. Hike leader Carol Ann, no dogs. Camitchell21@gmail.com, 423-772-4280.

22 - Christmas Eve

29 - **Rocky Knob Bike Park:** Rocky Knob Park is located on US 421 just east of Boone city limits. From downtown, take US 421 S towards Wilkesboro. The park entrance is just off 421 on the right, 7/10 of a mile past Bamboo Road. This 185-acre park consists of a series of switchbacks with trails rated easy to moderate. Just enough elevation gain to keep us warm on a frosty day! Bring hiking poles and mini-crampons in case it's icy. There are bathrooms and a picnic pavilion. No dogs and please be fully vaccinated. Hike starts at 10:00 a.m. Hike leader Eva Rand: 301-758-4375 or twowheels28@hotmail.com.

Friday Hikes, 4th Quarter, 2021

NOTE: All Friday hikes Meet at 9:30 a.m. at the Clawson-Burnley Park (opposite the Armory) on Hunting Hills Lane by the Boone Greenway to join Dave on these relaxed walks.

Saturday Hikes, 4th Quarter, 2021

October

- 2 **Elk Knob** – 3.8 mi. round trip, with 900 ft. elevation gain. Moderately strenuous. Spectacular views at the summit. The trails are mostly moderate, but steady incline, steep in some places. 2 ½ - 3 hrs. No dogs. Call hike leader Lory Whitehead at (828) 553-4777.
- 9 **AT around Watauga Lk. to Visitor Center** – Approx. 7+ mi., rated moderate. No dogs. Call hike leader Carol Ann Mitchell at 423-772-4280 or email camitchell21@gmail.com.
- 16 **Table Rock & Crest Trail** – Approx. 5 miles, moderate to strenuous. The Linville Gorge Wilderness area has Table Rock as a view-filled peak above the gorge. The initial part of the hike is steep but not too long, 2 miles round-trip. Beautiful views atop and all of the way up and down. Upon returning to the parking lot, we will continue on the MST toward Shortoff Mountain - lunch at the turnaround point before returning to the parking lot. Great views from both sides of the crest. Meet at Christa's Country Corner on 181 at the Parkway, MP 312 to carpool to the trailhead. No dogs. Bring snacks or lunch, plus >> ICE CREAM at Christa's when we return. Poles and lots of water suggested. Contact hike leader Mike Lobban at 305-905-7000 or mjlobban@bellsouth.net for details
- 23 **Green Knob and Old Johns River Rd.** – Total distance is 5.9 mi. with about 1000' elev. gain. We will begin at the Sims Pond overlook, milepost 295.7 for the 1st 2.3 mi., 578' elev. gain, rated moderate. The trail has multiple crossings of Sims creek, goes under the BRP and over Green Knob. On the return side, you will find excellent views of Grandfather Mtn. We will then continue around to Old Johns River Rd. which is 3.6 mi. round trip, 455' elevation gain. Rated easy. Approaching the bridge at the Boone Fork, follow the MST to the left to go under the bridge, then right across the beach, then take the narrow trail at the edge of the water and cross over onto the big rocks in the Boone Fork. Bring hiking sticks, water, and snacks/lunch. Hikers can choose to do only Green Knob, or continue to OJR Rd. No dogs. Call hike leader Bob Heath at 828-773-0471.
- 30 **Mt. Jefferson:** We will summit Mt. Jefferson and hike to Luther Rock. Then it is all downhill with views all the way to Mt. Rogers, VA. Approximately 6 mi. on a winding, nicely graded trail with magnificent views. Meet at the Ranger Station of Mt. Jefferson Natural Area, W Jefferson, off Rt 221 after passing Wal-Mart traffic light take a right. Ashe Civic Theater is on the corner and a sign that the Ranger Station is one mile uphill. Bring sticks and water, snacks / lunch at the top. No dogs. Contact hike leader Mike Lobban, 305-905-7000, mjlobban@bellsouth.net.

November

- 6 **Blue Trail to Laurel Fork Falls** – This hike is in the Pond Mountain Wilderness and Cherokee National Forest, and will begin from the trailhead parking area on US 321/TN 67 in Hampton, TN. We will follow the Hampton Blueline Trail to its intersection with the Appalachian Trail, then south on the AT, up the high-water route, and down to the falls for a lunch stop. We will then make our way back to the trailhead along the low water route. Rendezvous in Boone for carpooling. Easy/mod., 5 mi. No dogs. Call hike leader Carol Ann Mitchell at 423-772-4280 or email camitchell21@gmail.com.
- 13 **Boone Fork Trl. from Holloway Mtn. Rd.** – Meet at the parking area at the halfway point on Holloway Mtn. Rd. Hike the Tanawha to Boone Fork Trl, loop containing rivers, rapids, waterfalls, meadows, water crossings (easy-difficult, depending on water levels), and rhododendron tunnels. Includes 2 trail ladders. Moderately strenuous, 7.37 mi., 908' elev. gain. Hiking sticks strongly recommended for water crossings. No dogs. Call hike leader Bob Heath at 828-773-0471.
- 20 **MST: Sims Pond to Rich Mountain:** One way hike. First mile on Old John's River Rd., then up the MST, crossing Shulls Road, up steps, and hill to Rich Mtn. trail, continuing to top for lunch. Then option of one mile shortcut back down to Trout Lake parking. 5 miles total, 900 ft. elevation gain. Those wanting shorter hike can leave car at Shulls Mills for 2.5-mile, 500' elevation gain. Bring water and lunch. No Dogs. Fully vaccinated hikers only. Call Juin Adams at 828-295-9607 for meeting time and place.
- 27 **Thanksgiving Weekend** – No hike scheduled.

December

- 4 **Hughes Gap to AT Shelter** – About 7+ miles moderate. No dogs. Call hike leader Carol Ann Mitchell at 423-772-4280 or email camitchell21@gmail.com.
- 11 **Annual holiday party and quarterly meeting.** Hosts: Juin Adams
- 18 **Trout Lake to Rich Mtn.** – 6.5 mi. round trip to the top of Rich Mountain with 585' elevation gain. Begin at Trout Lake on a steady uphill climb on carriage trails with nice views at the top. Depending on the mood of the group, we can add the 1.3 mi. Deer Park Loop along the way. Approximately 3-4 hrs., rated moderate. No dogs. Call hike leader Bob Heath at 828-773-0471.
- 25 **Christmas Day:** No hike scheduled.