

# First Quarter 2019 BRHC Hike List

## Monday

All hikes meet at 9:30 am, are more or less 5 miles in length, offer a relaxed pace and are done by noon, mostly. No dogs please.

Children and grandchildren, guests, visitors, and non members are very welcome.

Jan 7: 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, 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.

Jan 14: Bass Lake to Cone Manor loop. Meet at Bass Lake lower parking area, off Rt. 221 just west of Blowing Rock.

Jan 21: The Maze and Apple Barn at Cone Manor. Meet at Bass Lake lower parking area, off Rt. 221 just south of Blowing Rock.

Jan 28: Mountain-to-Sea Trail: Meet at the Raven Rock Overlook, hiking south & north, BRP MP 289.5.

Feb 4: Trout Lake to Rich Mountain: Meet at Trout Lake parking lot.

Feb 11: 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.

Feb 18: Green Knob Trail: This is a short trail with a bit of a climb. Meet at Sims Pond Overlook, BRP MP 295.9.

Feb 25: Old John's River Road to Price Lake, and a visit to King's marker. Meet at Sim's Pond Overlook, BRP MP 295.9.

Mar 4: Flat Top Observation Tower + Cone Memorial. Meet in front of the Carriage House by Cone Manor, BRP MP 294.1.

Mar 11: Old John's River Road to Boone Fork and the new MST bridge. Meet at Sim's Pond Overlook, BRP MP 295.9.

Mar 18: Tanawha Trail to Holloway Mountain Road, and on to an older community cemetery. Meet at boat ramp parking at Price Lake, BRP MP 297.

Mar 25: Carriage Barn to Blowing Rock Stables: Meet in front of the Carriage House by Cone Manor, BRP MP 294.1.

## Wednesday

### JANUARY

**Jan 2: Holloway Mountain Road to Cold Prong via the Tanawha Trail** or possibly on to Boone Fork bridge if trail conditions permit with return the same way. 4½ - 7 miles; rated moderate. No Dogs. Call hike leader Sherrey Murray [smpa@att.net](mailto:smpa@att.net) or (828) 737-0248.

**Jan 9: MST: Trout Lake to Price Park Picnic ground** with lunch/snack on rock island in the Boone Fork creek. MST and short section of Boone Fork Trail. Moderate 3.5 mile uphill walk from Trout up Rich Mtn trail to MST style and then all downhill to the picnic ground. Approx. 6 miles or less. Moderate. Bring lunch and a drink for a snack break on the rocks at Boone Fk. creek. Parkway generally open from Holoway Rd. to Price Park during winter. No dogs. Call hike leader Juin Adams at 828-295-9607. (No text messages please)  
16 - Pam - TBD

**Jan 23: Carver's Gap to Grassy Ridge**, Roan Mtn. hike, 6 mi., approx. 4 hours, rated moderate to strenuous. Spectacular 360 deg. views along part of the AT that crosses the Balds. Trail is rocky with steep slopes in each direction, reaching 6,000 ft. elevations. Hike leader carol Ann Mitchell [camitchell21@gmail.com](mailto:camitchell21@gmail.com) or 423-772-4280. No dogs.

30 - Pam - TBD

### FEBRUARY

6 - Pam - TBD

**Feb 13: Crab Orchard Falls:** Hike the trails behind the Valle Crucis Conference Center on Hwy. 194 between Valle Crucis and Banner Elk. Easy to moderate hike to beautiful waterfall on Crab Orchard Creek and then hike on up to ridge on old logging road. Rated moderate; trail smooth, but steep. Approx. 5 mi. No Dogs. Bring food. Contact hike leader Susan Walls: Call or text at 706.994.1011 or e-mail at [bhmssw@charter.net](mailto:bhmssw@charter.net)

**February 20: Watauga Dam from US 321** (Appalachian Trail) (Carter/Johnson Co., TN). ~ 7 miles, 4+hrs. Rated moderate. Views of Watauga Lake and Dam. Behind the dam spillway one can see an interesting ecological phenomenon: Iron Mountain Fault. Old sediments slid up and over limestone, bending the fault downward so that it appears as a great diagonal slash in the cliff. Bring water and snack/lunch. No dogs. Contact for meeting time/place: Lana Whigham: cell: 704-904-5342 or email: [lanawhigham@gmail.com](mailto:lanawhigham@gmail.com)

**Feb. 27: 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 carpool from Boone. No Dogs. Contact Juin Adams [juinadams@yahoo.com](mailto:juinadams@yahoo.com) 828-295-9607. (No text messages please)

### MARCH

**Mar. 6: Fannery Fork Rd. to Fire Tower:** Approximately 6.8 miles up and back on Cone Manor carriage trails with approximately 650 ft. elevation gain. Rated moderate. Bring food. Contact hike leader Susan Walls: Call or text at 706.994.1011 or e-mail at [bhmsw@charter.net](mailto:bhmssw@charter.net)

**Mar 13: Elk River Falls to Jones Falls on the AT:** We will travel to Elk River on the NC/TN line to begin our hike, visit Elk River Falls and then follow the Elk River to the intersection with the AT, continue on the AT to Jones Falls and return. Moderate. 4-5 miles. No Dogs. Call hike leader Juin Adams at 828-295-9607 (No text message please)

**Mar 20: Calloway Peak via Daniel Boone Scout Trail.** Hike from Boone Fork Parking area on the BRP. 5 - 6 hrs., approximately 7 mi. round trip. Steady uphill trail with some parts near the top strenuous and rocky with ladders. Elevation gain 2,060 ft. Enjoy beautiful long range views to 3 states from the top of Calloway. No Dogs. Contact Juin Adams [juinadams@yahoo.com](mailto:juinadams@yahoo.com) 828-295-9607. (No text messages please)

**Mar 27: Babel Tower** is a 3.5 mile out and back on the western side of the Linville gorge. From Old NC 105, the trail descends through hardwoods and rhododendrons, descending 900 feet in 1.2 miles over rocky terrain. Babel Tower is a massive rock pinnacle rising over 400 feet above a giant horseshoe curve in the river. This impressive series of rock pulpits and cliffs serves as an unofficial dividing line between the snakelike north end of the gorge and the relatively straight southern course. Many scramble paths lead to outstanding cliffside views south of Table Rock Mountain hovering above the gorge. The hike will include views of the Babel Tower Falls and a lunch break at the falls. Elevation gain on trial return is 1515 feet. Hike Time is approximately 3 hours. Hike is rated as difficult. Park at the [Babel Tower Trailhead on Old NC 105](#). 35.91856, -81.91956. Contact Ellen Mick [ellenmick631@gmail.com](mailto:ellenmick631@gmail.com) or (912) 270-8919.

## Saturday Hikes 1st Quarter, 2019

### January

- 5 **Fonta Flora Trail** through the county park and the Fonta Flora/MST Connector in the gamelands. Start at the trailhead at the intersection of Fish Hatchery Road and NC 126. From there, enter the Fonta Flora State Trail through the park for about 4.5 miles until you reach the Lake James Boat Launch. Hike through the parking lot and head west on NC 126 for a half-mile to Wolf Pit Road. Turn right onto Wolf Pit Road and start looking for the **Fonta Flora/MST Connector Trail** crossing the road just under a quarter of a mile into this gravel section. Turn right onto the **Fonta Flora/MST Connector Trail** and follow it back to the trailhead for a total loop of 6.9 miles. 2% average grade and 14% max grade. Section one of a planned trail which will eventually extend from Morganton to Asheville. No dogs. Call hike leader Nancy Mick at (912) 270-8919 (text or call) or email [ellenmick631@gmail.com](mailto:ellenmick631@gmail.com).
- 12 **Rough Ridge to Beacon Heights**, about 8.2 miles, moderate, some parts strenuous. No dogs. Call or email hike Leader Carol Ann Mitchell 423-772-4280, [camitchell21@gmail.com](mailto:camitchell21@gmail.com).
- 19 **Boone Fork Trail:** Meet at the Price Lake picnic ground near MP 296 on the BRP. 5 mile loop, 4 ½ hrs., containing rivers, rapids, waterfalls, meadows, water crossings (easy-difficult, depending on

water levels), and rhododendron tunnels. Includes 2 trail ladders. Rated moderately strenuous. Hiking sticks are suggested. No dogs. Call hike leader Bob Heath @ 828-773-0471.

26 **TBD**, Juin Adams

## **February**

2 **Table Rock and Shortoff Mountain:** Table Rock is 2 mi. of moderately strenuous hiking round trip. After returning to the parking area, depending on the mood of the group, hike the MST toward Shortoff Mountain which affords many beautiful views of the Linville Gorge. Stop at the Amphitheater for lunch then return. Total hike will be approximately 4-5 mi. No dogs. Call hike leader Bob Heath: 828-773-0471.

9 **Glen Burney:** The 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 Years Creek. It is 3.2 miles total. Easy going down but the 700 foot elevation change is a good workout coming back up. Optional lunch at Mellow Mushroom following the hike. Contact Eva Rand: 301-758-4375 or [twowheels28@hotmail.com](mailto:twowheels28@hotmail.com)

16 **Over Mountain Victory Trail to Yellow Mountain Gap or Little Hump.** About 8-10 miles, moderate to strenuous. Historic. No dogs. Hike Leader Carol Ann Mitchell 423-772-4280, [camitchell21@gmail.com](mailto:camitchell21@gmail.com).

23 **Hwy. 221 Pre-Viaduct Parkway Ramp to Rough Ridge:** Hike the old roadbed from Hwy. 221 to Rough Ridge via the closed entry ramp to the Parkway at Wilson Creek Overlook, then the Tanawha to Rough Ridge and return. Approximately 5 mi. roundtrip; moderately strenuous, some rock scrambling. Meet at the entry on Hwy. 221. No dogs. Call hike leader Bob Heath at 828-773-0471

## **March**

2 **Hughes Gap to Roan High Bluff** about 8-10 miles, moderate fantastic views. No dogs. Hike Leader Carol Ann Mitchell 423-772-4280, [camitchell21@gmail.com](mailto:camitchell21@gmail.com).

9 **Quarterly Meeting Hosts:** Susan Walls

16 **Bass Lake Maze to Apple Barn,** Meet at Bass Lake lower parking area off 221 at 9:30. Hike from Bass Lake along the Maze Loop carriage trail of Cone Manor. 3.6 mi. loop with lakeshore views and deep forest. This hike will take you past the old Cone Manor Apple Barn. Rated easy. No dogs. Call hike leader Roger Bodo at 828-260-2019

23 **Shortoff Mountain:** 7.5 mi., rated moderate-strenuous. Starting from Wolf Pit Road above Lake James the trail gains 1,321 feet in elevation. The first mile of the hike is a strenuous, rocky trail with switchbacks and sweeping views of Lake James. 1 mile up, the trail merges with the Mountain to Sea Trail. The last 1¼ mile is mostly level across the summit at 2883 feet, passing by many panoramic views. We'll lunch at a rock outcropping with the best view of Table Rock mountain and the Linville Gorge. Hiking sticks suggested. No dogs. Call hike leader Nancy Mick at (912) 270-8919 (text or call) or email [ellenmick631@gmail.com](mailto:ellenmick631@gmail.com).

30 **Elk Knob or Rocky Knob,** Roger Bodo