

## **Monday Hikes, 4th Quarter, 2025**



### **October**

#### **6: Trout Lake to Manor House.**

Meeting point: 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. Leader: Wendell Harris  
Contact info: [704-650-1119](tel:704-650-1119) / [29585PISC@gmail.com](mailto:29585PISC@gmail.com)

#### **13: The Maze and Apple Barn at Cone Manor.**

Meeting point: Bass Lake lower parking area, off Rt. 221 just south of Blowing Rock.  
Leader: Bob Heath Contact info: [828-773-0471](tel:828-773-0471) / [Plumbob309@yahoo.com](mailto:Plumbob309@yahoo.com)

#### **20: Cone Manor House to Blowing Rock Stables.**

Meeting point: Carriage Barn next to Cone Manor House on BRP Milepost 294.1  
Leader: Dave Johnson Contact info: [828-719-6346](tel:828-719-6346) / [djohnson6146@charter.net](mailto:djohnson6146@charter.net)

#### **27: Trout Lake to Rich Mountain.**

Meeting point: The parking area of Trout Lake off Shull's Mill Road near BRP Milepost 294.6. Take 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.  
Leader: Wendell Harris Contact info: [704-650-1119](tel:704-650-1119) / [29585PISC@gmail.com](mailto:29585PISC@gmail.com)

### **November**

#### **3: Bass Lake to Cone Manor Loop.**

Meeting point: Bass Lake lower parking area off 221 just south of Blowing Rock.  
Leader: Linda Elksnin Contact info: [843-367-6684](tel:843-367-6684) / [Elksninl@yahoo.com](mailto:Elksninl@yahoo.com)

#### **10: MST / Tanawha Trail: Holloway Mountain Road to Cold Prong. Out-and-back, 4 miles.**

Meeting point: Holloway Mountain Road / Tanawha Trail parking lot.  
Leader: Patsy Snyder Contact info: [919-235-2351](tel:919-235-2351) / [phsnyder99@gmail.com](mailto:phsnyder99@gmail.com)

#### **17: Price Lake plus.**

Meeting point: 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. Leader: Dave Johnson Contact info: [828-719-6346](tel:828-719-6346) / [djohnson6146@charter.net](mailto:djohnson6146@charter.net)

#### **24: Green Knob Trail: This is a short trail with a bit of a climb.**

Meeting point: Sims Pond Overlook, BRP MP 295.9.  
Leader: Wendell Harris Contact info: [704-650-1119](tel:704-650-1119) / [29585PISC@gmail.com](mailto:29585PISC@gmail.com)

## **December**

### **1: Tanawha Trail to Holloway Mountain Road, and on to an older community cemetery.**

Meeting point: The boat ramp parking at Price Lake, BRP MP 297. Leader: Dave Johnson

Contact info: [828-719-6346](tel:828-719-6346) / [djohnson6146@charter.net](mailto:djohnson6146@charter.net)

### **8: Boone Fork Trail to the new MST bridge and Old John's River Road.**

Meeting Point: Price Picnic area. BRP MP296.4. Leader: Dave Johnson

Contact info: [828-719-6346](tel:828-719-6346) / [djohnson6146@charter.net](mailto:djohnson6146@charter.net)

### **15: Flat Top Observation Tower + Cone Memorial.**

Meeting point: In front of the Carriage House by Cone Manor, BRP MP 294.1.

Leader: Linda Elksnin Contact info: [843-367-6684](tel:843-367-6684) / [elksninl@yahoo.com](mailto:elksninl@yahoo.com)

### **22: Mountain-to-Sea Trail**

Meeting point: Raven Rock Overlook, hiking south toward Thunder Hill and return - perhaps on to community graveyard. BRP MP 289.5. Leader: Juin Adams. Contact info: [828-295-9607](tel:828-295-9607) / [juinadams@yahoo.com](mailto:juinadams@yahoo.com)

### **29: Old John's River Road to Price Lake, and perhaps a visit to King's marker.**

Meeting point: Price Picnic area. BRP MP296.4. Leader: Dave Johnson . Contact info: [828-719-6346](tel:828-719-6346) / [djohnson6146@charter.net](mailto:djohnson6146@charter.net)

## **Wednesday Hikes 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2025**

### **October**

**1 -Tanawha: Rough Ridge from Boulder Fields:** Parking BRP mile 302.1. Up and back. 2 miles gentle uphill with steeper final climb to top of Rough Ridge. Roots and Rocks. Moderate. 4.5 miles 500-600 elevation gain. Bring sticks, water and snack for lunch on top No Dogs. Contact Juin Adams at [juinadams@yahoo.com](mailto:juinadams@yahoo.com) or text/call 828-406-5738 for meeting time, place and carpooling opportunities.

**8 - Carvers Gap to Grassey Ridge:** Moderate, some areas strenuous. 5- 6+ miles. Panoramic views, gorgeous. No Dogs. Bring stick, water, snack and hat. Open balds, no shade. Hike Leader Philip Kagan [pskagan@gmail.com](mailto:pskagan@gmail.com) and phone/text is 828/386/8205.

**15 - Laurel Fork Falls:** 5 miles easy/moderate, interesting changing terrain, beautiful waterfall. Covid rules, no dogs. Carol Ann Mitchell hike leader [camitchell21@gmail.com](mailto:camitchell21@gmail.com); 423-772-4280; 423-957-1207.

**22 - Dark Mountain, W. Scott Kerr Park, Wilkesboro:** 6.5 miles. This is a bike hike, but it is cooler weather and a Wednesday. I have never seen a bike on this trail. Bring snacks, lunch, fluids and walking sticks. Hiking poles recommended. COVID, RSV, and Flu vaccinated only. No dogs. TEXT or email Judy at 630 240-2644 or [Jeichmiller@gmail.com](mailto:Jeichmiller@gmail.com). Please no calls or VM.

**29 - Rendezvous Mountain, Purlear:** 5.5 Miles of trail wind through the majestic Blue Ridge Forest habitat. Bring snacks, lunch, fluids and walking sticks. COVID, RSV, and Flu vaccinated only. No dogs. TEXT or email Judy at 630 240-2644 or [Jeichmiller@gmail.com](mailto:Jeichmiller@gmail.com). Please no calls or VM.

## **November**

**5 - Stone Mountain State Park in Roaring Gap, NC.** The hike is Widow's Creek Trail which begins as part of the MST. It is approximately 3 miles up and 3 miles back down with some elevation gain. The trail leads to 4 primitive backpacking sites. I'd be happy to optionally add on Widow's Creek Falls, the Hutchinson Homestead and a view of the Stone Mountain summit afterward for anyone interested. It'd be less than a 1 1/2 miles of additional hiking to add all that in. There are no restrooms at the backpacking trailhead, so I thought we might meet at the park office. I am reaching out to see if we could have a park ranger meet us there to speak to us for a few minutes before we caravan to the trailhead. Hike Leader Anna Marie Sims, My email address is [annamariesims@sbcglobal.net](mailto:annamariesims@sbcglobal.net) and my phone number is 828-379-9173.

**12 - 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 at [juinadams@yahoo.com](mailto:juinadams@yahoo.com) or text/call 828-406-5738 for meeting time, place and carpooling opportunities. Bring sticks, water and snack/lunch.

**19 - 19E to Doll Flats:** 6 miles, moderate, strenuous few sections, small overlook with great view, interesting flat section with boulders at the Flats. Covid rules, no dogs. Carol Ann Mitchell hike leader [camitchell21@gmail.com](mailto:camitchell21@gmail.com); 423-772-4280; 423-957-1207.

**26 Carvers Gap on AT to Murray Shelter** Panoramic views, gorgeous. Open balds, no shade. Once on the AT, it will be wooded trails to the shelter. Moderate to strenuous in a few sections. Approx. 7 miles. Contact Sheryl Yatsko 908-797-4016 or email [samdee57@gmail.com](mailto:samdee57@gmail.com).

## **December**

**3 - Table Rock from Spence Ridge Trailhead** : This is a new approach to Table Rock constructed in the summer of 2025. Approach starts at Spence Ridge trailhead, shortly connects to the MST and on up to the Table Rock trail midway up. From there we will go to Devils Cellars overlook and then on to the top. Alltrails calls it Table Rock from Table Rock Gap 3.7 m, 1064 ft elev gain, hard, but the Friends of MST rerouted the trail and had a contractor help cut new trail and install steps, so moderate might be more accurate. No Dogs. Contact Juin Adams at [juinadams@yahoo.com](mailto:juinadams@yahoo.com) or text/call 828-406-5738 for meeting time, place and carpooling opportunities. Bring sticks, water and snack/lunch.

**10 - Crab Orchard Falls:** Moderate/strenuous 4-5-mile hike. We hike to the Hermitages first and then on way down we have lunch by the beautiful falls. Hike Leader Philip Kagan. My contacts info is [pskagan@gmail.com](mailto:pskagan@gmail.com) and phone/text is 828/386/8205

**17 - Carvers Gap to Grassy Ridge: 6 miles, moderate over balds and down through gaps, fantastic 360 views. Covid rules, no dogs. Carol Ann Mitchell hike leader [camitchell21@gmail.com](mailto:camitchell21@gmail.com); 423-772-4280; 423-957-1207.**

**24 - Christmas Eve  
31 - New Year's Eve**

### **Saturday Hikes 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2025**

#### **October**

- 4 **AT Watauga Lake to Dam** approx. 5+ miles, moderate. Beautiful lake and mountain views. No dogs. Covid rules. Carol Ann Mitchell hike leader [camitchell21@gmail.com](mailto:camitchell21@gmail.com); 423-772-4280; 423-957-1207.
- 11 **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 recommended. No dogs. Contact hike leader Phillip Kagan, at [pskagan@gmail.com](mailto:pskagan@gmail.com) or 828-386-8205.
- 18 **Mt. Jefferson State Park, West Jefferson**: We will hike from the Ranger's Office (if open by then) to the Jefferson Overlook, Luther Rock and beyond. Approx. 6+ miles. All downhill after that! Bring snacks, lunch, fluids and walking sticks. COVID, RSV, and Flu vaccinated only. No dogs. **TEXT** or email Judy at 630 240-2644 or [Jeichmiller@gmail.com](mailto:Jeichmiller@gmail.com). Please no calls or VM.
- 25 **Trout Lake Parking to Rich Mountain**: About 6 miles. Bring snacks, lunch, fluids and walking sticks. COVID, RSV, and Flu vaccinated only. No dogs. **TEXT** or email Judy Eichmiller at 630-240-2644 or [Jeichmiller@gmail.com](mailto:Jeichmiller@gmail.com). Please no calls or VM.

#### **November**

- 1 **Spence Ridge trail to Linville River and Hawksbill**: We will start with the Spence Ridge trail which is the first one on the right beyond the Hawksbill trailhead. The trail descends to the Linville River near the location of the old footbridge which washed away many years ago. There are beautiful views of rocks and streams on the way down, as well a great site for lunch and exploration by the river. Possibility of some fall colors near the bottom. 3 mi. round trip, 915 ft. elev. moderately strenuous. Then we will drive over to Hawksbill trailhead and hike up for spectacular views of the gorge. Moderate. 1.8 mi, 670 ft. elev. gain. No Dogs. Contact Juin Adams at [juinadams@yahoo.com](mailto:juinadams@yahoo.com) or text/call 828-406-5738 for meeting time, place and carpooling opportunities. Bring sticks, water and snack/lunch
- 8 **Hughes Gap to Overlook plus**, approx. 6 miles, moderate. beautiful trail following NC/TN state line mostly along ridges with few switchbacks. Fantastic views at overlook. No dogs. Covid rules. Carol Ann Mitchell hike leader [camitchell21@gmail.com](mailto:camitchell21@gmail.com); 423-772-4280; 423-957-1207.

- 15 **Elk Knob:** 3.8 mi. round trip, with 900 ft. gain in elevation. 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. Contact hike leader Phillip Kagan, at [pskagan@gmail.com](mailto:pskagan@gmail.com) or 828-386-8205.
- 22 **Cold Prong to Storyteller Rock:** We will hike from the Cold Prong Pond parking area (299 BRP) to the Tanawha. Then take the Nuwati Trail to Storyteller Rock. 7 mi. round trip; steady uphill 1,489' elevation gain. Rated moderate. Bring water and lunch. No dogs. Contact hike leader Patsy Snyder for meeting time. [phsnyder99@gmail.com](mailto:phsnyder99@gmail.com) or text/call 919-235-2351.

29 (Thanksgiving weekend)

### **December**

- 6 **Jones Falls**, 4.5 miles easy/moderate, lovely falls, sitting area for lunch. No dogs. Covid rules. Carol Ann Mitchell hike leader [camitchell21@gmail.com](mailto:camitchell21@gmail.com); 423-772-4280; 423-957-1207.
- 13 **Annual holiday party and quarterly meeting – Host(s):** This is a potluck event followed by a gift exchange. Each person will draw a number to determine their place in the gift giving. Bring one gift per person,. Wrap it, but do not put any name on it. Cost \$25 or under. Host: Juin Adams, 839 Dogwood Lane, Blowing Rock. Contact Juin at [juinadams@yahoo.com](mailto:juinadams@yahoo.com) or text/call 828-406-5738.
- 20 **Flannery Fork Rd. to Fire Tower** . Approximately 6.8 miles up and back, rated moderate, on Cone Manor carriage trails with approximately 650 ft. elevation gain. Meet at Trout Lake parking area. No Dogs. Contact Juin Adams at [juinadams@yahoo.com](mailto:juinadams@yahoo.com) or text/call 828-406-5738 for meeting time, place and carpooling opportunities. Bring water and snack/lunch.
- 27 **Babel Tower:** 2.4 mile out and back on the western side of the Linville gorge. From Old NC 105, the trail descends through hardwoods and rhododendrons. Babel Tower is a massive rock pinnacle rising over the river. Elevation gain is 872 ft. Approx. 2 hrs., rated moderate. No dogs. Contact Sheryl Yatsko 908-797-4016 or email [samdee57@gmail.com](mailto:samdee57@gmail.com)