

2018 OLD-TIMERS HIKING CLUB SCHEDULE—JANUARY-FEBRUARY-MARCH

Founded in 1991 by CB Willis and Don Frederick and named by Jim Widener

Mon.-Jan-1 Note time change so you can sleep in from your New Year Eve's late bed time.	Howard will be leading the JC Hikers on the 9.6-mile hike to the Pinnacle Tower in Unicoi on this first day of 2018. Form your carpools at the church at 9 AM and come to the Trailhead; on exit 32 off of I-26 in Unicoi; where Howard will have a sign-up sheet. Leader: Howard Guinn 423-747-4881—Start your new year off the right way with a hike.
Wed, Jan-3	A 7 to 8-mile hike at Bays Mountain Park to the fire tower and back. Breakfast at Hardees in Kingsport. Leader Lana Scott 423-929-9094.
Mon, Jan 8	Moderate 3.5-mile Coon Den Falls loop at Dennis Cove near Hampton, TN. Breakfast stop at Perkins in J.C. Leader: John Parks 423 773-9643
Wed, Jan-10	Martin's Creek Trail – A moderate 7-mile hike north on the AT from Chestoa to Curly Maple Gap shelter, then to the outskirts of Erwin via the Martin's Creek Trail. We will pass near Martin's Creek Falls along the way, if you are interested in waterfalls. There will be a short shuttle between Martin's Creek and AT trailheads. Breakfast at Clarence's (new location). Leader: Eric Middlemas, (423) 282-6987, emiddlemas@live.com
Mon, Jan-15 Please note 9am leave time from the church	Laurel Falls in Wintertime Easy/moderate 4-mile hike to Laurel Falls and back. Stop for a short snack/lunch break to admire the falls in wintertime. Bring hiking poles as there may be several water crossings depending on the water level. Form your carpools at the church at 9AM and meet the leader at Laurel Falls trail head parking lot off Rt. 321 in Hampton, TN. [If you are hiking that day and will lead the hikers from the church to meet Beth, please let me know that the day before—Faye.] Leader: Beth Talinie mail: BethTalinieCook@yahoo.com cell/text: 802-673-4850
Wed, Jan-17	6-mile in and out hike from Iron Mountain Gap to Cherry Gap Shelter. Leader Howard Guinn 423-753-4072 or 423-747-4881
Mon, Jan-22	Tweetsie Trail An easy, 6 miles “flatlander's dream.” We will start in Johnson City at the trailhead, hike 3 miles in (just past the quarry) and back. Good for a winter's day. Leader Jeannine Edwards. Home 423-202-7207; cell 901-351-1779; email jeannine21@bellsouth.net
Wed, Jan-24	I will leave this date open in case we need to move a hike due to weather. If not needed I will announce a hike for this date.
Mon, Jan, 29	Let's take an adventure into the Doe River Gorge viewing 20 + foot icicles, the Gorge and maybe the goat that lives on the cliffs. If it's a snow hike, we are in for a real treat on this 6 mile in and out. Form your carpools at the church and meet the leader at Elizabethton Food City. Leader: Janice Miller 423-543-5602
Wed, Jan,31	Sam's Gap to Street Gap A moderate 5 mile in-out hike on the AT from Sam's Gap to Street Gap. There is a bald about half way to Street Gap that offers good views of the mountains and a ski resort. Breakfast stop at Clarence's. Leader Jeannine Edwards. Home 423-202-7207; cell 901-351-1779; email jeannine21@bellsouth.net

Mon, Feb-5	Kingsport's Warriors' Path State Park's short trails have overall gentle elevation changes. We will walk on 9 of their trails including Whitetail, Boneyard, Paw Paw, etc. to traverse 6 miles. We will form car pools at the church and meet the leader at the park. Howard will do sign-up at church. Hike leader: Marcia Pruner <u>276-614-5504</u> or home: <u>276-889-5714</u> .
Wed, Feb-7	Moderate with short strenuous sections 8 to 9-mile hike starting on Dry Creek Road. We will take a trail to the crest of Cherokee Mt. and after two miles or so the trail sort of ends but we will continue across the crest; and use the FS road to return. Leader Howard Guinn 423-753-4072
Mon, Feb--12	Cross Mountain to Sandy Gap – A 5 mile moderate to strenuous, key swap hike on the Iron Mountain Trail from Cross Mountain to Sandy Gap. Form your carpools at the church and meet at the Cross-Mountain parking area to arrange a key swap before proceeding to the trailheads. Leader: Eric Middlemas (423) 282-6987; email: emiddlemas@live.com.
Wed, Feb-14	An in and out about 4-mile hike from Elk River Falls to Jones Falls. Leader: Howard Guinn 423-753-4072 cell 423-747-4881
Mon.Feb-19	A 6 mile in and out hike from 19E south on the AT to the Tenn. /N.C. border at Doll Flats. Leader: Howard Guinn cell 423-747-4881
Wed, Feb-21	I will leave this date open in case we need to move a hike due to weather. If not needed I will announce a hike for this date
Mon.Feb-26	A moderate 6 mile in/out hike on the AT starting at US 321 Shook Branch to Watauga Dam on the AT and return. Form your carpools at the church; meet the leader at Food City in Elizabethton for a second pick up at 8:20. Leader: Dave Polon, <u>423-302-8368</u> or <u>DPolon123@yahoo.com</u> .
Wed, Feb-28	A 4.8 mile in and out hike from Iron Mountain Gap, TN 107, north on the AT to a Rock Pillar. If anyone wishes a longer hike they can hike on to Greasy Creek Gap for an in and out 8.4-mile hike. Leader: Howard Guinn 423-753-4072---- cell---423-747-4881
Mon, March-5	A moderate 6.5-mile shuttle hike on the A/T south starting at Low Gap and ending at TN 91. On the way to the Low Gap trailhead, we'll drop a car off at the TN 91 trailhead to use as the shuttle. Form your carpools at the church; meet the leader at Food City in Elizabethton for a second pick up at 8:20. Leader: Dave Polon, <u>423-302-8368</u> ; <u>DPolon123@yahoo.com</u> .
Wed, March-7	Chestoa to Temple Hill Gap and back. This 8-mile moderate hike on the AT has some steep climbs, but even in the winter, it has exquisite views of the Nolichucky River and the mountains. Leader Jeannine Edwards. Home <u>423-202-7207</u> ; cell <u>901-351-1779</u>
Mon, March-12	A 5-mile moderate in and out hike on the Devil's Backbone Trail at Warrior's Path State Park. Breakfast stop: Perkins at Colonial Heights. Leader: John Parks <u>423 773-9643</u> .
Wed, March-14	McQueen Gap to Backbone Rock – An 8.6-mile, moderate hike from McQueen Gap to Backbone Rock. This hike starts high on the ridge of Holston Mountain so there are no really big climbs. We will follow the ridge to the intersection with the Backbone Rock Trail

	where we will descend 2.3 miles to our car. We will plan to run a shuttle between McQueen Gap and Backbone Rock. Form your carpools at the church to sign in and to arrange a shuttle between McQueen Gap and Backbone Rock. Because McQueen Gap Road is gravel and can be rough, it would be desirable, but not essential, that high-clearance vehicles are used to get to McQueen Gap. Leader: Eric Middlemas (423) 282-6987; email: emiddlemas@live.com.
Mon, March-19	Lone Oak, Buffalo A moderate 4-mile hike on the Lone Oak Trail to Tip Top on Buffalo Mountain. Be prepared for lots of switchbacks. (Anyone wanting a longer hike can continue to White Rocks and back.) Leader Jeannine Edwards. Home <u>423-202-7207</u> ; cell <u>901-351-1779</u> ; email <u>jeannine21@bellsouth.net</u>
Wed, March-21	Iron Mountain Gap to Indian Grave Gap --This strenuous, 11.8-mile hike will serve a double purpose. First, we will hike to simply enjoy the section we maintain and its diverse and lovely landscapes of mature forests, mountain top groves of spruce, and open balds. Second, we will make note of the blowdowns needing removal and various maintenance tasks for the Spring work trip and possibly do some minor trail work (lopping and removing debris from the trail). We can do a key swap or a shuttle depending the number of participants. No breakfast stop but eat a hearty breakfast before you come – it's a long hike! Meet at the church to sign in and arrange carpools. Leader: Eric Middlemas (423) 282-6987
Mon, March-26	Work Day – A work-day on the OTHC section of AT. We will focus on removing debris and small blow downs from the trail, cleaning out water bars, and lopping back woody growth. Form your carpools at the church and at Clarence's (new location) for breakfast, where there will be a sign-up sheet. Leader: Eric Middlemas (423) 282-6987; email: emiddlemas@live.com.
Wed, March- 28	A moderate 9.2 mile in and out hike south on the AT beginning at Tenn. 91 at Cross Mountain to Iron Mountain Shelter. Shorter 6-mile hike is possible if you turn around at the Nick Grindstaff Monument. Leader: Lana Scott 423-929-9094

We leave Covenant Presbyterian Church, 603 Sunset Drive, Johnson City, Tenn. each Monday and Wednesday at 8am. Come join us; bring lunch, PLENTY of water, gas money, a snack, each person should carry a small first aid kit, you should also carry a little extra food just in case, raingear [it may rain where the hike is even if the weather here does not say rain], and most important bring yourself and a smile and come enjoy our hikes. Everyone is welcome, member or not. We are an alcohol-free activity. Participation in club activities carries with it the obligation to hold the club and its representatives free of liability for individual safety.

President and founder of Old-Timers Hiking Club—CB Willis 423-282-3325. cbwillis@charter.net
Treasurer and person to give your membership dues [per year/per family \$10.00]-Gil Derouen 423-283-7767 –or 2702 Avondale Drive—Johnson City, Tenn. 37604 -- gilderrouen@comcast.net
Website---<http://oldtimershikingclub.weebly.com>

Trail Work Coordinator—Eric Middlemas 423-282-6987 Mike Hupko-423-929-2626

Hike schedule—Faye Guinn-423-753-4072 wegonehiking@embarqmail.com