

TENNESSEE TRAILS

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE TENNESSEE TRAILS ASSOCIATION

Mission: To promote, construct and maintain a statewide system of hiking trails, and to work for the conservation of natural resources inherent to this objective.

SPONSOR FOR THE CUMBERLAND TRAIL



Pathways Campaign Tops \$1 Million Mark!!

Lots of good things have happened since the last *Pathways for People ... People for Nature* campaign report in the January TTA newsletter. The Lyndhurst Foundation awarded a \$250,000 grant on a 1:2 match basis! In other words, for every dollar that you give, Lyndhurst will match it with 50 cents. Also, remember that every dollar given leverages \$4 in public funds for the Cumberland Trail. And, several TTA Chapters have decided to match members' donations dollar-for-dollar up to a certain amount.

The Pathways campaign total now stands at \$1,226,074 in cash and pledges received towards our goal of \$3 million. Grants have also been received from Maclellan Foundation \$100,000, Mills Family \$75,000, Tonya Foundation \$60,000, Cumberland County \$12,000, City of Crossville \$9,000, Tennessee Parks & Greenways Foundation \$2,500, and Hilliard Lyons \$2,500.

The clock is ticking ... we must raise \$887,000 in cash by June 30, 2002 to finish paying for the 5,000-acre acquisition in Hamilton County. We are waiting to hear about grant proposals to Blue Cross/Blue Shield, BellSouth, Dana Corporation, Sycamore Foundation, St. Mary's Health System, REI, River Sports Outfitters, Cumberland Transit, Rock Creek Outfitters, Blue Ridge Mtn. Sports, Caldwell Foundation, Knox Co. Tourism, Alcoa Foundation, Lucille Thompson Foundation, AmSouth Bank, L.L. Bean, Guilford Glazer Foundation, East Tennessee Foundation Campbell Co. Fund, First Tennessee Bank, Boeing, and

National Trails Day TTA Sponsors "Hike for Health"

On the Cumberland Trail
Saturday, June 1, 2002

Mark your calendars! The theme for National Trails Day 2002 is "Hike for Health" and the TTA Board voted at the February meeting to make TTA's official National Trails Day event a fundraising hike for the Cumberland Trail State Park. TTA chapters will lead hikes on various segments of the Cumberland Trail. We will be asking all TTA chapters to participate by leading hikes, participating in the hikes, and recruiting folks in your communities to join in on the fun. Not only will we be improving our health by getting good exercise in some of the most beautiful country on earth - we'll also be helping to finish raising the \$887,000 needed by June 30 to make the final payment for the 5,000-acre Cumberland Trail acquisition in Hamilton County. There will be a minimal registration fee for hikers, and we will also recruit corporate sponsors for the event. Start thinking about how to help us get the word out in your community:

clubs, businesses, Scout troops,

REMINDER: TTA's Annual Meeting

Nov 8-10

Fall Creek Falls State Park

Spencer, TN.

**Watch For Details & Reservation Form
In May's Newsletter**

Evan Means Small Grants Awarded

In February 2002, TTA's Board of Directors awarded Evan Means Small Grants to seven volunteer groups across Tennessee for their trail-related projects. Volunteer-based non-profit organizations, working alone or through public agencies, were eligible to apply for Evan Means Small Grants. These awards support special volunteer projects that are compatible to the chartered objectives of the TTA: *promoting and developing a system of hiking trails in Tennessee as well as working for the conservation of natural resources.*

Congratulations to the following recipients:

- Friends of Shelby Farms - \$200, to reconstruct/refurbish historical landmarks and observation areas along the Chickasaw trail.
- Friends of Cumberland River Bicentennial Trail - \$500, to construct a bridge on the Eagle Pass trail.
- Cumberland Trail State Park - \$600, to defray the costs of bridgework construction during the Landmark Volunteer program in June.
- Historic Rugby - \$500, for building/improving a one-half mile trail from the center of Rugby to the old Massengale Homeplace.
- Friends of the Forest (Meeman Shelby Forest) - \$600 (combined total of two grants), to produce an interpretive brochure, and replacement of trail signs on the Pioneer Trail. Plus, adding new and replacing old signs within the Meeman Shelby Forest.

- Cumberland Valley Girl Scouts (Dickson County) - \$500, to create an outdoor classroom/walking trail behind Centennial Elementary School.

The small grants program was established in February 1999 to honor Evan Means - journalist, author, conservationist, hiker, trail builder, originator of the Cumberland Trail, and co-founder of the Tennessee Trails Association. Mr. Means has won countless awards for his work over the

Your Generosity Benefits All

When you join or renew your Tennessee Trails membership, you have the opportunity to become a Supporting Member by donating a little (or a lot) above the regular dues. TTA recognizes the following Supporting Members for April 2002:

Russell Smith .. Columbia chapter
Barbara & Jim Charlet .. Nashville chapter

Jane Holladay . Nashville chapter
Anne Wesley .. Nashville chapter

In the past, Supporting Member donations in excess of the regular dues were allocated to TTA's general operating fund. At the November 2001 Annual Meeting, TTA's Board of Directors voted to allocate Supporting Member donations to the Evan Means Small Grants Fund. Your Supporting Member donations will now directly benefit trail projects throughout the state of Tennessee. We thank you all!

TTA Gift Memberships

Available Throughout the Year!

Birthdays ♦ Graduation ♦ Mother's Day
♦ Father's Day

For the price of a regular membership, we will send the gift membership recipient a beautiful TTA logo patch enclosed in a card (customized for the occasion) announcing your gift. Gift memberships

SOUTHEAST EXOTIC PEST PLANT

COUNCIL SYMPOSIUM APRIL 3-5

NASHVILLE, TN

You are invited to attend Tennessee's Exotic Pest Plant Council (TEPPC) symposium April 3 - 5, 2002 at the Bell South Building in Nashville. Topics will include subjects such as: applied and basic ecological research, control and management of pest plants, outreach and extension, public policy, regional, federal and international initiatives and action plans, and screening and assessment techniques.

To learn more about TEPPC, write to:

Brian Bowman
Southeast Exotic Pest Plant Council
4824 Torbav Dr.

TVA's Annual Wildflower Walk

If you missed TVA's annual spring wildflower walk on March 30, at the River Bluff TVA Small Wilds Area on the Norris Dam Reservation, they're doing two on Saturday, April 6, 2002. The guided walks are scheduled to begin at 10am (Eastern Time) and 1pm (Eastern Time) from the Small Wilds Area located along the Clinch River, west of Norris Dam. The 3.2-mile loop trail is rated moderately difficult and is known for the spectacular array of spring wildflowers, especially yellow trout lilies, celandine poppies, bloodroot, spring beauties and toothworts. The hikes will be held rain or shine, and participants are encouraged to wear comfortable shoes and appropriate clothing for the weather. The walks are free and sponsored by TVA, Ijam's Nature Center, Norris Dam State Park and the Friends of Norris Dam State Park. For additional information, call Nancy Fraley (TVA Natural Areas Coordinator) at 865-632-1535.

Southeast Regional Foot Trails Conference April 26-28

For the last two years, American Hiking Society (AHS) has been assessing the conservation and recreation needs in the southern Appalachians as a part of a Southern Appalachians Initiative (SAI). Both trail organizations and public agency representatives reported that public lands in the Smoky Mountains and along the Appalachian Trail are severely threatened by overuse as well as escalating development. The final stage of research was a Trail Conservation Retreat in November of 2000. The retreat gathered trail organizations and public land agencies who are entrusted with building and maintaining foot trails in the Southern Appalachians. As a result of the retreat, it became evident that there is an urgent need to protect wild places and create new recreation opportunities in the populous Southeast.

You are invited to the next gathering, hosted by American Hiking Society, the River, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program of the National Park Service and Georgia State Parks, over the April 26-28 weekend at Unicoi State Park in Helen, GA. Join fellow trail enthusiasts while establishing a network with staff and volunteers from hiking organizations located in the Southeast, as well as Federal, State and local agencies and conservation organizations. There will be speakers, workshops and sessions that will focus on trail and land conservation as well as pressing issues facing

"DON'T Leave Home Without It."

What good will a green plastic credit card do you 20 miles from the nearest paved road? What do you really need when out away from civilization?

Experienced outdoor enthusiasts know what items are most important to bring, even for short walks or hikes out of base camp - the "10 Essentials." These are items that cannot be improvised from materials lying on the forest floor. To be found without these few items, even if you are within a few miles of your car, camp or cabin, can spell disaster. The "Ten Essentials" are the end product of years of hard-won experience. They are intended to help outdoor enthusiasts avoid getting into trouble in the first place, and, if that doesn't work, to minimize the damage.

Before you head out on the trail, check your pack to be sure it contains the following items*. Note that the first three items are for finding your way, the second three are for your protection, and the last four are for emergencies.

<u>Finding Your Way</u>	<u>Your Protection</u>	<u>Emergencies</u>
Map	Hat/Gloves	Fire Starter
Matches		
Compass	WATER & Extra food	Whistle
Flashlight	Raingear & Extra Clothing	Pocket Knife
		1st Aid Kit

Other considerations:

Leave someone a copy of your hiking plans
 Use your common sense
 Hiking poles
 By avoiding unnecessary problems and dangers

2002 MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

The 2002 edition of the TTA Membership Directory will be mailed to all current members in June. Please be sure your dues are paid up so that you will receive your copy of the directory. Also, check the mailing label on this newsletter, and let us know of any changes or corrections that need to be made. OTHERWISE, WHAT YOU SEE ON YOUR CURRENT MAILING LABEL WILL BE THE INFORMATION YOU WILL SEE IN THE DIRECTORY.

Mail your revisions to:

Membership Director
P. O. Box 41446
Nashville, TN 37204-1446
615-851-1052

Or, use the change of address form

...ADVERTISING AVAILABLE...

2002 MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

Does your business have a product/service you want our members to know about? For a small fee, you can reach our members through an advertisement placed in our upcoming Annual Membership Directory. The ad sizes available and their costs are provided below. For additional information and to reserve your space, call Diane Manas at 615-352-7777, or e-mail her: dmanashikes@comcast.net

1/2 page ad costs \$125.00

1/2 pg size: 4½" x 3¾"

1/3 page ad costs \$100.00

1/3 pg size: 4½" x 2¼"

Deadline for space reservation, camera-ready ad materials and payment is April 10. Advertisements are

Earth Day ♦ Every Day

April 22

Many events are planned for the
Apr 20-21
weekend.

See listings at:
www.earthday.net



"Model-T's " Walkin'

Commencing on March 1, 2002, TTA member, J.R. "Model-T" Tate will share equally with the Cumberland Trail Conference all royalties on copies of his book, "Walkin' on the Happy Side of Misery", which are purchased directly from him or through his publisher by his fellow Tennesseans. Although the amount taken individually seems small (\$2.85 for soft cover copies; \$4.10 for hard cover copies), when one considers that each dollar leverages \$4.50 in state and federal funds for the building of the Cumberland Trail, the tally becomes significant.

For autographed copies of "Walkin' on the Happy Side of Misery", send a check (\$29.60 for soft cover copies or \$40.50 for hard cover copies--cost includes \$2.50 S&H and 8.25% sales tax for Tennessee residents) to:

PLEASE REMEMBER: STATE WHOSE NAME IS TO APPEAR IN THE AUTOGRAPH...

J.R. Tate
4713 Chester Harris Road
Woodlawn, TN 37191
931-920-2692

Unsigned copies are available from the publisher, Xlibris Corporation (www.xlibris.com/bookstore, 888-795-4274), amazon.com (remember: when you access and buy books from amazon.com through TTA's web site - TTA benefits!), and Barnes & Noble

HEY MIDDLE TN MEMBERS

CLARKSVILLE, COLUMBIA, MURFREESBORO & NASHVILLE

Want to watch some serious Eco-adventure films?

For twenty-six years the Banff Mountain Film Festival (BMFF) has been celebrating the spirit of adventure and the mountain environment. Each November, the world's best films on mountain (and outdoors) themes draw an international audience to the town of Banff, Canada, located in the Canadian Rockies.

Fifteen years ago, the BMFF began an outreach program to extend the festival to other communities. Festival organizers wanted to showcase the efforts and talents of the world's finest mountain filmmakers. Today, the best films from each year's festival go on tour immediately following the three-day event in Banff.

Kentucky Trails Association

Several Kentucky hikers, including Richard Horvath, a TTA member, are trying to organize a Kentucky Trails Association (an independent organization of TTA also focusing on hiking and trail-related issues within Kentucky). You are welcome to join the KTA on any of the hikes listed below:

UPCOMING OUTINGS:

Apr 6 Blue Heron Loop in the Big South Fork NRR. Stearns, KY. Join us for this 6.6-mile loop in the Big South Fork. This hike provides overlooks of the Big South Fork River and a walk through relics of the Blue Heron coal-mining camp. Along the trail we will pass Devil's Jump and Cracks-in-the-Rock. This hike is rated moderately strenuous, as we will climb from river level to the level of the overlooks. To register, or for further information, contact Richard Horvath: 270-586-0178, or Dennis Crowley: 502-222-0447.

Apr 20 Mammoth Cave National Park. Brownsville, KY. Although known for its caves, this park also has an extensive

Hike Registration? Why ????

Our hike coordinators are volunteers. Make it easier for them to contact you in the event their hike needs to be cancelled by

BIG SOUTH FORK CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER:

Eric Wilson 423-628-2817
ericavi@nxs.net

OUTINGS COORDINATOR:

(call & volunteer to lead an outing)
Kathy Hicks 865-938-6846

CHAPTER NEWS: To receive e-mail notification of impromptu hikes (or to suggest one), e-mail ericavi@nxs.net and ask to be added to the distribution list.

UPCOMING OUTINGS:

Apr 20-21 (Sat-Sun) Cumberland Wildflower Extravaganza! The Big South Fork chapter is co-sponsoring this two-day workshop with Historic Rugby, Inc. Bob Brown (one of the forefathers of TTA and the Cumberland Trail) and Mack Pritchard (Tennessee State Naturalist) will lead 2-4 mile woodland and streamside wildflower walks each day, following the historic trails used by Rugby colonists in the 1880s for exercise and nature study. The two-day package of activities also includes slide presentations on Saturday evening, plant lists and information on approved sources for wildflower seeds. Bring a good wildflower identification book, and expect to see at least 30 species, including several rare ones. Attendance is limited to 25, and the fee for the two-day event is \$25. For more information and to make reservations (don't delay), call Historic Rugby, Inc.: 423-628-2441, or e-mail them: rugby@highland.net

PLANNING AHEAD:

May 11 Destination TBA. Reserve this date for our scheduled monthly hike. Check the May newsletter for details, or call hike leaders Kathy or John Hicks (865-938-6846) for information.

HIKE REPORT:

On March 5, Eric Wilson and Vi Biehl hiked the Colditz Cove trail to see the ice formations left after sub-freezing weekend temperatures. The hike was a study in contrasts with shady places frozen solid, while sunny ones were balmy. There were some ice formations, but not as many as last year, and an occasional crash could be heard from falling ice stalactites. No wildflowers blooming yet.



Tennessee's State Natural

Areas Week

April 8 - 14

April 8th marks the 31st anniversary of the Tennessee Natural Areas Preservation Act (NAPA) and establishment of the Natural Areas Program. The Natural Areas Program seeks to include adequate representation of all natural communities that make up Tennessee's natural landscape, and provide long term protection for Tennessee's rare, threatened and endangered plant and animal life. Since the passage of this act, the General Assembly has designated 62 State Natural Areas. For a complete listing of Tennessee's SNAs visit: www.state.tn.us/environment/nh/nap.htm

In November 2001, Gov. Don Sundquist signed a proclamation designating the week of April 8, 2002 as Tennessee State Natural Areas Week. The week will be highlighted by wildflower walks, nature hikes and educational programs at state natural areas

CLARKSVILLE CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER:

J.R. Tate 931-920-2692 modelt@charter.net

OUTINGS COORDINATOR:

 (call & volunteer to lead an outing)


Suva Bastin 931-645-2849

MEETS: 3rd Tues, 7pm, The Crow Community Center,
211 Richview Rd

CHAPTER NEWS: Hiking with the Clarksville chapter has been great! Our New Year's Eve hike was a huge success. Edgar Evins was an adventure. Devil's Backbone was iced out! Warner Park, Long Hunter, Ft. Henry and Montgomery Bell had blue skies and sunny days. We have enjoyed the company of guests, and members of other TTA chapters, on all of our hikes. It's wildflower season, come hike with us!

UPCOMING OUTINGS:

Apr 6 Standing Stone State Park. Hillham, TN. (25 miles N. of Cookeville) This hike is 5 miles long and rated moderate. We may be early for wildflowers, but the hike around the lake in this rustic and beautiful park will be great. We will meet at 8am CST in the Exit 11 Commuter Parking Lot. For additional information, call Suva Bastin: 931-645-2849.

 **Apr 13-14** (Sat-Sun) Car-camping and Hiking in the Savage Gulf State Natural Area of the South Cumberland Recreation Area. Beersheba Springs, TN. We will be hiking and car-camping out of the Stone Door area. Hikes are rated moderate. We will meet at 7am CDT in the Exit 11 Commuter Parking Lot. For additional information, call Sandi or Bill Hamilton: 931-920-2760.

Apr 16 **MONTHLY MEETING.** Learn hiker safety tips, hear about past and upcoming hiking trips and meet/greet members/friends. New hikers are always welcome! Lots in store!

Apr 20 **EARTH DAY!** Trail Maintenance and Hike at Rotary Park. Clarksville, TN. In celebration of Earth Day, we will give back by doing some trail maintenance, followed up with hiking at Rotary Park. Bring trash bags, clippers and saws. Don't forget your water and snacks. We will meet at 9am CDT at the first shelter on the left, near the entrance. For additional information, call Suva Bastin: 931-645-2849.

Apr 27 Bridgestone/Firestone Centennial Wilderness. Sparta, TN. We will hike 6 miles on trails rated moderate. We will meet at 8am CDT in the Exit 11 Commuter Parking Lot. For additional information, call James Neblett: 931-387-3317.

It's Tick Season

Tick season is usually the end of March through June. Unlike other biting insects, ticks do not bite right away; they crawl around and find a nice, warm, hairy area and dig in.

You can prevent bites by wearing long pants, tucked into your socks, and checking your body regularly for ticks. If you wear shorts, you will need to inspect your bare legs often.

Although there are many methods for removing ticks, it is best to use forceps or tweezers, grasp the tick closely around its entire body, and pull straight out, gently and firmly. Afterwards scrub and sterilize the area.

Tiny deer ticks can cause Lyme Disease.

COLUMBIA CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER:

Russell Smith 615-790-1833 carving082334@cs.com

OUTINGS COORDINATORS:

 (call & volunteer to lead an outing)

Amy Overton 931-388-6363 estheroverton@aol.com

Rick Pinkelton 931-987-2530

MEETS: 1st Tue, 7-8pm, First Presbyterian Church
West 7th St. in Columbia


CHAPTER NEWS: Welcome to our new members!!! Pamela Alley from Pulaski, and from Columbia: Phyllis Baltzer, Bill Clardy, Harvey Fischer and Bill Terry.

For our March 5th meeting, Arleen Scheller gave an interesting presentation on the present status of the Cumberland Trail. She emphasized the need for additional financial assistance to serve as matching funds for land acquisitions. Everyone's help is needed - see article on pg. 1 of this newsletter.

UPCOMING OUTINGS:

Apr 2 **MONTHLY MEETING.** Rick Pinkelton and Russell Smith will conduct a backpacking seminar in preparation for our upcoming overnight hike in May. Please join us for this very informative (and fun!) program from 7-8pm CST, First Presbyterian Church, West 7th St. in Columbia.

Apr 6 Mule Day Parade Hike. Columbia, TN. Come and join in the fun as we hike the Annual Mule Day Parade, which attracts thousands of people each year. Everyone is invited to attend (this is not limited to just the Columbia chapter members). Traffic and parking will be challenging, so come early for breakfast at Pam Frakes' house. We will meet there at 8:30am CST, have breakfast and leave our vehicles to hike to our place in the parade lineup. The parade starts at 11am and ends around 1pm. We will be a part of the parade to promote TTA - with a TTA banner - and we need volunteers to join us dressed as hikers: wearing boots, packs, and carrying hiking sticks. So plan to help "hike" in the parade, then hang out after to rove through the crafts and food booths. To make your breakfast reservations and/or obtain directions, call Pam Frakes (931-388-2197) or, Amy Overton (931-388-6363).

 **Apr 13 TWO** Hikes on the Devil's Backbone Trail, Devil's Backbone State Natural Area, (Tenn. milepost 394 of the Natchez Trace Parkway) Hohenwald, TN. In observance of the 31st Anniversary of Tennessee's Natural Areas Program (see article on pg. 5), we will take this opportunity to hike the Devil's Backbone Trail - not just once, but TWICE! The first one starts at 10:30am CDT, while the other starts at 1:30pm. The trail is 3 miles short and rated easy. For additional information, call Tony Bagley: 931-381-0044.

PLANNING AHEAD:

May 11-12 (Sat-Sun) Overnight backpacking at Fall Creek Falls State Park. Spencer, TN. Details will appear in the May newsletter. If you need information before the May newsletter, you can call Rick Pinkelton 931-987-2530.

HIKE REPORT:

On Sat Mar 9, Rick Pinkelton led a small group of committed hikers - who braved the rain - over the Grundy Forest Day Loop, Fiery Gizzard and Dog Hole Trails at Grundy Forest State Natural Area. Russell Smith reported great views but a very tough 9.5 miles! Rick said that it rained during the first half of the hike, which made the already challenging sections of the trail pretty treacherous. He added that the second half of the hike was dry and pretty much a piece of cake.

COVE LAKE CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER:

Siler McCarty

423-566-1291

webmaster@tnrlca.org

MEETS: 3rd Thur, 6pm, First Presbyterian Church, LaFollette

Apr 14 We will be hiking the Smoky Mountain Segment of our own Cumberland Trail. Caryville, TN. This 3.5-mile hike, rated moderate, will start at the top of Cross Mountain and make its way down to Montgomery Fork. At this time of year, we can expect to see an abundance of spring wildflowers, especially when we get down to the remote bottom of Montgomery Creek, half a mile deeper in the valley than any roads go. We will meet at the Shoney's parking lot in Caryville at 1:30pm EDT. This will be a one-way hike, with 4-wheel drive transportation out of the hollow, so registration is requested. For more information and/or to register, call Richard Helm: 865-426-4472.

Apr 18 **MONTHLY MEETING.** Learn hiker safety tips, hear about past and upcoming hiking trips and meet/greet members/friends. New hikers are always welcome! Lots in store! We meet at 6pm at the First Presbyterian Church in LaFollette.

PLANNING AHEAD:

May 18 Big South Fork NRR. Trail TBA. Nancy Grieve & Laurie Salvesson: 423-907-0951.

Jun 21-22 Camping & Hiking in the Big Creek Area of the Smokies (NC side). Trails TBA. Richard Helm: 865-426-4472.

HIKE REPORTS:

On Feb 16, we held a hike on the Lawson farm in the Grantsboro Community. Led by member Vance Lawson, thirty hikers followed the first loop through an old-growth forest to a cave with a spring, then back up past a pre-Civil War cabin to a hilltop with a beautiful view of Norris Lake and the surrounding mountains. After lunch, several hikers took a second loop, which consisted of a 3.5-mile trek down the opposite side of the hill, along side of Norris Lake past some unusual rock formations and a waterfall. With the clear sky and pleasant temperature, it was the perfect day for a hike.

NEW CHAPTER !!!

MANCHESTER-TULLAHOMA (Temporary Name)

CHAPTER CONTACT:

Brent Morris 931-454-1718 bmorris@edge.net

MEETS: Monthly Date TBA in May's Newsletter

It's official! ... At TTA's February 16 Board Meeting, the Manchester-Tullahoma (temporary name for now) Chapter's formation was approved, and we are now TTA's twelfth chapter, with a membership of 30 (*and growing*).

Since the February 16 Board of Directors meeting, an organizational committee was formed to make recommendations on the chapter's organizational issues: chapter officers, monthly meeting dates, times, locations, future outings, etc. Members of the committee are: Doug Ratliff (committee chair), Ellen Anderson (recorder), Howard and Carolyn Frederick, Butch and Teresa Young, Alan Bryan, Barbie Taylor, and Joan Bentley.

At the time this newsletter was going to press, the first "official" chapter meeting, scheduled on March 19th at the D.W. Wilson recreational center in Tullahoma, had not taken place. Therefore, May's newsletter will contain a full report on officers elected, date, time and place of our monthly meetings, and outings planned, etc.

Anyone wishing information about the Manchester-Tullahoma chapter is invited to call Brent Morris at 931-454-1718, or e-mail him: bmorris@edge.net

UPCOMING HIKES:

Apr 6 Sewanee Perimeter Loop, University of the South. Sewanee, TN. This is a joint hike with the Nashville Chapter. There must be a TTA bylaw that says the Nashville chapter is required to hike in Sewanee during spring wildflower season because they haven't missed a spring yet! This area is known for its variety of wildflowers so you'll understand why it's an annual pilgrimage. This hike will be about 8 miles and is rated moderate. We will start from the Memorial Cross/University View trailhead and hike along the bluffs, down to Bridal Veil Falls, and then back up before taking a back road across to the Shakerag Hollow section. This will be a shuttle hike, so we will need to arrange carpooling accordingly. Be sure to bring sturdy boots, lunch, water, and clothing appropriate for the weather. For additional information and to register, call Brent Morris at 931-454-1718, or e-mail him: bmorris@edge.net

(cont. on pg. 8)

EAST TN CHAPTER (Oak Ridge / Knoxville)

CHAPTER OFFICER:

Beverly Neurock

865-220-9679

bneurock@bellsouth.net

Apr 13 Norris River Bluff Trail. This will be an easy 3.1-mile hike on the River Bluff trail. This is an excellent trail for viewing wildflowers, which should be in full bloom. We will meet at 9am EDT in the parking area of the visitors center at Norris Dam, off US-441. Bring water, a snack, and dress appropriately for the weather. For more information, contact Phil Cavanaugh at 865-376-1511, or by e-mail: pcav@icx.net

Apr 20 Porter's Creek Trail, Great Smoky Mtn. NP. This hike is 7.4 miles and is rated moderate. During the hike we will pass the homesteads of early park settlers. Wildflowers may be in bloom at this time, such as wild ginger, Indian pink and Dutchman pipe vine. We will also have a view of Fern Waterfall. Bring water, lunch and dress appropriately for the weather. We will meet at 9am EDT at the trailhead. (**DIRECTIONS:** Take US-321 east out of Gatlinburg. At 5.9 miles, turn onto Greenbriar Road at the park entrance side. Pass the ranger station and two picnic areas. At mile 4.1, park off the traffic loop and look for the Porter's Creek trail sign). For more information, contact Esther Ruffner 865-281-0567.

Apr 27 White Oak Sinks via Schoolhouse Gap Trail, Great Smoky Mtn. NP. This is a 5-6 mile hike. Beginning at the parking lot on Laurel Creek Rd., we will hike 1.1 miles up Schoolhouse Gap Trail before veering off to the left onto an un-maintained trail that will take us down to the White Oak Sinks area where we should see abundant wildflower displays. Our return route will take us on another un-maintained trail to the intersection of Scott Mtn. and Schoolhouse Gap trails at the edge of the Park where it will then be 2 miles back to the cars. We will meet at the Townsend "we" at 8:30am EDT for car a shuttle to the trailhead. Bring food, water, and wear sturdy hiking shoes. For more information, call Keith Mertz at 865-376-4827, or e-mail him: keithmertz@hotmail.com

MANCHESTER-TULLAHOMA (cont. from pg. 7)



Apr 13 Stone Door, Big Creek Gulf and Big Creek Rim trails, Savage Gulf State Natural Area. Beersheba Springs, TN. Members of the Nashville chapter will join us. In addition, this outing is in observance of the 31st anniversary of Tennessee's Natural Areas Program. These trails offer a wide variety of scenery, including Big Creek which "sinks" underground at one point, and a side trail to Ranger Falls (volume will depend on recent rainfall). The Rim trail includes several overlooks. This hike is approx. 9 miles and rated difficult due to the rocky descent into the gulf and the long ascent out. Hiking boots are required. For additional information, and to obtain meeting location and time, call Alan Bryan at 931-728-0675, or e-mail him: bryanalan@bfusa.com



Apr 13 The Nashville Chapter is planning a hike to scout wildflowers at Short Springs State Natural Area in observance of Tennessee's State Natural Areas Week (Apr 8-14). You are invited to join them. See the Nashville hiking schedule for additional information.

MEMPHIS CHAPTER

OFFICER: Betty Porter 901-755-4740 **CO-CHAIR:** Norma McMinn 901-785-1479
ELECTED BOARD REPRESENTATIVE: Gloria Lenski 901-213-0604 glorialenski@yahoo.com
MEETS: 3rd Thur, 7pm, Germantown Library (Sept-May)

April 5-7 (Fri-Sun) Natchez Trace Parkway, Devil's Backbone Trail & Franklin, TN. This is a joint hike with the Murfreesboro Chapter. On Sat, we will meet at 10am CST to hike the 6-mile loop trail on Devil's Backbone Trail. Meet at the trailhead located near Mile Marker 394, south of Nashville. This trail is rated moderate, and was built primarily with the efforts of TTA volunteers. Bring water and lunch. On Sun, we will walk around historic Franklin. For additional information and to register, please contact Betty Porter at 901-755-4740. Hike registration is required!



Apr 14 Lucius Burch Jr. State Natural Area, Shelby Farm Park. Memphis, TN. Join us for a Sunday afternoon for a 3 to 5 mile flat and easy hike. Meet at 2pm CDT at the soccer field on Walnut Grove Road. For more information, call Freddi Felt at 901-685-9915.

Apr 18 **MONTHLY MEETING.** Jim Clark, one of the founding members of the Northwest Chapter and mathematics professor at UT, will present a slide program "200 Miles in the Grand Canyon and counting..." For the past 6 years, Jim Clark has spent his spring vacations hiking below the rim of the Grand Canyon. During this time he has hiked approximately 200 miles on 8 trails. His program will feature photographs and experiences along these trails. As Jim has said, "Nothing can prepare you for the experience of visiting the Grand Canyon – no matter how many times you go, nor can anything diminish the memories of time spent below the rim." Join us for an informative and entertaining evening. Meeting begins at 7pm at the Germantown Library.

Apr 20 Mousetail Landing State Park. Parsons, TN. We will do an 8-mile hike through a scenic hardwood forest and have lunch on a limestone bluff overlooking the TN River. The trail is rated moderate with some steep and rugged hills. Carpool 7am CDT from Walnut Grove soccer field, or meet at 9:30am at the visitor center parking lot. For more information, call Ann Lindstrom at 901-388-4123.

Apr 26-28 (Fri-Sun) Southeast Regional Foot Trails Conference, Unicoi State Park. Helen, GA. Join American Hiking Society and other trail organizations and agencies for the first ever gathering of hiking trail advocates in the Southeast for informational workshops and hiking. For additional information, contact Carol Haley: 901-388-9163, or visit AHS's web site: www.americanhiking.org

PLANNING AHEAD:

May 3-5 (Fri-Sun) Cumberland Trail, TN River Gorge. Chattanooga, TN. Join us Saturday to hike one of the most beautiful segments on the Cumberland Trail located in Prentice Cooper State Forest. On Sunday, we will hike a scenic trail in Edgar Evins State Park. Call Carol Haley at 901-388-9163 for information. Hike registration required.

MURFREESBORO CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER: Mark Stanfill 615-867-0847 athike718@netzero.net
OUTINGS COORDINATOR: (call & volunteer to lead an outing)
Brent Morris 931-454-1718 bmorris@edge.net
MEETS: 2nd Tues, 7pm, Wilderness Station @ Barfield-Crescent Park, 697 Barfield Rd.

Apr 6 Natchez Trace Parkway, Devil's Backbone Trail. This is a joint hike with the Memphis Chapter. This 6-mile hike is rated moderate. TTA volunteers built this trail a few years ago, so come and see (and walk) what has been accomplished! Bring plenty of water and lunch. You'll need to wear appropriate hiking footwear. We'll meet at McDonald's just off Old Fort Parkway (Highway 96) at 8am CST SHARP! We will meet the Memphis chapter members at the trailhead at 10am. For information and to register, call Fount Bertram: 615-765-5357, or e-mail him: fwbertram@hotmail.com

Apr 9 **MONTHLY MEETING.** Our guest this evening is Mary Edith McFarlin, MTSU physical education instructor, whose hobby (one of many) is bicycling the backroads of Tennessee. Join us for a sure to be delightful evening! See you then, 7pm at the Barfield Crescent Park Wilderness Station.

(cont. on pg. 9)

MURFREESBORO (cont. from pg. 8)

Apr 13 Piney River Trail, Bowater Pocket Wilderness. Spring City, TN. This 10 mile very scenic hike is rated moderate. We'll walk beside beautiful cascades and waterfalls. Bring plenty of water and lunch. We'll meet at 8am CDT at the Murfreesboro Cracker Barrel (I-24/Hwy 231). For information and to register, call Mark Stanfill at 615-867-0847 (athike718@netzero.net) or Martin McCullough: 615-896-1043 (mam1932@earthlink.net)

Apr 14 Cedars of Lebanon State Park. Lebanon, TN. We'll do this 5 mile trail later than we did last year in hopes of seeing the Nashville Breadroot - relative of the beautiful lupine - they make a gorgeous lavender carpet on the cedar glades! There's also an interesting sinkhole on this trail. The group's size is limited to 12, therefore YOU MUST REGISTER. We'll meet at the park welcome center at noon. To reserve your spot, call Heloise Shilstat: 615-896-6278, or e-mail her: stillwild@bellsouth.net

Apr 20 Old Stone Fort State Archaeological Area Wildflower Hike. Manchester, TN. This 2-mile hike is rated easy. We expect to see over 40 different types of spring wildflowers! After the hike we'll have lunch at a local Manchester restaurant. We'll meet at 10am CDT at the visitor center parking lot. For information or to register, call Bertha Chrietzberg: 615-896-1146.

Apr 26-28 (Fri-Sun) Southeast Regional Foot Trails Conference, Unicoi State Park. Helen, GA. Fount Bertram is one of several TTA members attending the SRFTC in GA. (Announcement on pg. 2 of this newsletter.) The conference is a gathering with AHS, the NPS's Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program, and many Southeast U.S. hiking and agency leaders for a weekend of networking, educational sessions, and inspirational speakers. You are welcome to attend, and if you need more information, call Fount Bertram: 615-765-5357, or e-mail him: fwbertram@hotmail.com (AHS also has information on their web site: www.americanhiking.org/alliance/sai.html)

PLANNING AHEAD:

May 11 Smith Fork Creek float with Heloise Shilstat. If you need additional information, ahead of the May newsletter, call Heloise Shilstat: 615-896-6278, or e-mail her: stillwild@bellsouth.net

NASHVILLE CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER: Dan Brennan 615-837-4324 osrwodan@aol.com

OUTINGS COORDINATOR: (call & volunteer to lead an outing)

Elizabeth Gerlock 615-356-6260 eygerlock@aol.com

MEETS: 4th Tues. 7pm. St. Bernard Academy 2021 21st Ave South

HIKING HOTLINE

615-367-7045

AFTER WORK HIKES: You are invited to join Gary Parker for more of his After Work hikes at the Warner Parks - on the following dates in April: 3, 5, 10, 12, 17, 24 and 26. He is usually at the Warner Park Nature Center (Hwy 100) at 5:30pm and starts hiking between 5:45 - 6pm. Normally, the hikes range between 2½ - 6½ miles, have an easy to aerobic pace and are conducted regardless of the weather. For additional information and to register, contact Gary Parker: 615-287-1371(hm), 615-277-2006(wk), garyparker@mindspring.com & garyp@werthan.com

EARTH DAY EVENT: **Sat Apr 20.** TTA has been invited to participate in the Nashville Earth Day 2002 celebration at Centennial Park (West End Ave at 27th Ave N). We will have tables to answer questions and distribute materials about TTA - what a great way to publicize our organization! We need happy-faced volunteers during the hours of 11am until 7pm to help set-up, staff and break-down our tables!! The event is FREE and open to the public from noon until 7pm and will include educational programs, speakers, live music, food vendors, children's activities, and participants from the local community and environmental organizations. PLEASE, donate your time and enthusiasm to this very worthwhile project. Volunteer **TODAY** by calling Dan Brennan: 615-837-4324, or e-mail him: osrwodan@aol.com

See you there!

Apr 5-7 (Fri-Sun) Savage Gulf State Natural Area Backpack. This is a joint outing with the members of the Sierra Club. Savage Gulf is one of the most scenic natural areas in Tennessee. On Fri, we will hike from the Savage Gulf Ranger Station to Hobb's Cabin via the North Rim trail. On Sat, we will hike from Hobb's Cabin to Stage Road campsite via the Connector trail and Stage Coach Road Historic trail. On Sun, we will return to the Savage Ranger Station via the South Rim trail. This will be a moderate to strenuous trip for experienced backpackers. Registration is limited to 12. For additional information and to register, call Katherine Pendleton at 615-943-6877, or e-mail her: Adelicia1@aol.com

Apr 6 Sewanee Perimeter Loop, University of the South. Sewanee, TN. Members of our newest chapter, Manchester-Tullahoma, will join us. This will basically be a repeat of the recent hike we did there with the addition of the Shakerag Hollow section at the end. (I think there's a TTA bylaw that says we have to hike there during spring wildflower season!) This hike will be about 8 miles and is rated moderate. We will start from the Memorial Cross/University View trailhead and hike along the bluffs, down to Bridal Veil Falls, and then back up before taking a back road across to the Shakerag Hollow section. This will be a shuttle hike, so we will need to arrange carpooling accordingly. Be sure to bring sturdy boots, lunch, water, and clothing appropriate for the weather. For additional information and to register, call Doug Burroughs: 615-587-0085, or e-mail him dougburroughs@earthlink.net

Apr 7 Cooper Mountain Trail, Standing Stone State Forest. Hilham, TN. This hike is about 7-8 miles, and will start at Overton Lodge. We will hike to the top of Cooper Mountain on terrain rated easy to moderate. Spring wildflowers should be at their peak. For additional information, and meeting time and location, call Jim or Marietta Poteet: 615-824-7666.

(cont. on pg. 10)


NASHVILLE (cont. from pg. 9)

Apr 10 (Wed) After Work Rollerblading in Crockett Park. Brentwood, TN. All skill levels welcomed (some of us are beginners!). Plan on rollerblading for about 1 – 1½ hours. There won't be any hills to climb, or go down unless you want to! We will meet at 6pm CDT at Crockett Park in Brentwood. Crockett Park is on Concord Rd across from the Brentwood library (I-65 south – you'll see the big antenna on the left). For additional information, call Paul Smith: 615- 832-9388, or e-mail him: paolov@bellsouth.net

Apr 12 (Fri) Hike 'n' Dine, Blue Moon Café. West Nashville, TN. This is one of the shortest hikes and rated easy – just a walk from your car to the table! You will need to bring \$\$\$ to pay for your meal. The food here is excellent and a bit higher in price than previous restaurant hikes, so bring few extra dollars. We will meet at 7pm CDT at Blue Moon Café. For additional information, call Paul Smith: 615- 832-9388, or e-mail him: paolov@bellsouth.net **DIRECTIONS:** Take I-40 west (Memphis), get off at exit 204 (White Bridge Rd/Robertson Rd). Make a right at the top of the exit ramp. Then an immediately left at the next traffic light onto Robertson Ave. Go to the end of Robertson Ave, there will be a stop sign, across the street there will be a dead end sign and on the left there will be a sign for Rock Harbor Marina, follow left to the marina, the restaurant is on the water at the marina.

Apr 13-14 (Sat-Sun) Great Smoky Mtn NP V-I-P Training. GSMNP V-I-Ps perform light trail maintenance and are involved with Adopt-A-Trail or Adopt-A-Campsite programs. Here is an opportunity for TTA (with Sierra Club) members to become involved with the Volunteers In the Park program in the Smokies. In order to participate in this program, one must attend the annual training session on Sat Apr 13, from 9am until 2pm EASTERN time. Training is at park headquarters in Gatlinburg, TN. After the training session is over, we can backpack a short trail and stay overnight. Registration for this opportunity is limited, and reservations must be made no later than April 8. Contact Katherine Pendleton at 615-943-6877, or by e-mail Adelicia1@aol.com

Apr 13 Every second Saturday, volunteers gather from 9 till noon to build and maintain the trails in Beaman Park in Joelton, TN, in preparation for the park's opening. A two-mile loop is complete, but it's in need of some fine-tuning, and work has begun on a second loop of similar length. Trail building experience helps but is not required, and the work is no more difficult than moderate gardening. Come enjoy the park's wild beauty and the pleasure of a job well done. Please register with Dave Walton: 615-646-5355.

 **Apr 13** Stone Door, Big Creek Gulf and Big Creek Rim trails, Savage Gulf State Natural Area. Beersheba Springs, TN. Members of our newest chapter – Manchester-Tullahoma, will join us. In addition, this outing is in observance of the 31st anniversary of Tennessee's Natural Areas Program. These trails offer a wide variety of scenery, including Big Creek which "sinks" underground at one point, and a side trail to Ranger Falls (volume will depend on recent rainfall). The Rim trail includes several overlooks. This hike is approx. 9 miles and rated difficult due to the rocky descent into the gulf and the long ascent out. Hiking boots are required. For additional information, and to obtain meeting location and time, call Dan Brennan: 615-837-4324.

Are you new to Nashville? Hiking? Interested in checking out a hiking club? Or, just want a gentler hike? Then, the following hike is just for you. Meet new, as well as seasoned hikers who also share your desire to be outdoors. You are encouraged to use this time to learn about hiking and TTA while enjoying the great outdoors with friendly people.



Apr 13 Wildflower Hunt/Find (and Hike) in Short Springs State Natural Area. Tullahoma, TN. This activity is in observance of the 31st anniversary of Tennessee's Natural Areas Program. If you like puzzles and hiking, this is the outing for you. The puzzle portion is rated easy and will be fun! Prizes to be awarded to the person(s) finding the most wildflowers. Even if you don't know wildflowers, this is a perfect opportunity to learn a few. The group will stay together so you won't need an orienteering course to get through this. The hiking is also rated easy, although there are a few short hills and uneven terrain, hiking boots/shoes are advised. You will need to bring a writing instrument, water, snacks and lunch. We will meet at 8am CDT at Target on Bell Rd (Exit 59 off of I-24). For additional information, call Diane Manas: 615-352-7777.

Apr 14 Come hike the beautiful 13.3 mile Millenium Trail at Bernheim Arboretum and Forest near Bardstown, Kentucky - approximately a 2-hour drive from Nashville. The Millenium Trail is a perimeter loop through the more remote sections of B.A.& F. We can expect beautiful, rolling hills, mature forest trees and excellent wildflower displays (if the spring blooming season is on schedule). This hike is rated strenuous for the distance and the frequent (but not prolonged) ascents and descents. For more information and to pre-register, call Anne Wesley: 615-851-1052.

Apr 20 **EARTH DAY** - see *Earth Day Event announcement above, on pg. 9.*

Apr 21 Mammoth Cave National Park. Mammoth Cave, KY. McCoy Hollow – Collie Ridge. There's more to Mammoth Cave NP than Mammoth Cave! Come hike some of the 60 miles of trail in this park. We will hike from the bluffs along the Green River through hollows and along upland ridges. Spring wildflowers will be blooming. There will be an optional side trip to a small cave at Boiling Springs. This will be a moderate 10 – 12 mile hike requiring a car shuttle. Because of the shuttle, you must pre-register for this hike. For additional information and to register, call Richard Horvath: 270-586-0178.

Apr 23 **MONTHLY MEETING.** This time we celebrate Wildflowers, with the help of our special guest, nature photographer Robin Conover. Robin's images are on display each month in *Tennessee Magazine*, as well as in that publication's calendar. She is also represented in the "Best of Tennessee 2002" calendar, which supports the *Tennessee Conservationist* magazine. A poem from the Orient says that "wildflowers bloom for their own sake...quite ignorant of our attention." Nevertheless, come view and enjoy.

Apr 27-28 (Sat-Sun) Fiery Gizzard Trail Backpacking Weekend. South Cumberland State Park. Tracy City, TN. This is a joint outing with the members of the Sierra Club. Because this trail is rated moderate to difficult, this hike is for experienced backpackers, and space is limited. This is a one-way hike and will require a car shuttle. We will start at the Grundy Forest trailhead and hike the Doghole Trail to Raven Point (~6 miles) where we will spend the night. On Sun, we will hike to Foster Falls TVA Area (~7 miles). Campfires are forbidden, therefore if you want hot meals, bring your campstove. For additional information and to register, call Katherine Pendleton at 615-943-6877, or e-mail her: Adelicia1@aol.com

APR 13 Outings Continue → →

NASHVILLE (cont. from pg. 10)

Are you new to Nashville? Hiking? Interested in checking out a hiking club? Or, just want a gentler hike? Then, the following hike is just for you. Meet new, as well as seasoned hikers who also share your desire to be outdoors. You are encouraged to use this time to learn about hiking and TTA while enjoying the great outdoors with friendly people.

Apr 27 Newcomers Hike on the "Narrows of the Harpeth," Harpeth Scenic River and Narrows Historic Area. Kingston Springs, TN. Come learn about this historical area and see the tunnel built by Montgomery Bell - a very eccentric man, he is credited with developing the iron industry in the area. Wildflowers abound this time of year. The hike will be between 2 and 3 miles. For additional information, and to obtain meeting time and place, call Patt Dillon: 615-646-5351.

PLANNING AHEAD:

May 4-5 (Sat-Sun) Bearwaller Gap Trail Backpacking Weekend. Carthage, TN. This is a joint outing with the members of the Sierra Club. Bearwaller Gap trail is on Army Corps of Engineers land surrounding the Cordell Hull Dam and Reservoir. We will hike from the Defeated Creek Recreation Area to a primitive campsite near Two Prong. After setting up camp we will hike to Tater Knob. This trail features many types of wildflowers. Trail length is 6 miles one way. Rated moderate with 300-400 ft. elevation changes. Registration is limited to 12.

For additional information and to register, contact Katherine Pendleton at 615-943-6877, or e-mail her: Adelicia1@aol.com

NORTHWEST CHAPTER (UT at Martin / Weakley County)

CHAPTER OFFICERS:

Jim Clark 731-587-7369 / 2225 jclark@utm.edu
Joe Seago 731-588-5836 joeseago@backpacker.com

MEETS: 2nd / 3rd Thur, 7pm, UT Martin Campus, Boling University Center, Room 231 **ONLY** when college is in session

website: www.utm.edu/~jclark/trails/

Apr 11 **MONTHLY MEETING.** Mike Madell, with the National Forest Service in the Land Between the Lakes, will present a 2-part program. The first half is entitled "The State of Hiking at LBL," and the second "The Master Planning Effort at LBL" (what it means, how to get involved, etc.). Come join us in this exciting program dealing with this great resource in Kentucky and Tennessee.

NOTE THAT THIS IS THE LAST MEETING OF THE SPRING SEMESTER.

Apr 20 Shawnee National Forest. Destination to be determined, but expect a route as interesting as the Jackson Hollow hike of last October. Lusk Creek Canyon and Saltpeter Cave are a possibility for a "wet foot" trail. For more information, call Jim Clark: 731-587-2225.

May 4 Cache River Canoe Trail. A scant 80 miles from Martin is one of the premiere canoe trails in the U.S. Through a tupelo and cypress swamp, the trail is reminiscent of the Ghost River section of the Wolf River. In the spring, the chorus of tree frogs is deafening. The course is approximately 6 miles of still water. For more information, call Jim Clark: 731-587-2225.

May 25-27 (Sat-Mon) Mt. LeConte Extravaganza! Great Smoky Mtn NP. Three days of day-hiking to/from Mt. LeConte. On Sat, up Rainbow Falls trail, down Bull Head trail. On Sun, up Porters Creek and Brushy Mtn trails, down Trillium Gap trail. On Mon, up Alum Cave trail, down Boulevard trail. For additional information, call Chris Fox: 731-586-4744, or e-mail him: towndawg@hotmail.com

May 17-19 (Fri-Sun) Joyce Kilmer Wilderness. Robbinsville, NC. A group campsite (car-camping with HOT! showers) in JKW has been reserved for this weekend of day hikes. Details will appear in the May newsletter, and/or you can call Richard Horvath (270-586-0178) to obtain information.

May 17-19 (Fri-Sun) Long C Trails. North of Gallatin, TN. This is a weekend of car-camping (with hot showers, electricity) and day-hikes. Additional information will appear in the May newsletter, and/or you can call Randy Ritterbush (615-310-8595) to obtain additional information.

May 18-19 (Sat-Sun) Mammoth Cave Backpack. Details will appear in the May newsletter, and/or you can call Katherine Pendleton (615-943-6877) to obtain information.

May 28 **CHAPTER PICNIC**

PLATEAU CHAPTER (Crossville)

CHAPTER OFFICER:

Bill Haynes 931-707-7606 billhaynes@citlink.net

MEETS: 3rd Thurs, 7pm, Crossville Housing Authority

There is a leaderless hike every Wednesday morning at 8:30 a.m. CDT. We usually meet at the boat launch area of Cumberland Mountain State Park. The hikes are moderately paced and may average five or six miles. For information, call Bill Haynes at 931-707-7606. Rain cancels.

Apr 6 Edgar Evins State Park. Silver Point, TN. Let's join Ranger Wayne and other hikers to check out the spring wildflowers! The hike is 4 - 5 miles long and rated moderate. Bring lunch and water. Meet 7:30am CST in back of the Cracker Barrel restaurant in Crossville. For information, call Leigh Jones: 931-277-3228.

Each month prior to our meeting, we will meet at 6:45pm CDT for a social get-together. EVERYONE IS INVITED! Come early to meet/greet old friends and welcome new attendees.

Apr 18 **MONTHLY MEETING.** Lillian Fox, an adjunct faculty member of Roane State Community College, will present an introductory course on CPR and First Aid. Lillian has a B.S. from TTU and an M.A. from the University of Central Florida in Cardiac Rehabilitation. Please join us for this very informative program!

Apr 20 Albright Grove Trail, Great Smoky Mountain National Park. The Albright Grove is named after Horace Albright, the second director of the National Park Service. Come see a virgin forest of hemlock, maple, silverbell, tuliptree, Fraser magnolia and more! Spectacular wildflowers await! This hike is 6.5 miles long and rated difficult. Bring lunch and plenty of water. Meet 7am CDT at Hardee's on Peavine Road. For information, call Terry Brophy: 931-707-7234.

Apr 27 Newcomers' Hike. Cumberland Mountain State Park. Crossville, TN. If you enjoy the outdoors and would like to get some spring exercise, bring yourself and your family and friends and join Tennessee Trails on this easy 4.4-mile hike in Cumberland Mtn. State Park. We will include the Lake Trail for some nice scenery. Bring water and snacks, and wear comfortable walking shoes. Meet 9am CDT at the Visitor Center. For information, call Kathy Kraus: 931-707-5170.

UPPER CUMBERLAND CHAPTER (Sparta / Cookeville)

CHAPTER OFFICERS: Helen Anglemier 931-858-5947 helena@cookeville.com
OUTINGS COORDINATOR: Sue Bass 931-528-1386 take-a-hike@onemain.com

Sometimes we have to make changes to our hiking schedule - to be sure you are notified - please register with the Hike Coordinator for any hike you wish to go on. Hiking boots are recommended for each hike, along with a supply of water, lunch, snacks, and rain gear - in case of sudden storms. Meeting places are the Jefferson side of Penney's in Cookeville and/or Firststar Bank in Sparta on Highway 111 across the side street from McDonalds.

Apr 6 Piney River Trail, Bowater Pocket Wilderness. Spring City, TN. This is reported to be a great wildflower area. The hike is 10 miles over terrain rated easy to moderate. This is also a one-way hike and requires a car shuttle. Therefore, registration is required. We will meet at Penney's in Cookeville at 8am CST, or Firststar Bank in Sparta at 8:30am. For information and to register, call Marnell Cothran: 931-738-5874.

Apr 13 Bridgestone/Firestone Centennial Wilderness. Sparta, TN. <Please Note> we've had a change in times from our original schedule> We hope to see the "Flower Garden" on the downstream section of the River Trail and then turn and go back upstream. If the water is high, plans will be altered accordingly. Plan on hiking about 9 miles on terrain rated moderate to strenuous. We will meet at Penney's in Cookeville at 8:30am CDT, or Firststar Bank in Sparta at 9am. You must register for this hike by contacting Marnell Cothran (931-738-5874) or Ross Cardwell (931-738-2760, or riverwood@blomand.net)

Apr 20 Angel Falls Overlook, Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area. Jamestown, TN. For those not familiar with white-water jargon - this waterfall is classified as a "class IV" rapid (on a scale of "V", quite challenging to kayakers, and we just may see some). Today, we will keep to the hiking trail, which has a bit of an ascent to the overlook, and gives this hike a rating of moderate to strenuous. Coming down from the overlook will be easier. Round-trip mileage is about 5-6 miles. This trail has earned the name as being one of the best wildflower trails. We will meet at Firststar Bank in Sparta at 8:30am CDT, or Penney's in Cookeville at 9am. For more information, contact Sue Bass: 931-528-1386 leave message or e-mail her: take-a-hike@onemain.com

HIKE REPORTS:

On February 9, a large group of about 28 hiked to the beautiful Virgin Falls. We had never seen that much water coming over the falls - it was truly amazing.

On February 16, we had a really stellar day at High Rock, near Sparta, TN. Thirty of us climbed way up the mountain and then bush whacked our way out the ridge to an awesome three-sided view at High Rock. The sun warmed us as we had snacks and relaxed on the rock. When we returned, we shared an incredibly delicious potluck lunch at Ross and Brenda Cardwell's cabin. Thanks to the Cardwells for their super hospitality.

On Wednesday, March 6, five of us had a "very spur of the moment" hike at Bridgestone/Firestone Centennial Wilderness Area. What an enjoyable walk along the river and seeing Copper Cascades!

CUMBERLAND TRAIL CONFERENCE

CUMBERLAND TRAIL CONFERENCE CONTACTS:

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Email:	cumberlandtrail@rocketmail.com
Website:	www.cumberlandtrail.org

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES...

Apr 5-7 A-Backpacking We Will Go! This will be the first of three Backcountry Outings coming up this spring. The team will backpack a half-mile in to Montgomery Creek campsite to set up base camp and then continue building new trail from Spring Branch to Greens Branch, where BreakAway participants left off. Participants are responsible for supplying their own backpacking equipment (tent, sleeping bag, tarp, etc.) and food for the weekend. CTC will provide the tools and training.

Apr 14-20 American Hiking Society's Volunteer Vacation. Come out and work with AHS volunteers on the Frozen Head and Obed Segments of the Cumberland Trail. We need several volunteers to come out to assist these folks in their trail building ventures.

PLANNING AHEAD:

May 3-5 This will be the second of the Backcountry Outings, taking us once again towards Greens Branch. Participants are responsible for their own backpacking equipment, with CTC supplying the tools and training.

May 18-19 Front Country Outing. Join us for a weekend of trail work in the front country. We will be staying at the Rock Creek campsite on the Obed River, and constructing trail along the Emory River on the Frozen Head Segment.

GET INVOLVED! CALL TODAY!!!

Andy Wright ♦ 931-456-6259 ♦ awright@onemain.com

OVER HEARD ...

The Cumberland Trail, a weekly radio show, started airing Sunday, March 17 over WDVX radio, located in Clinton, TN. *The Cumberland Trail* show will air each Sunday for the next 6 weeks from 8:30-9:00pm (EDT) and features traditional music of the Cumberland Trail State Park corridor (local old-time string bands, bluegrass, gospel, blues and rockabilly). In addition to the music, there will be announcements to raise awareness about the Cumberland Trail Conference. WDVX radio airs simultaneously over the Internet for those outside of the listening area: www.wdvx.com

This program can be easily syndicated to radio stations throughout the CTSP corridor (and TN), and if you are interested in learning more about it, call Bob Fulcher (interpretive specialist for CTSP) at 865-426-2998.

ALSO, WPLN-Nashville public radio is planning to air a Cumberland Trail segment in the near future. Details were not available at the time this newsletter went to press.

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Newsletter Deadlines:

Announcements and articles
received on/before April 10th
will appear in our
May 1st newsletter

Articles submitted are subject to editing and
will be included as space permits.

Please send all submissions to:
Diane Manas
5729 Stoneway Trail
Nashville, TN 37209
615-352-7777

When sending by email, use both:
dmanashikes@comcast.net
dmanashikes@yahoo.com

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ADOPT-A-TRAIL OFFICER:

Harold Draper 865-689-7757 h.m.draper@att.net

Have you considered ...

Maintaining a particular trail or section of trail?

Through the cooperation of land managers, who periodically inform us of volunteer opportunities, TTA can put you in touch with several Adopt-A-Trail programs, or offer suggestions on how to approach local land managers in your area.

The Adopt-A-Trail program is quite simple and flexible. Volunteers or chapters select the trail they wish to adopt and at the same time determine the level of trail maintenance they wish to undertake. Their only commitment is to hike, inspect, and report on the trail's conditions and maintenance needs twice per year. Light trail maintenance (clipping, pruning, trash and minor blow-down removal) is encouraged during each inspection. Serious trail problems identified will be reported to the local land management agency for resolution.

To obtain an Adopt-A-Trail or Trail Inspection form, call Harold Draper: 865-689-7757

TENNESSEE RAILS-TRAILS ADVISORY COUNCIL (TRAC)

BOARD REPRESENTATIVE:

Jim Deming 615-354-9767 jdeming@tals.org
website: http://members.aol.com/trac2trail/depot.htm

MISSION: *To act as a resource and mentor for the planning, development and management of rail-trails throughout the State of Tennessee for the purposes of appropriate recreation, preservation of rail corridors and alternate transportation, in order to benefit the general public, communities, commerce and tourism.*

Tennessee Trails Association
P.O. Box 41446
Nashville, TN 37204-1446

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

First Class Mail
U.S. Postage Paid
Nashville, TN
PERMIT NUMBER 4053



NOTICE: YOUR MAILING LABEL CONTAINS YOUR MEMBERSHIP EXPIRATION DATE.

To avoid any interruption with delivering your newsletter, we ask that you renew at least one month before the date shown. Use the Membership Form provided below. If you fail to re-apply we will send you one newsletter and a reminder notice. If you have not re-applied by this time, your membership will terminate.

PLEASE RENEW, STAY INFORMED, WE NEED YOU!!!

YES, I WANT TO JOIN TENNESSEE TRAILS ASSOCIATION, I AM . . .

- A NEW MEMBER**
 RENEWING MY MEMBERSHIP

Apr 02

(Memberships are for one year, unless you have a Lifetime Membership.)

Please Mail This Form To:

**Membership Director
P.O. Box 41446
Nashville, TN 37204-1446**

PLEASE, PRINT CLEARLY.

- ___ Individual \$25.00
___ Family \$35.00
___ Student (FULL-TIME) \$15.00
___ Life Member \$500.00
___ Supporting (\$200.00, \$100.00,
\$50.00 or other)

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____
Home Phone (____) _____ Zip _____ -- _____
Work Phone (____) _____
email _____

Please do not list my e-mail address in the TTA Annual Membership Directory

Please list me with the following chapter:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| ___ Big South Fork | ___ Murfreesboro |
| ___ Clarksville | ___ Nashville |
| ___ Columbia | ___ Northwest(UT at Martin/Weakley) |
| ___ Cove Lake | ___ Plateau(Crossville) |
| ___ East TN(Oak Ridge/Knoxville) | ___ Upper Cumberland(Sparta/Cookeville) |
| ___ Memphis | ___ At Large |

**Gift Memberships
Are Available !!!**

Contact our Membership Director
Anne Wesley (615) 851-1052
tahiker@msn.com

When you become a TTA member, you will receive: (1.) TTA's Hiking Handbook, a reference book containing information about TTA, trail etiquette, hiker responsibilities, etc. (2.) TTA's monthly newsletter, containing information on hiker safety, upcoming hikes / overnight trips, volunteer opportunities, chapter meeting announcements, as well as events occurring within TTA's Associate Organizations: C.T.C. and T.R.A.C. (3.) Annual Membership Directory, listing members by chapter and how to reach them. You are invited to attend any number of monthly meetings scheduled, where you will enjoy diverse programs, socializing and refreshments. In addition, in the spring and fall we meet at one of Tennessee's many parks for a weekend of hiking, camaraderie and where the board members can meet to exchange ideas and hear reports on TTA's progress.

As a member of TTA, you are welcome to attend all TTA / CTC / TRAC functions.