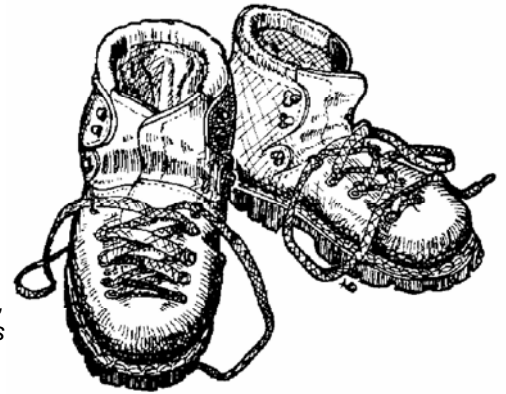


# TENNESSEE TRAILS

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



## Evan Means Small Grants Program

**Requested Deadline is Dec. 31, 2005**

In February 2006, TTA'S Board of Directors will award small grants memorializing Evan Means. The grants support special volunteer projects that are compatible with the chartered objectives of TTA: *promoting and developing a system of hiking trails in Tennessee as well as working for the conservation of natural resources.* Project proposals are due no later than December 31, 2005.

All chapters are encouraged to look within their local area, identify a special trail or park project, request and submit a formal grant application for the February 2006 Evan Means Small Grant Program Award.

Grant requests in the range of \$300-\$600 are encouraged. However, if a project requires additional grant money, considerations will be made.

For additional information and an application, please write or contact:

Leigh Jones  
TTA Grants Administrator  
P.O. Box 405  
Pleasant Hill, TN 38578  
931-484-5298  
cejones9@earthlink.net

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 won countless awards for his work over the years to protect Tennessee's natural resources and beauty, as well as for his dedication to projects that allow hikers to enjoy this natural beauty.

## Annual Meeting: THANKS!

A heartfelt thanks to everyone who helped with the Annual Meeting 2005! Your contributions of time, talent, goods and money are all sincerely appreciated. The final tabulations and list of contributors will appear in the December issue.

### The Annual Meeting 2005 Planning Committee

**Ellen Anderson** - Highland Rim

**Sharon Bell** - Highland Rim

**Joan Bentley** - Highland Rim

**Anna Bertram** - Murfreesboro (Chair)

**Dick Bray** - Columbia-Franklin

**Barbara Draude** - Murfreesboro

**Tony & Millette Jones** - Murfreesboro

**Jaye Kiblinger** - Murfreesboro

**Rick Lausten** - Columbia-Franklin

**LouAnn Partington** - Highland Rim

## What's Inside?

Walking with Fount.....	Page 2
What's Happening? CTC November Events.....	Page 3
Help Protect Tennessee Waters .....	Page 4
TTA Scheduled Chapter Hikes .....	Page 5
TTA Merchandise Order Form .....	Page 9

## *Walking with Fount*

It's amazing how quickly this year is winding down. By the time you read this, the Annual Meeting will be over and plans will have been started for TTA for another year. I certainly want to express my appreciation for the dedicated members who have volunteered to serve as officers and leaders for our organization. It is of some concern that more of our qualified membership don't make themselves available for our leadership roles. The future of the Tennessee Trails Association is dependent upon qualified leadership and folks that are willing to step up and take on the responsibility of leading the organization into the future. Granted it isn't an easy task, and takes some concentrated effort to perform the duties of the various offices. We have to realize however, that without these positions being filled with competent and qualified people, we have a very limited future. What I'm asking is that when our leadership positions become vacant that we have those of you who are qualified to fill the roles, step up and see that our future as an organization is assured.

The Great Pumpkin Festival was a huge success again this year. We didn't have as many TTA members as usual this year, but still had 4 chapters represented and everyone had a great time. Our float in the parade was attractive and well received. We distributed upwards of 100 pounds of candy to the 100's of eager kids along the parade route. This is always a highlight of the day to be able to share our goodwill with the kids and crowds. The champion pumpkin weighed 854 pounds which is a new record for the festival. The previous record was 852 pounds. The winning watermelon was 299 pounds...We camped at Pickett State Park and enjoyed a communal campfire with lots of trail tales and companionship. After the parade we hiked the Colditz Cove SNA and enjoyed the beautiful and peaceful gorge and Northrup Falls. This is home for me...I was born and raised in Allardt and spent many happy hours in this setting. It's always a joy to be able to share it with friends.

With the moderating temperatures...finally...we are anxious to get out and spend more time on the trails. This is a wonderful time of year for fall colors and other aspects of nature that are only apparent at this time of year. I have so enjoyed the little wood asters that are so beautiful this year. My Mother always referred to the asters as "farewell summer's". They bloom in the late summer and early fall so I guess that would be an apt name for them.

I hope all of you are enjoying the trails and will give some consideration to the building and maintenance of our trail systems. There are always opportunities to contribute there. We were able to complete the Cheek's Bend balloon loop trail at the Yanahli Wildlife Management Area on National Public Lands Day. You may want to include that in your hike plans for the coming hiking season. We are also continuing with trail work at the Walls of Jericho and there are numerous opportunities on the Cumberland Trail. It is no accident that we have great trails to hike...you can help!

Fount

## **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.

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 tax-deductible Supporting Member donations will now directly benefit trail projects throughout the state of Tennessee. We thank you all for your support of TTA at any membership level, but we hope you will enrich Tennessee's trail system by joining or renewing as a Supporting Member.

## **TTA Annual Directory**

If you haven't provided your e-mail address yet, you stand a chance of it being left out of the upcoming annual directory. It is simple to do and will insure state of the art communication within the organization. Your e-mail address will not be shared, sold or exchanged with anyone else, so it is a secure disclosure. To have your e-mail address included, here is what you do...Go to [www.tennesseetrails.org](http://www.tennesseetrails.org) Click on the side menu under "Member Services" ...Click on the "Change of Address" bullet...Go to the bottom of the address form and add your e-mail address. It's as simple as that...You don't need to change anything in your regular mail address. E-mail has become the major source of communication and we want you to be up to date with what is going on within TTA.

## **TTA NEWSLETTER EDITOR!**

We are losing our newsletter editor at the end of the year and need to have a replacement locked in by that time. Tina Dean has done a wonderful job for us and I know you all appreciate the professional manner in which our newsletter has been produced and delivered to us each month. Tina has other obligations and responsibilities to look after and we will need someone to take over when she leaves.

If you have ever dreamed of editing a dynamic, meaningful publication...now is your chance! We have a search committee in place and they will be reviewing and analyzing applicants for this extremely important position. You will need to have good computer skills, be able to lay out a paper and edit content and be able to work several hours each month to have it ready for the printer by an established deadline.

If you are interested, send your name and qualifications to Anne Wesley at [tahiker@msn.com](mailto:tahiker@msn.com) or call her at 615-851-1052.

# CUMBERLAND TRAIL CONFERENCE

## CUMBERLAND TRAIL CONFERENCE STAFF:

Executive Director ..... Paul Freeman ..... *paul.freeman@frontiernet.net*  
Trail Development &  
Maintenance Coordinator Mark Stanfill ..... *mark.stanfill@frontiernet.net*  
Office Manager ..... Nora Beck ..... *nora.beck@frontiernet.net*  
Bookkeeper ..... Janet D. Smith ..... *janet.d.smith@frontiernet.net*

Office Location 19 East 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Crossville, TN 38555  
Office Hours 8am-5pm  
Phone: 931-456-6259  
Fax: 931-456-4934  
Email: *cumberlandtrail@rocketmail.com*  
Website: *www.cumberlandtrail.org*

## What's Happening? CTC November Events.

**Each Thursday through November** – Black Mountain Trail Western Slope Re-route – TTA's Plateau Chapter needs volunteers to help with the re-route of the Cumberland Trail at Black Mountain to bring the trail past the Windless Cave entrance. Each Thursday morning, volunteers will meet at the paved parking trailhead at the top of Black Mountain and work for a few hours on the trail re-route, then finish the morning with a fun hike either down the mountain or around the loop trail. All tools and gloves will be provided by the CTC office. This is a great outing for those wanting to learn about trail construction and have a lot of fun meeting and socializing with local TTA hikers. Please try to let us know if you and your group plan to attend so we can make sure that we have tools for you.

**November 11-13, 2005** – Front Country Outing - Cove Lake State park – We will continue the maintenance work that was done in the Smoky Mt Segment on the last outing. Volunteers will meet each morning at 8:00 ET at the Cumberland Trail Bruce Gap Trail head located not too far from Cove Lake State Park. Participants will car pool to the top of Cross Mt and hike in to the work site. We will be cutting blow downs, clearing out the trail, opening the corridor, and re-blazing the trail. Those staying overnight will be camping at Cove Lake State Park. You are welcomed to come out for the day or stay overnight. They had a great time in September so join in the fun.

Please contact Mark about any of the programs!

## Adopt-A-Trail: We Need Your Help

Due to our thrust to build new trail and the rash of storms over the last couple of years, trail maintenance on the Cumberland Trail has fallen behind in some areas. We need your help by adopting a segment of the Cumberland Trail. You can co-adopt with others if a favorite section is already adopted. Go to the Cumberland Trail webpage and see the Adopt a Trail page for a list of segments.

### **What do you have to do?**

- √ Walk the segment 3 or 4 times a year, especially in the spring.
- √ Do what you can. If you can run a chainsaw, great!
- √ Report to the office what you did and the condition of the trail.

Adoptees can be individuals, families, scouts, hiking groups, or church groups. For more information and to answer your questions, contact Mark Stanfill at *mark.stanfill@frontiernet.net*.

# Help Protect Tennessee Waters and Mountains From Mountaintop Mining

## Ask Governor to Support Legislation Giving TDEC Authority to Issue Stop Work Orders in Mining Situations

Our East Tennessee Mountains and the Cumberland Plateau are at risk from huge mountain top mining operations similar to those which have destroyed many Appalachian mountains and streams in West Virginia and Kentucky over the past few years.

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) is responsible for protecting Tennessee's waters. The recent experience at Zeb Mountain shows that TDEC has been hampered by its lack of authority to issue **Stop Work Orders** when there are water quality violations.

The Zeb Mountain mining permit is for an area in excess of 2100 acres in Campbell County, near Pioneer, Tennessee. The permit allows three peaks of Zeb Mountain to be blasted in order to access a very thin seam of coal. This blasting and subsequent runoff have polluted the water in the area and threatened the community of Elk Valley with landslides and further erosion from coal trucks hauling.

Shortly after the mining started, a large slide developed off the haul road causing excessive sedimentation of Dan Branch, just above Lick Fork, which is home to the federally threatened Blackside Dace fish. TDEC has issued numerous notices of violation of the Tennessee Water Quality Control Act over the two years since the mining permit was granted, but the mining has continued.

Dan Branch has now been degraded from fully supporting aquatic life when the mining began, to now only partially supporting aquatic life. The remediation measures for the degradation at Dan Branch include re-channeling the stream and the construction of a massive rock buttress into Dan Branch in an attempt to stabilize the landslides.

For the past two years five agencies have struggled with an appropriate remediation plan for the water problems at Dan Branch. The mining has not been stopped, however, even though the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recommended that mining stop while the remediation is implemented. Meanwhile, heavy-laden coal trucks continue to use the haul road, built on previous mine spoil, and exacerbate sedimentation problems.

One of the tools needed to protect watersheds such as that along Dan Branch, is the ability to stop mining when water quality violations are committed and discovered. This would require that TDEC have **Stop Work authority** to protect not only the waters coming from Zeb Mountain, but all future mountain top mines slated for Tennessee.

There has been a bill before our state legislature for 2 years now giving TDEC that authority. It is time to pass it into law and give TDEC this valuable tool. It will take the Administration's support to get it passed. Please phone or write to the Governor to request his support for legislation authorizing TDEC to issue **Stop Work Orders** in mining situations.

The Governor may be reached by phone at 615-532-9711, by email at [phil.bredesen@state.tn.us](mailto:phil.bredesen@state.tn.us), or by mail at

Governors Office  
Tennessee State Capitol  
Nashville, TN 37243-0001

Please also forward or copy your letters to James Fyke, Commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation by email at [info.tdec@state.tn.us](mailto:info.tdec@state.tn.us), or by mail at

401 Church Street  
L & C Annex, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Nashville, TN 37243- 0435

### Carpool Etiquette

Gasoline prices have continued to roller coaster up and down. Please be considerate and take your turn as a carpool driver. If you are a rider, always contribute to the cost of gasoline (i.e. bring small bills, it'll save time and prevent the inconvenience). Your driver is not a chauffeur. Assist him or her by reading the map and/or directions to the trailhead. Help your driver remain alert on the drive home by staying awake and conversing. All passengers must wear seat belts to minimize the risk of injury in case of an accident!!! The drive is generally the most dangerous part of any hiking trip.

### Attention: Hike Coordinators

A TTA *Release of Claims & Hold Harmless Agreement* form (aka "Liability Waiver") must be signed by everyone before you start your hike or before carpooling to your hiking destination. They can be obtained from your local Chapter Officer or downloaded easily from our website:

[www.tennesseetrails.org/release.php](http://www.tennesseetrails.org/release.php)

### Don't Miss an Outing ... Plan Ahead, Register Early!

Our hike coordinators are volunteers. Make it easier for them to contact you if hike needs to be cancelled by registering! There are times when a hike leader must limit (due to park regulations, etc.) the number of participants. Please do not wait until the afternoon or evening before the outing to RSVP. Plan ahead and register early.

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## BIG SOUTH FORK CHAPTER

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Thomas Howell

423-628-5521, [tshowell@nxs.net](mailto:tshowell@nxs.net)

**SECRETARY-TREASURER:** Benita Howell

423-628-5521 or 865-974-7797, [bhowell@nxs.net](mailto:bhowell@nxs.net)

**BOARD REPRESENTATIVES:** Tim and Lynn Takacs

615-824-7048, [lynntakacs@comcast.net](mailto:lynntakacs@comcast.net) or [ttakacs@comcast.net](mailto:ttakacs@comcast.net)

**OUTINGS COORDINATOR:**

(call & volunteer to lead an outing)

Eric Wilson 423-628-2817, [ericavi@nxs.net](mailto:ericavi@nxs.net)

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**Nov 26** Indian Rockhouse - Hazard Cave Loop, Pickett State Park, Jamestown, TN. This 3.5 mile loop features the massive sandstone overhangs that give the trail its name. It is rated easy to moderate with some fallen trees to negotiate and a few descents that can be slippery in wet weather. Meet at the trailhead parking area on Hwy. 154, .7 mile south of the Park office, at 2:00 pm ET. To conclude our Thanksgiving Saturday outing, everyone is invited to Callie's Cabin for refreshments after the hike. For information and to register, contact hike leaders and hosts Tim and Lynn Takacs at [ttakacs@comcast.net](mailto:ttakacs@comcast.net).

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Dec 25** Plan to participate in our annual Christmas Day hike at Colditz Cove. Time and details TBA.

**Dec 29 or 30** Annual chapter meeting to elect officers and plan hikes for 2006. Please contact Tom Howell or Eric Wilson now to express your preference for the Thursday or Friday date.

Tuesday morning hikes will resume in January.

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## CLARKSVILLE CHAPTER

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Judith Tate

931-920-2692, [mamx4@charter.net](mailto:mamx4@charter.net)

**OUTINGS COORDINATORS:**

(call & volunteer to lead an outing)

J.R. Tate 931-920-2692

Suva Bastin 931-645-2849

Wanda McCluskey 931-906-3338

Sandi Hamilton 931-920-2760

**MEETING:** Monthly - 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday, 7:00 pm CT. Crow Community Center, 211 Richview Rd (Public is cordially invited!)

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**Nov 5** Beaman Park; 6 miles, moderate; Suva Bastin and June Miller 931-645-2849

**Nov 12** Veterans' Parade at Clarksville, TTA participation; J.R. Tate 931-920-2692

**Nov 19** Land Between the Lakes, Artillery Trail; 10 miles, moderate; J.R. Tate 931-920-2692

**Nov 26** After Thanksgiving Hike, Rotary Park; 3 miles, easy; Wanda McCluskey 931-906-3338

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## COLUMBIA/FRANKLIN CHAPTER

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Rick Lausten

615-373-0029, [saturncar1@aol.com](mailto:saturncar1@aol.com)

**OUTINGS COORDINATOR:**

(call & volunteer to lead an outing)

Tanya Juday 931-490-0856

**MEETING:** Monthly - 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday at 6:30 pm CT  
Grand Buffet (North of Spring Hill)

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**Nov 5** Bobby Hardeman will lead a hike in the David Crockett State Park in Lawrenceberg.

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## (cont') COLUMBIA/FRANKLIN CHAPTER

**(cont') Nov 5** We'll leave from the A&D Market (1883 Lewisburg Pike, Hwy 431) at 9:00 am. We will swing by the Hardee's on the corner of Hwy 412 and US 31 in Columbia to meet any folks from Columbia at 9:30 am who don't wish to drive North to then drive South. This is a moderate hike less than 5 miles in length. We'll stop for a late lunch/early dinner after the hike. Please contact Bobby for details and to register: (615) 305-7955 or via the internet at [puttr22@aol.com](mailto:puttr22@aol.com).

**Nov 19** Rick Lausten will lead a hike of Honey Creek Loop Trail in Big South Fork. This 5.6-mile trail is rated as difficult, but is spectacular for its variety of scenery, waterfalls, vistas and moderate rock scrambling. We will depart from the A&D Market on Hwy 431 at 7:00 AM. It will take over 3 hours to get to the trailhead, so bring lunch to eat on the trail. We'll probably stop for a brunch at the Harrow Café in Rugby before we hike. Please register with Rick at 615-373-0029 or email at [saturncar1@aol.com](mailto:saturncar1@aol.com)

**Dec 4** We will hike the Buggy Top Trail near Sewanee, then attend the Lessons and Carols service at the All Saint's Chapel on the campus of The University of the South. We'll have to get in line by 3:00 p.m. for the 5:00 p.m. service.

After the service, we'll stop by one of the restaurants in Monteagle/Sewanee and have dinner together. Buggy Top is a 4 mile loop that is rated difficult because of a steep descent to the creek that flows out of Lost Cave. We will leave from the A&D Market (1883 Lewisburg Pike, Hwy 431) at 8:30 am. We'll hike, then clean up, have lunch and get in line for the service. If you would like more information or want to register, contact Rick Lausten at 615-373-0029 or email [saturncar1@aol.com](mailto:saturncar1@aol.com)

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## COVE LAKE CHAPTER

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Richard Helm  
423-562-1110, [Richard.Helm@ahss.org](mailto:Richard.Helm@ahss.org)

**CO-CHAIR:** Mari Haslam

423-562-3227, [pittsteelersfan@earthlink.net](mailto:pittsteelersfan@earthlink.net)

**MEETING:** Monthly - 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday at 6:00 pm ET  
LaFollette Recreation Center's Craft Room, 201 S. 9<sup>th</sup> St.

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No hikes scheduled at this time. In the meantime, check out other TTA chapter hike listings and join a hike!

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## EAST TN CHAPTER (Oak Ridge / Knoxville)

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Rosemary Marshall  
[rosemary\\_1@hotmail.com](mailto:rosemary_1@hotmail.com)

**OUTINGS COORDINATOR:**

(call & volunteer to lead an outing)

Bob Uhren, [snowcap34@charter.net](mailto:snowcap34@charter.net)

**TREASURER:** Harold Draper, [h.m.draper@att.net](mailto:h.m.draper@att.net)

**Nov 5** Join us for our annual hike planning meeting. We will meet at Puleos Grill, 260 N Peters Rd from 12 noon until 2 pm. We will be planning our 2006 hiking schedule. Everyone has their own favorite hikes; so come prepared to get yours on the schedule. Bring your ideas and enjoy a fantastic meal with our chapter members.

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## (cont') EAST TN CHAPTER

**Nov 12** Flats Mountain, Citico Wilderness. We will hike Flats Mountain Trail along the edge of the Citico Wilderness, 6 miles. The hike is mostly downhill, after an initial climb to the summit. The trail is noted for views west into the Tennessee Valley, weather permitting. Maintenance level can vary, so be prepared for blowdowns or obstructions in places. Meet at 8:30 am at Bi-Lo in Maryville, on US 129 South, for the 60-mile drive to the trailhead.

**Nov 26** Great Smoky Mountains, Courthouse Rock. This hike is approximately 4 miles roundtrip. This unmaintained trail begins about 3 miles up US 441 from the Sugarlands Visitor Center. After scrambling up an embankment, we will follow a path uphill and across a couple of wet weather streams before coming to a couple of overlooks of Sugarlands Valley. Continuing uphill we eventually come to Courthouse Rock, a monolith approximately 50/ft. high and 150/ft. in circumference. We then retrace our steps back to the cars. If anybody needs some more hiking we can do part of Ashhopper Branch Trail across the road from the Visitor Center. The hike is rated easy to moderate depending on ones hiking ability. Wear sturdy boots, dress warmly and bring food and water. Meet at the Sugarlands Visitor Center at 10:00 am. For more information, contact Keith Mertz at 865-982-7368 or [keithmertz@hotmail.com](mailto:keithmertz@hotmail.com).

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## HIGHLAND RIM CHAPTER (Tulahoma Area)

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Doug Ratliff  
931-455-0249, [dougratliff@hotmail.com](mailto:dougratliff@hotmail.com)

**MEETING:** 3rd Tuesday, 7:00 pm CT

**Nov 12** Virgin Falls Pocket Wilderness Area Trail, De Rossett, TN. Join us for one on the most scenic hikes in Middle Tennessee! This 7.7 mile trail is rated difficult but it's definitely worth the effort! You'll enjoy scenic bluff-top overlooks and witness several beautiful waterfalls. The walk will be rugged and will take 6 to 8 hours. Bring plenty of water, snacks, and lunch. Sturdy hiking boots are a must. To register, contact Brent Morris at 931-454-1718 or email [brentmorris@ispwest.com](mailto:brentmorris@ispwest.com).

**Nov 15 MONTHLY MEETING** Guests are always welcome. We will be electing officers for 2006. See you at 7:00 PM CST at the D. W. Wilson Community Center, 501 N. Collins St., Tullahoma, TN

**Nov 25** Old Stone Fort State Archaeological Park, Manchester, TN. This is our annual "walk-off-the-Thanksgiving-dinner" hike. Do you feel guilty about eating those extra helpings of pumpkin pie? Here's a chance to walk off calories. This easy 3 to 4 mile hike is just what you need! We'll meet at 8:00 am at the park museum parking lot. Contact Sharon Bell at [hikequilt@yahoo.com](mailto:hikequilt@yahoo.com) or 931-455-1652 to register.

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## JACKSON CHAPTER

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Gary Cooper  
731-424-5375 [gcooper52@yahoo.com](mailto:gcooper52@yahoo.com)

**MEETING:** Meeting: Monthly: 1st Tuesday at 7:00 pm CT  
Lambuth University, 705 Lambuth Blvd, Hyde Hall in basement on Maple Street. Look for TTA signs.

**Nov 1 MONTHLY MEETING**-Meet new friends and hear about upcoming and past hikes. Everyone welcome. Meet at Lambuth University.

**Nov 5** Buffalo National River Hike, Jasper AR --Join the Memphis chapter for a look at the Ozark's highest river bluffs, some reaching as high as 440 feet.

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## (cont') JACKSON CHAPTER

**(cont') Nov 5** We'll hike along some river trails near Jasper and venture into the Ponca Wilderness to Hawksbill Crag, one of the most photographed places in the natural state. Pre-registration is required. Contact Gary Cooper 731-695-6342, [gcooper52@yahoo.com](mailto:gcooper52@yahoo.com) or Carolyn Pierce 901-755-5635.

**Nov 12** Tishomingo State Park, Mississippi See unique rock structures and lots of CCC work remaining in the park while walking normally well maintained trails. Considered at least moderately difficult due to length of hike and some elevation changes. Sturdy hiking boots recommended. Bring water, food and insect repellent. Take Hwy 45S to Corinth. Hwy 72 toward Alabama to Hwy 25S through Tishomingo look for state park signs. Approx 2 miles south turn left into park. There is a parking lot to the right just before entering the park. Can regroup into lesser vehicles before entering toll gate. Call Gary Cooper 731-695-6342 for registration, information, and car pooling information. [gcooper52@yahoo.com](mailto:gcooper52@yahoo.com)

**Nov 26** Fort Pillow State Park, Henning, TN After Thanksgiving Day hike with members from the Memphis chapter. Join us for an 8-mile hike through hardwood forest. This hike is rated moderate due to the hilly terrain. We will meet at 9:00 am CT at the Park's Interpretative Center. For registration and information call Gary Cooper 731-695-6342.

Always call to register for hikes inclement weather could cancel and the leader needs contact information to update you regarding plans.

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## MEMPHIS CHAPTER

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Carolyn Pierce  
901-755-5635, [cedpierce2000@yahoo.com](mailto:cedpierce2000@yahoo.com)

**BOARD REPRESENTATIVE:** Gloria Lenski  
901-213-0604, [glorialenski@yahoo.com](mailto:glorialenski@yahoo.com)

**MEETING:** Monthly (Sept - May) 3rd Thursday at 7:00 pm Meeting Location: Cordova Library, 8457 Trinity Rd. 901-754-8443 Located off Germantown Parkway east on Trinity Rd. 1 1/8 mile. On the right - shares an entrance with Bert Ferguson Community Ct.

**Nov 5 - 6** Buffalo National River Hike, Jasper and Ponca AR Join Woody and Carolyn Pierce for a look at the Ozarks' highest river bluffs, some reaching as high as 440 feet. Towering over the Buffalo River, these multi-colored cliffs have been sculptured over the centuries by erosion. We'll hike along some river trails near Jasper and venture in the Ponca Wilderness to Hawksbill Crag, the most photographed place in the natural state. The fall colors should be in full display at this time. Hikes may range from 3 to 6 miles and will be rated easy to moderate depending on the elevation gain. Pre-registration required. Contact Carolyn at 755-5635 if you wish to participate. Hotel reservations if needed should be made asap. Recommended motels are Little Switzerland and Arkansas B&B. Jasper can be found by following I-40 to Russellville AR and turning north on Scenic 7. We will meet in Jasper on Saturday morning at 8:30 in front of the Newton County Court House. Rain will cancel this event.

**Nov 12** Herb Parsons Lake, Fisherville located northeast of Collierville, near Collierville Arlington Rd. and Macon Rd. Meet at 9:45 a.m. at the lake or for carpooling meet at 9:00 am at the soccer field on Walnut Grove Road (located on the south side of Walnut Grove, west of the traffic light at Farm Road). Bring lunch and water and join the fun for this easy 6-mile walk around the lake. We meet at the lake at 9:45 a.m. New Hikers Welcome! For information call Margaret Dixon at 662-893-1794.

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## (cont') MEMPHIS CHAPTER

**Nov 17 MONTHLY MEETING** 2006 Schedule Planning meeting: Our outings for 2006 will be set at this meeting. If you have suggestions for new places to hike, bring maps, brochures, guidebooks, etc. Guest Welcome! Meet at 7:00 pm Cordova Public Library.

**Nov 26** Ft. Pillow State Park, Henning, TN The Jackson Chapter will join us for the 8-mile hike rated moderate over hilly terrain and through hardwood forests. Meet at Park Interpretative Center at 9:00 a.m. Anyone interested in carpooling or more information call Carol Haley at 901-388-9163. New hikers welcome!

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## MURFREESBORO CHAPTER

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Anna Bertram (also Board Rep.)

615-765-5357, [abertram@heartoftn.net](mailto:abertram@heartoftn.net)

**OUTINGS COORDINATOR:**

(Call & volunteer to lead an outing)

Ron Dunn

615-867-3301, [trekkingtn@yahoo.com](mailto:trekkingtn@yahoo.com)

**MEETING:** Monthly - 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at 7:00 pm CT

Barfield-Crescent Park's Wilderness Station

697 Barfield Rd., Murfreesboro

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**Nov 5** Fall Foliage Hike on Winston and Billie Jo Bowling Farm, Putnam County, between Monterey and Cookeville. We had such a good time last spring that we are going again to enjoy fall colors. This 4-4.5 mile hike is rated easy to moderate (for a few inclines). After the hike, we will enjoy a potluck meal at Bowling's country home. This was a favorite part of the hike! Take drinking water, snacks, and wear sturdy hiking footwear, bring a covered dish or food item to share. There will be a carpool from Murfreesboro. To register and for additional information, contact Tony or Millette Jones at [tonjon2903@aol.com](mailto:tonjon2903@aol.com) or 615-233-7008

**Nov 8 MONTHLY MEETING** will start at 6:00 pm Finger Food Supper and Hike Planning, plus election of officers for the coming year. We will make the hike planning easier this time by covering all categories of hike planning one month at a time, starting with February. At 8:30 pm, we will stop and pick up to go home regardless of how many months we completed . . . Maybe through July? We are also starting one hour earlier to allow time to eat, plan hikes, and elect officers. Be giving some serious thought to hikes you want to do or would be willing to lead as well as to officers to serve this coming year. Please come prepared. Bring your personal calendars and schedules, your ideas and enthusiasm! You are also welcome to bring finger foods to share if you have time and wish to do so. (Examples: deviled eggs, sandwiches, cookies, fruit, chips and dip... any simple foods that can be eaten with the fingers.) Beverages and disposables will be provided by TTA. Everyone is welcome whether they bring food or not.

**Nov 12** Tom Pack Falls loop. Franklin State Forest near Sewanee, TN. Join us for an easy to moderate 3 mile hike around CCC Lake and 20-foot curtain of water that is Tom Pack Falls. If there's sufficient interest, we will stop to enjoy Sewanee Natural Bridge. We will meet at Sam's Club at I-24 Murfreesboro at 8:00 CT. For interested members south of Murfreesboro, we can meet you at Sewanee exit Hardees at 9:30 CT. For more information or to sign up, contact Maryedith McFarlin at 615-896-1344.

**Nov 19** Backpack Mullins Cove loop, Prentice Cooper State Wildlife Management Area. The Mullins Cove loop is located at the southern most terminus of the Cumberland Trail in the Prentice Cooper State Wildlife Management Area, located 10 miles northwest of Chattanooga. The loop is 10 miles. We will camp at Hemlock Branch campsite about half way. The trail follows the side of Suck Creek Mountain with beautiful views of TN River Gorge.

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## (cont') MURFREESBORO CHAPTER

**(cont') Nov 19** The trail is rated moderate for distance. There are creek crossings, elevation changes, and a very extensive rockslide to cross. The camping area is small - group size will be limited to eight. Contact Charlotte Broyles at 615-890-6308.

**Nov 25** Old Stone Fort Archaeological Park, Manchester, TN. This is our annual "walk-off-the-Thanksgiving-dinner" joint hike with Highland Rim chapter. See Highland Rim for details. For carpool information, contact Jeanne' at [hoaxie@comcast.net](mailto:hoaxie@comcast.net) or 615-542-8044.

### PLANNING AHEAD

**Dec 13** Christmas Dinner Party will start at 6:00 pm. Bring your favorite holiday foods, your family and friends for a festive pot-luck dinner by candlelight. This replaces the Monthly Meeting. No business meeting.

**Jan 1** New Year's Day Hike and Feast, Multi-Chapter annual event at Bridgestone-Firestone Centennial wilderness. Contact Fount Bertram, [fwbertram@heartoftn.net](mailto:fwbertram@heartoftn.net) or 615-765-5357

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## NASHVILLE CHAPTER

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Jim Johnson

615.356.6246, [jimjohnsonjr@gmail.com](mailto:jimjohnsonjr@gmail.com)

**OUTINGS COORDINATOR:**

(call & volunteer to lead an outing)

Nancy Juodenas, [njuodenas@hotmail.com](mailto:njuodenas@hotmail.com)

Sue Waldrop

**MEETING:** Monthly - 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday at 7:00 pm CT

TN Wildlife Resources Association meeting room at Ellington Agricultural Center, 5105 Edmondson Pike\*\*

**HIKING HOTLINE - 615-367-7045**

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**FYI Nov 5** Beaman Park Hike 9-noon Age level: Adults, 8+ Registration opens August 19. Don't miss this opportunity to take a guided hike with one of the many knowledgeable Friends of Beaman Park volunteers and explore still new Beaman Park - it's 1,500 acres of forest on Highland Rim is a natural treasure! Leader: Friends of Beaman Park. Call Warner Park Nature Center 615-352-6299 for reservations and directions.

**Nov 5** Perimeter Trail, Montgomery Bell State Park. Burns, TN. The Perimeter Trail is an 11½-mile loop that is normally rated moderate due to the continuously rolling and hilly terrain, however, it needs to be classified strenuous for its length. We will have 3-4 small stream crossings - normal depth is about 2 inches and subject to increase if we've had rain within days of our arrival. Most of the leaves will have fallen making it easier to spot wildlife, which Montgomery Bell SP has a lot, especially wild turkeys and deer. There is the small chance that we may even see an owl, foxes, chipmunks, toads, and frogs. Sturdy hiking boots or trail shoes are a must! Montgomery Bell SP charges a \$3 per vehicle per day access fee. If you haven't already purchased the annual Multi-Visit Pass, you can either purchase one when you arrive, or feed the machine \$3 to park. Bring snacks, lunch and water. We will meet in the Wal-Mart parking lot on Charlotte Pike (Exit 201 off of I-40). For more information, carpool meeting time and to register, call Diane Manas at 615-352-7777.

**Nov 12** South Cumberland State Park on the Fiery Gizzard-Raven Point Loop trail. This is a strenuous 10 mile hike which starts on Fiery Gizzard Trail, then follows Dog Hole Trail to the top of the Plateau and on to Raven Point. There are fantastic views into Fiery Gizzard Gulf. The return route descends into this gorge and follows Fiery Gizzard Creek upstream to the beginning of the hike. There is some difficult rock hopping along Fiery Creek and a steep climb to Raven Point. Call Marietta or Jim Poteet at 615-824-7286 or email at [mattheml@bellsouth.net](mailto:mattheml@bellsouth.net) or [jpoteet@genesco.com](mailto:jpoteet@genesco.com).

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## (cont') NASHVILLE CHAPTER

**Nov 22 MONTHLY MEETING:** Our presenter this month is an old friend who's been away too long. Nancy Dorman, the head of Friends of Beaman Park, will update us on what's going on at Beaman since it officially opened in March of this year. Of course, our Nashville chapter helped to build the original two trails at Beaman, so our connection and our continuing interest is strong. This is our last official meeting of the year, so come enjoy Nancy's presentation. 7:00 pm at the TWRA Region 2 Headquarters building on the Ellington Ag Center campus.

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## NORTHWEST CHAPTER (UT at Martin / Weakley County)

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Jim Clark

731-587-2225, [jclark@utm.edu](mailto:jclark@utm.edu)

**MEETING:** usually the 2nd Thursday, call for confirmation or visit our chapter website. Meetings start at 7:00 pm CT UT Martin Campus, Boling University Center, Room 231

**WEBSITE:** [www.utm.edu/~jclark/trails/](http://www.utm.edu/~jclark/trails/)

**Nov 19** Depending on those indicating their desire to go, we will either go to Big Hill Pond (longer) or Mousetail Landing State Park (shorter). Big Hill Pond offers a walk around a lake, spectacular views into 3 states from a fire tower, a boardwalk across dismal swamp on a long loop trail (Estimated 9-10 miles, but park maps seem inaccurate.) Mousetail Landing offers an 8 mile backpacker's loop trail with spectacular views of the Tennessee River and moderate ridges. Both are rated moderate in terms of terrain.

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## PLATEAU CHAPTER (Crossville)

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Terry Brophy

931-707-7234, [tpbrophy@multiopro.com](mailto:tpbrophy@multiopro.com)

**SECRETARY/TREASURER:** Myra Holloway

**MEETING:** Monthly - 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday at 6:30 pm CT, Art Circle Public Library's Community Room, 154 East 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Crossville

No scheduled meeting in November. Next meeting is Dec 8, 2005 which will also be our annual Christmas party.

There is a leaderless hike (typically 5 - 7 miles) every Wednesday morning. For additional information or to get on an e-mail list for the hikes, contact Bill Haynes at 931-707-7606 or e-mail [sue1290@frontiernet.net](mailto:sue1290@frontiernet.net) for details. Rain cancels.

**Nov 5** Walls of Jericho Wilderness and Recreation Area. Winchester, TN and Jackson County, AL. The hike is 7 miles round trip and is rated strenuous due to elevation change of 1000 feet and slippery areas near the bottom of the trail. The Walls of Jericho is a large, bowl shaped natural amphitheater that shoots water out of holes and cracks in the canyon wall during times of high water flow. Also, it is reported there now is a bridge over the small creek we have to cross. However, the hike is worth the effort as the Walls of Jericho and its unique formations that are part of our forested uplands and caves spreading across the area. Wear boots, and bring water, lunch and snacks. Meet at the Tractor Supply parking lot at 8:00 am CT to carpool. After the hike, we can stop at Foglight Foodhouse in Walling for dinner. For more information and to register, contact Bill/Mitze Anderson at 931-788-6731 or [mitze1@yahoo.com](mailto:mitze1@yahoo.com)

**Nov 12** Middle Creek/Slave Falls in the Big South Fork. This hike is about 7 miles long with lots of rock formations, and 60 foot Slave falls. This hike is moderately difficult due to length.

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## (cont') PLATEAU CHAPTER

**(cont') Nov 12** Wear sturdy hiking boots and bring water, lunch and snacks. Meet behind the Cracker Barrel in Crossville at 8:00 am CT to carpool. For more information and to register, contact Jim McCullough at 931-484-8222 or by e-mail [sue1290@frontiernet.net](mailto:sue1290@frontiernet.net)

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## UPPER CUMBERLAND CHAPTER (Sparta / Cookeville)

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Richard Savage

931-526-2035, [savage\\_richard@hotmail.com](mailto:savage_richard@hotmail.com)

**Nov 5** Twins Rock Nature Trail and Stinging Fork Pocket Wilderness Trail, Piney River and Stinging Fork Pocket Wildmesses, Spring City, TN. We will hike trails in two of the Bowater Pocket Wilderness areas on Shut-In Gap road. The Twin Rocks Nature Trail is adjacent to the Piney River Trail. It provides an overlook of the Piney River valley at Twin Rocks. The trail is 2.5 miles round trip and is rated moderate. The Stinging Fork Pocket Wilderness Trail provides an overlook of the Stinging Fork River gorge at Indian Head Point and ends at Stinging Fork Falls. The trail is 3 miles round trip and is rated moderate. We will also do a 2 mile hike to Piney Falls in the Piney Falls State Natural Area. Bring water, snacks, and lunch. You can meet us at 8:00 am CT in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville. For information and to register, contact Pete Broehl at 931-738-3551 or [pabroehl@tnaccess.com](mailto:pabroehl@tnaccess.com).

**Nov 12** Brady Mountain Segment of the Cumberland Trail, Crossville, TN. We will hike the length of this trail from the Jewitt road trailhead to Highway 68. Highlights of this trail include spectacular views of Grassy Cove and the mountains to the east. On clear days the Smoky Mountains are visible. The hike is about 8 miles and is rated moderate to strenuous because of the elevation gain. Side trips to interesting rock formations and the site of an airplane crash are possible. Bring water, snacks, lunch, and wear sturdy hiking boots. You can meet us in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville at 8:00am CT. For information and to register, contact Richard Savage at 931-526-2035 or [savage\\_richard@hotmail.com](mailto:savage_richard@hotmail.com).

**Nov 19** Virgin Falls, Bowater Pocket Wilderness, Sparta, TN. This is one of Middle Tennessee's most interesting hikes featuring waterfalls and caves. The hike is 8 miles and is rated moderate to strenuous. For a shorter hike, one can hike to Laurel Falls and return which makes the length 4 miles. Bring water, snacks, and lunch. You can meet us in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville at 8:00 am CT or at US Bank across from McDonald's in Sparta at 8:30. For information and to register, contact Marnell Cothran at 931-738-5874 or [leron@blomand.net](mailto:leron@blomand.net).

**Nov 26** Hidden Passage Trail, Pickett State Park, Jamestown, TN. This 10-mile loop trail is noted for the rock houses and other interesting formations passed along the way. It is rated easy for the terrain and moderate for the length. You can meet us at 8:00am CT in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville. Bring water, snacks, and lunch. For information and to register, contact Marnell Cothran at 931-738-5874 or [leron@blomand.net](mailto:leron@blomand.net) or Pete Broehl at 931-738-3551 or [pabroehl@tnaccess.com](mailto:pabroehl@tnaccess.com).

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## SODDY DAISY CHAPTER

This chapter is being reorganized. For further information contact the T.T.A. President, Fount Bertram, at 615-765-5357 or [fvbertram@heartoftn.net](mailto:fvbertram@heartoftn.net). In the interim, you are welcome to attend other chapters (13 to choose from) outings, events and meetings.



## OFFICERS:

**President**  
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 VACANT

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**Cumberland Trail Conference  
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 Sandra Spearman 931-839-2320  
*sandbar@multipro.com*

**TN Rails To Trails Advisory Council**  
 VACANT

CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVES ON THE BOARD  
 ARE LISTED WITHIN EACH CHAPTER'S HEADER

**Newsletter Editor**  
 Tina Dean *editor@tennesseetrails.org*

## Newsletter Deadlines

Deadlines for Chapter announcements  
 and articles of special interest  
 are due as follows:

Due                      For Newsletter Dated

Nov 5.....Dec 1

Dec 5.....Jan 1

Jan 5.....Feb 1

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

Please send all submissions to:  
*editor@tennesseetrails.org*

## ADOPT-A-TRAIL NEWS

### ADOPT-A-TRAIL OFFICER:

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

### Adopt-a-Trail of the Month

Frozen Head State Park trail volunteer days: May 21, June 4, July 16, August 20, September 17, and October 19. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Visitor Center on Flat Fork Road off of State Route 62 east of Wartburg. For more information call 423-346-3318. To publicize your next trail volunteer day, contact Harold Draper at [h.m.draper@att.net](mailto: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.

## TENNESSEE RAILS-TRAILS ADVISORY COUNCIL (TRAC)

website: [www.TNRailsTrails.org](http://www.TNRailsTrails.org)

**TRAC is in the process of being reorganized. Stay tuned for further information.**

**MISSION:** *To act as a resource and mentor for 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 Merchandise Order Form

\_\_\_\_\_ TTA Patch.....6.00  
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*A must for each car.*

\_\_\_\_\_ TTA 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative T-Shirt ...16.00\*  
*Choose Size: Small / Medium / Large / X-Large*  
*Choose Color: Sand / Yellow / Stone-Gray*

\_\_\_\_\_ TTA 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative Patch.....6.00  
*Round embroidered patch commemorating TTA's 35th Anniversary, sew it on anything.*

\_\_\_\_\_ Flashlight Carabiner Keyring, Blue with TTA logo.6.00

\_\_\_\_\_ \*Shipping & Handling on T-shirt Orders ONLY!!! 1.50

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

**YES, I WANT TO JOIN TENNESSEE TRAILS ASSOCIATION, I AM . . .** Nov 05

**A NEW MEMBER**

**RENEWING MY MEMBERSHIP**  
Memberships are for one year, unless you have a Lifetime Membership.  
Gift Memberships are also available. Contact our Membership Director,  
Garnett Rush 615-352-7217 [rushga01@yahoo.com](mailto:rushga01@yahoo.com)

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<input type="checkbox"/> Life Member (Individual)	\$500.00	Work Phone ( _____ ) _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Life Member (Family)	\$750.00	e-mail _____	

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

**Please list me with the following chapter:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Big South Fork	<input type="checkbox"/> Cumberland Gap	<input type="checkbox"/> Memphis	<input type="checkbox"/> Plateau (Crossville)
<input type="checkbox"/> Clarksville	<input type="checkbox"/> East TN (Oak Ridge/Knoxville)	<input type="checkbox"/> Murfreesboro	<input type="checkbox"/> Soddy Daisy
<input type="checkbox"/> Columbia/Franklin	<input type="checkbox"/> Highland Rim (Manchester/Tullahoma)	<input type="checkbox"/> Nashville	<input type="checkbox"/> Upper Cumberland
<input type="checkbox"/> Cove Lake	<input type="checkbox"/> Jackson	<input type="checkbox"/> Northwest (UT at Martin/Weakley)	(Sparta/Cookeville)
			<input type="checkbox"/> At Large

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.**

## Purchase Order

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Tina Dean  
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October 20, 2005

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**Leonard,**

Mr. Henderson (Chief Wagee) will be handling the printed copies, and would like to have them Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup>, Sunday. Please contact Mr. Henderson with any conflicts or concerns. Thank you! Tina Dean 865-660-2495.