

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



GREAT CONFERENCE COMING UP !!!!

The Southeast Foot Trails Coalition will hold the 5th Biennial Conference at the Pine Mountain State Resort Park in Pineville, KY on May 7-10. The Coalition is composed of 30+ hiking clubs and organizations with a membership of some 65,000 members. This is a very significant meeting since we will be connecting the first of the trails that will eventually become the Great Eastern Trail. The GET will form a contiguous foot trail from Florida to Canada...over 5,000 miles. We will be celebrating the connecting of the Cumberland Trail with Kentucky's Pine Mountain Trail as a part of this conference. Officials from both states will be present to dedicate this historic event. TTA has been on the cutting edge of the SEFTC since it was formed and we want to remain a leader in the organization. We need to have a good presence at the conference from TTA and CTC. We now have the entire Pine Mountain Park facility reserved and need to have it filled up by April 8 so the rooms won't be released to the general public. By occupying the entire facility we will also get our meeting rooms without additional charges. We have an exciting agenda planned for hikes, entertainment and educational sessions. You won't want to miss this one! Information on registration and cost of the conference can be found on the SEFTC web site... www.southeastfoottrails.org Click on the menu about the conference and follow the instructions. If you have questions or need more information you can contact Fount Bertram fwbertram@dtccom.net Carolyn Miller cardan@frontier.net or Carla Hilling chilling@americanhiking.org

2009 Annual Convention

November 6,7,8 2009
Valley View Lodge & Convention Center,
Townsend, TN (on the quite side of the
Smokies)

Quarterly Board Meeting

Saturday, May 2, 2009 beginning at 1:00pm CT
REI Community Conference Room
261 Franklin Road
Brentwood, TN 37027
615-376-4248 for directions

CUMBERLAND TRAIL CONFERENCE

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

CUMBERLAND TRAIL CONFERENCE STAFF:

General Manager..... Tony Hook.....tony.hook@frontiernet.net
Trail Development Coordinator..... Amanda Leamon.....amanda.leamon@frontiernet.net
Trail Programs Coordinator Alex Schafer.....alex.schafer@frontiernet.net
Office Manager Marleya Pendleton ...marleyapendleton@frontiernet.net

CTC Schedule

February 22 - March 28, 2009 - BreakAway 2009 - Hamilton County - BreakAway 2009 is a 5-week trail building program and is combined with environmental education, history, culture, and musical sessions. This program involves students from across the United States traveling to Tennessee and volunteering on their spring break to construct and maintain the trail. BreakAway 2009 will take place in Hamilton County, the trail's southern corridor. The objectives of this program are the repair and building of new trail in the North Chickamauga Gorge, trail maintenance in other areas, replacing three log bridges in Rock Creek Gorge, and assisting with the construction of a bridge in Little Possum Gorge. The program's camp will be the Dogwood Lodge near Soddy-Daisy, TN. Space is limited and volunteers will need to RSVP with the CTC office.

March 28, 2009 - Chattanooga Outdoor Expo - Chattanooga - Join other CT hikers as Outdoor Chattanooga kicks off the 2009 outdoor season at the brand new home in Coolidge Park. See Outdoor Chattanooga Outdoor Expo, Gear Swap and Grand Opening Celebration website for more details.

April 18, 2009 - Earth Fest 2009 - Pellissippi State 11am-7pm EST - A day of food, fun, entertainment, and lots of environmental education opportunities. Admission is free. See East Tennessee's Earth Day Festival website for more details.

April 19 - 26, 2009 - Frozen Head Outing - Wartburg, TN - Students from Wartburg College, Waverly, Iowa will be traveling to Tennessee to assist with construction of the Cumberland Trail. Participants will be camping at Frozen Head State Park and working to reopen the closed North Boundary Trail which will become the northern section of the CT in Frozen Head. Volunteers interested in working with the students, please RSVP with the CTC office.

May 7 - 10, 2009 - Southeast Foot Trails Coalition Conference - Pine Mountain State Resort Park in Pineville, KY - Meetings and some activities will take place at Pine Mountain State Resort Park in Pineville, KY. Other activities will be held at nearby Cumberland Gap National Historical Park. Park staff will lead guided hikes. We will have educational sessions and group breakout discussions. There will be social activities including a square dance on Friday evening and a visit to the Hensley Settlement at CGNHP on Saturday evening for a cookout and some night sky / night hike activities. A special public ceremony is planned to recognize the connection of Cumberland Trail and Pine Mountain Trail at Cumberland Gap. Registration will open in January on the SEFTC website.

May 15 - 17, 2009 - Scout Weekend - Scott County - Scout groups will be camping at Nick's Creek campground in Scott County, TN. Saturday, May 16, trail construction in the Smoky Mountain (New River) segment with an environmental program that evening. Sunday, a 5 and 10 mile hike on the Cumberland Trail is scheduled. A patch will be given to commemorate the event. A \$3.00 registration/person is required and scout groups will need to RSVP with the CTC office.

May 31 - June 6, 2009 - AHS Week - Scott County - American Hiking Society vacation participants will be constructing trail in the Smoky Mountain (New River) segment of the CT located in Scott County, TN. The Stony Fork School will serve as the base camp. All volunteers will need to RSVP with the CTC office.

May 21-June 21 Little Possum FPR bridge construction: This bridge project will take the place of the traditional *Big Dig* program. The weekend of May 23-24 volunteers are needed to move the bridge and construction materials to the bridge site. Volunteers will also be needed to help construct abutments and the bridge after the material is moved into the gorge. Volunteers are welcome to come out on multiply weekdays or weekends to help with construction. The CTC will be able to provide food and lodging at the Dogwood Lodge on Lee Pike

Yes, I want to help the Cumberland Trail Conference change the map and leave a legacy!

Name _____ Address _____

City, State, Zip Code _____ Email _____ Phone _____

Donation gifts:

___ \$1,000+ receives stainless steel water bottle, wicking t-shirt, and mug
___ \$500+ receives wicking t-shirt and mug ___ \$100+ receives a mug ___ \$50 trail supporter t-shirt (cotton) ___ \$25
___ Other _____

Method of Payment:

___ Check, made payable to "Cumberland Trail Conference"
___ Visa ___ MasterCard _____ card no.
_____ Signature _____ Exp date

*The Cumberland Trail Conference, an associate organization of the Tennessee Trails Association, is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization and donations are tax-deductible. Please see your tax advisor. **We are grateful for you support.***

BIG SOUTH FORK CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER: Jim Meadows
423-628-6475 *jhmnhm@highland.net*
SECRETARY / TREASURER: Benita Howell
423-628-5521 *bjhowell@highland.net*
BOARD REPRESENTATIVES: Tim & Lynn Takacs
615-824-7048 *lynntakacs@comcast.net*
or ttakacs@comcast.net
OUTINGS COORDINATOR Tom Howell
423-628-5521 *tshowell1003@highland.net*
(Call Tom & volunteer to lead an outing.)

Special Outings

Ap 11 Spring wildflower hike with Jack Carman, author/photographer of Wildflowers of Tennessee. Participants in this Historic Rugby workshop will carpool, then hike to "a very special Cumberland Plateau location for wildflower viewing and photography, Fee is \$18 with picnic lunch included. To register, call (423) 628-2441 or toll free 1-888-214-3400.

Apr 18 Elk Viewing at Hatfield Knob Viewing Tower. We will have an excursion to see elk at the Sundquist Wildlife Management Area near Lafollette where they have been reintroduced to the area in the last 10 years. The viewing area and tower is a moderate 15-30 minute uphill walk from the parking area. Meet at the Harrow Road Café at 3:30 p.m. Eastern time to carpool to the wildlife area. The drive is about an hour and a half so we hope to arrive around 5:00 p.m. AWD or 4WD vehicles are needed for the car pool. Eastern which is about the time the elk should be coming out of the woods to feed in front of the viewing tower. Dress appropriately for weather conditions and bring binoculars. Visitors will need to remain quiet at the viewing area to avoid startling the elk. To register contact Rick Murphy by e-mail at rickmurphy1@aol.com or by phone at 423-319-7842.

CLARKSVILLE CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER: Paul Schwab 931-645-9068
paulschwab@bellsouth.net
OUTINGS COORDINATOR: Suva Bastin 931-645-2849
(call Suva & volunteer to lead an outing)
MEETS MONTHLY: 3rd Tuesday, 7:00 pm CT at Crow
Community Center, 211 Richview Rd.

Apr 4 Paved trail, Rails to Trails, Ashland City, TN; 8 miles, easy; Paul Schwab 931.645-9068: meet 8:30 am, Madison Street Kmart, Clarksville, TN.

Apr 11 Mossy Ridge Trail, Warner Park, Nashville, TN; 6.5 miles, moderate; Jack Bastin 931.645-2849; meet 8:30 am, I 24 Exit 11 commuter parking lot.

April 18 Frozen Head State Park, Wartburg, TN; 7 miles, difficult; overnight in park campground; Suva Bastin, 931.645-2849; meet 5:00 am, I 24 Exit 11 commuter parking lot.

April 25 Earth Day; activities to be announced.

COVE LAKE CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER: Richard Helm
423-562-1110 *Richard.Helm@ahss.org*
CO-CHAIR: George Gill 423-562-7121
MEETS MONTHLY: Meetings will be held at Cove Lake State Park at 6:00pm on the first Monday each month.

Apr 5 We will be hiking on Vance Lawson's farm to see the pre Civil War cabin that his ancestors lived in Meet @ Jacksboro Middle School 1:30 p.m. More info call Vance Lawson 423-562-6856

Apr 6 Our monthly meeting will be held at Cove Lake State Park shelter 1. @ 6:00 p.m. Bring covered dish. Special guest Bobby Fulcher and Dr. Esham conducting a slide presentation to share with us. Everyone is welcomed. More information contact Richard Helm 423-562-1110

Apr 18 John Redmon will lead us on another hike. Meet 9:00 a.m. @ Food Lion. We will be hiking the Sugarland Day Camp The hike is 4 miles. More info or reservation contact John Redmon 423-869-8286

Apr 25 We will be hiking in Montgomery Fork. Meet 8:00 a.m. @ Jacksboro Middle School. The hike is in Norma close to Greens Branch. More information or contact Richard Helm 423-562-1110.

COLUMBIA/FRANKLIN CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER: Bobby Hardeman
615-430-0638 *puttr22@aol.com*
MEETS MONTHLY: 1st Tuesday at Grand Buffet (Hwy 31, north side of Spring Hill). Socializing and dinner at 6:00pm CT; meeting starts at 7:00pm.

Apr 6 Regular monthly meeting at Grand Buffet. Richard Savage will speak about his hiking trip in Australia. Richard is a member of Tennessee Trails Upper Cumberland Chapter and teaches at Tennessee Tech University in Cookeville, Tennessee.

Apr 11 Rick Lausten will lead a woodland hike on the Short Springs Trail in Coffee County, near Manchester. This is a well developed trail system in a state natural area with forests, creeks and waterfalls. The highlights include unique wildflowers and Machine Falls. The trail is moderate with quite a few ups and downs through the hills and valleys. Meet at A&D Market on Hwy. 231, just south of I-840, at 7:30 a.m. Bring water, snacks, lunch and your camera. Register with Rick Lausten at saturncar1@aol.com or 615 373-0029.

Apr 18 Rick Pinkleton will lead a hike in Franklin State Forest, Sewanee, TN. We will hike the Tom Pack Falls Trail, 1.5 miles and rated easy. This is a great hike during the spring, passing through thick stands of laurel that bloom in April and May. Then we will hike the West Rim to Collins Cove Cascade. This 2.8 miles (one way) trail has scenic overlooks and more thick stands of laurel. The total hike distance is 7.5 miles and rated moderate. Meet at A&D Market at 7:00 a.m. Bring water, snacks and lunch. Register with Rick Pinkleton at 931 619-5012

EAST TN CHAPTER (Oak Ridge / Knoxville)

CHAPTER OFFICER: Rosemary Marshall
865-548-6171 Rosemary_L@hotmail.com
CHAPTER CO-OFFICER: Allie Sasser Hubbs
865-494-9522 hike_announcement_etchapter@yahoo.com
ASSISTANT CO-OFFICER: Elise Eustace
865-712-1916 eliseeus@hotmail.com
TREASURER: Bob Uhren
snowcap34@hotmail.com

Apr 5 Clear Creek Trail, Norris.. Before Norris, the lost town of Peril, TN existed in this area, see the site where electricity was generated decades before TVA and Norris, and visit an old historic cemetery. Several small factories were along this creek 100 years ago, they have vanished, and it is now wilderness. This hike is a scenic and pristine walk in the Norris watershed, 2,300 acres of trails/roads through hardwood forests populated by deer, and wild flowers. The hike starts at the Norris Water Plant on Lower Clear Creek Rd, and follows Clear Creek to several historic markers and sites. The round trip is about 7 miles, of mostly level terrain, although there is a fairly steep hill up to Old Red Hill Church cemetery toward the end. Pack a lunch, waterproof your boots, and bring your camera. This is a nice relaxing walk next to a beautiful stream with a history lesson combined. Meet at the Lenoir Museum 1:45 PM 2121 Norris Frwy. (Highway 441) or meet at the trail head at 2:15pm To pre-register, call Robert 865-494-9522 Email: Rhubbs@cityofknoxville.org

Apr 18 Black Mountain Section of the Cumberland Trail--This trail has been reworked so that it is all on public land. We will hike from the trail head to Windless Cave and back, then around the loop on the mountain top. Splendid overlooks, abundant wildflowers, and interesting geology are features of this trail. A moderately easy seven mile hike with a climb of 1200 feet. Meet at the Lowes' parking lot near exit 350 on interstate 40 at 9:00 am EDT to car pool; round trip drive, 50 miles. Or meet at the trail head at 9:30 EDT. Registration via email, don_e_coffman@yahoo.com, or by phone, 865-376-5842, with hike leader Don Coffman is encouraged.

Apr 25 Frozen Head - Bird Mtn. and North Bird Mtn. Trail segments We'll start at the developed camping area and start up the jeep road for a quarter mile before beginning the 2 mile, 1500' ascent to the intersection with the CT and N. Bird Mtn. Trail at the west end of Castle Rock. We then begin a 1500' descent to Phillips Creek which will be our turn around point. We will eat lunch at this spot. Total hiking distance is about 8 miles and is rated strenuous due to the two big ascents. Bring lunch, plenty of water, and wear sturdy boots. Meet at the big tulip poplar by the parking lot outside the Frozen Head Visitor's Center at 9:00 ET. For further info on this hike, or to pre-register, contact Keith Mertz at 865-982-7368 or keithmertz@hotmail.com

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November 6,7,8 2009
Valley View Lodge & Convention Center,
Townsend, TN (on the quiet side of the
Smokies)

HIGHLAND RIM CHAPTER (Tullahoma Area)

CHAPTER OFFICER: H.T. (Tom) Bentley
931-455-5849 htbentley@lighttube.net
VICE PRESIDENT: Joette Carter 931-968-0073
OUTINGS COORDINATOR / NEWSLETTER CONTACT:
Contact Tom Bentley
MEETS MONTHLY: 1st Tuesday at Crockett's restaurant in
Tullahoma. Socializing & dinner at 6:00pm CT;
meeting starts at 7:00pm

Apr 4 Reuben Creek near Buggytop cave, moderate 5 to 7 miles Contact Joette 968-0073

Apr 7 Monthly Meeting - Raphaels at 5:30 for dinner and CD Stamps at 7:00 for meeting. The program will be given by Jim Poteet on the history of TTA complete with slide documentation and personal comments. Jim made this featured speaker presentation at the Fall meeting. Contact Tom Bentley for further information (931) 273-6344 htbentley@lighttube.net

Apr 11 West Collins -It is rated easy to moderate. It is an easy 5 mile hike, but the trail is descending to the Horsepound Falls and is ascending coming back to the trail head. There should be an abundance of wildflowers blooming at this time. Contact Marietta Poteet 931 924-7666 nannietta@blomand.net

Apr 18- 3rd Saturday Eat-Hike-Eat Hike Informal. Start 9:45 Blue Chair Sewanee for a walk that would include a tour of the University Cemetery with commentary by James Gipson and then on, with him, past several of the man-made lakes/ponds in the central campus area: Lakes Finney and Gregg across the golf course to the pond there, to Running Knob Hollow Lake, then down Abbo's Alley back to the Blue Chair. - Contact Tom Bentley 455-5849 or John Bordley jbordley@sewanee.edu

Apr 19 Shorts Springs Hike Wildflower hike and Tennessee Conservationist Photo Shoot. Contact Tom Bentley or FoSSNA for further information

Apr 24 Overnight trip to Pickett State Park. Day hike the 10 mile hidden passage Trail, moderate. This Pickett State Park rail has numerous interesting features such as rock houses and overlooks. Let's camp at Pickett's campground Friday and or Saturday night. There will be a Dutch oven cook off there are a number of 1-3 mile hikes we can do Friday or Sunday. Contact coordinator Nora Hundley norahundley@charter.net (931) 808-2560 or (931) 668-1870

Volunteer Opportunities

Listed are some volunteer opportunities to work at the South Cumberland Recreation Area. We welcome all persons willing to put in a few hours of trail work.

Apr 4: Ranger Bill needs a 4-5 volunteers Saturday, April 4 (rain date April 5) for face-painting during their Easter egg hunt.

Apr 25: Full day event. Clean-up (a meaningful 3-4 hour clean-up), lunch, and ranger activity. Place to be determined.

Jun 13: 2-hour clean-up Fiery Gizzard (9:30 – 11:30), prior to the annual Friends of South Cumberland meeting. The group can then go over to the Visitor Center for the Friends of South Cumberland meeting (which will also include the lunch and 2 hikes).

JACKSON CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER: Candy Higgs
731-695-1960 *chiggs_3@yahoo.com*
TREASURER: Sara Hakim
206-553-9334 *sara.hakim@gmail.net*
SECRETARY Don Dresser
731-668-4190 *Donald_Dresser@usit.net*
OUTINGS COORDINATOR: Glen Rogstad
731-217-5966 *glenrogstad@gmail.net*
MEETS MONTHLY: 2nd Mon at Perkins Restaurant, 999 Vann Drive
in Jackson. Socializing & dinner starts 6:00pm CT; meeting
starts 7:00pm

Apr 4 - South Cumberland SRA - Collins Gulf. This is our annual wild flower hike. This year we'll camp and begin our excursion to Gruitli-Laager which has spectacular areas for viewing spring woodland wild flowers. Hiking boots are strongly recommended along with plenty of water and lunch or snacks. For additional information and to register, please contact Glen Rogstad at 731-217-5966 or Glenrogstad@gmail.com

Apr 13 - Chapter Meeting: Meet at Perkin's Restaurant on Vann Drive. We will eat at 6:00 p.m. and the meeting will start at 7:00 p.m. Please contact Candy Higgs at chiggs_3@yahoo.com or 731-695-1960 if you need additional information.

Apr 18 - Tishomingo State Park, MS. This park is said to be the most beautiful place in Mississippi. Hiking options may include any of the numerous waterfalls, a swinging bridge, historic points of interest and lots of wildlife. Please wear sturdy hiking boots and bring plenty of water and snacks or lunch. For additional information and to register, please contact Gary Cooper at 731-424-5375 or gcooper52@yahoo.com

Planning ahead:

May 2 - Colditz Cove Natural Area. This overnight adventure will begin with camping at Pickett State Park. Colditz Cove has one of the most stunning waterfalls plunging over 60 feet over a protruding rock ledge into a scenic narrow gorge along Big Branch Creek. The high cliffs and "rock houses" at the falls and along the creek gorge were once used by cliff-dwelling Woodland Indians over 3,000 years ago primarily during hunting season. The forest is dominated by white oak, hemlock and other varieties of trees and rhododendron along the creek. Please wear sturdy hiking boots and bring plenty of water and snacks or lunch. For information and registration, please contact Candy Higgs at 731-695-1960 or Chiggs_3@yahoo.com

NORTHWEST CHAPTER

(UT at Martin/Weakley County)

CHAPTER OFFICER: Jim Clark 731-587-2225
jclark@utm.edu

Our Chapter is active despite not having an announcement for specific hikes. Call Jim Clark at 731-587-2225 to find out what you can do to help the chapter.

MEMPHIS CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER: (Memphis BD REP) Margaret Smith
901-210-6097 *spikie542003@yahoo.com*

MEETS MONTHLY: (Sep - May) 3rd Thursday at 7:00pm CT at
Cordova Library, 8457 Trinity Rd.

Apr 4 Big Hill Pond State Park, near Pochontas, TN We will meet at the boat dock in the park at 9:30 a.m. and start the hike promptly at 9:45. The 7-8 mile loop trail is rated moderate and takes us over wooded hills to a fire tower overlooking the Tusculumbia river valley. We cross a 0.8 mile boardwalk over Dismal Swamp, a unique area with abundant wildlife. Bring lunch and water. Boots strongly recommended. For information call Margaret Smith at 901-210-6097.

<http://www.state.tn.us/environment/parks/parks/BigHillPond>

Apr 5 Meeman-Shelby Forest Wildflower Hike We will meet at the Shelby Forest Visitor's Center at 1:30 pm for a leisurely Sunday hike to identify wildflowers along the Woodland Trail with Tricia as our guide. For more information please call Tricia Kennedy at 901-488-4844 after 5pm weekdays.

Apr 16 Monthly Meeting at Cordova Public Library 7:00 p.m. Program to be announced.

Apr 18 Village Creek State Park, Wynne, AR Eileen and Brian will lead a 4-5 mile hike rated moderate with a few hills. Bring lunch and water. After the hike, we will gather at our hike leader's campsite to enjoy lunch with coffee, tea, and hot cocoa. For information call Eileen Kelm at 901-873-3221 before Thursday or contact Graydon Swisher at go2swish@bellsouth.net.

Apr 19 V&E Greenline & Old Growth Forest If you are looking for an easy walk, meet John Martin at 2:00 p.m. at Springdale Street (2 blocks north of Jackson Ave) and RR tracks for an easy 2-mile walk on the V&E Greenline trail. This is a rails-to-trails park that is owned by the neighborhood. After the walk hikers have the option for a walk through the Old Growth Forest in Overton Park. For information contact John at 901-386-3722
PICNIC DATE CHANGE: Watch for Memphis Chapter Annual Picnic details in May Newsletter. New Date: May 16

CHAPTER NEWS

The Memphis Chapter had its first annual "After the Hike Chili Party" on February 28. 18 hardy hikers tromped through the mud during the 4 mile hike at Stanky Creek (Nesbit Park). The hike was lead by long time member Charlie Bright who skillfully avoided much of the fast moving waters of Stanky Creek. All 18 hikers plus two more joined the club for a hardy chili and cornbread feed after the hike.

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Townsend, TN (on the quite side of the
Smokies)

MURFREESBORO CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER: Millette Jones
615-397-9588 millette.jones@comcast.net
OUTINGS COORDINATOR / CO-OFFICER: Tony Jones
615-397-4463 awj68@comcast.net
(Call Tony & volunteer to lead an outing)
MEETS MONTHLY: 2nd Tuesday at 7:00 pm CT
Barfield-Crescent Park's Wilderness Station
697 Barfield-Crescent Rd., Murfreesboro
BLOG www.ttamurfreesboro.blogspot.com

Apr 4- Monte Sano State Park, Huntsville, Alabama, 4 miles, Easy/Moderate. Rising 1,650 feet above sea level, Monte Sano State Park consists of 2,340 acres, 14+ miles of hiking trails, plus adjacent Land Trust trails, cabins and other facilities. Please note that there will be a \$3 per person fee (\$1 if 62+) to get into the park. After our hike we will have lunch at a local restaurant, then briefly tour Big Spring Park and visit Harrison Hardware (old historic store) in downtown Huntsville. We will leave from the Murfreesboro Sam's Club overflow parking lot next to Hardees at 8:00 AM. For more information and to register for the hike, please contact Bob Goodwin at CAMEL40@earthlink.net or 256-564-8417

Apr 4- Stone Door, Big Creek Gulf, Big Creek Rim, Beersheba Springs, TN. 9 to 10 miles, moderate. Beginning on the Stone Door trail we will be treated to some of the best views going of the gulf area before beginning the descent through the Great Stone Door into Big Creek Gulf. Along the way we will have the option of hiking an additional 1-mile (roundtrip) side trail to Ranger Falls if the creek level permits. The hike then begins the steep rocky ascent back out of the gulf to Alum Gap campground and the return trip via the Big Creek Rim trail. The distance and uneven terrain makes this a moderate hike. Contact Ron Dunn at (615) 867-3301 or trekkingtn@comcast.net.

Apr 11- West Collins/Horsepound Falls, 5 miles, Easy/Moderate. The trail is rated as moderate only because it descends to the Horsepound Falls and is ascending coming back to the trail head. Otherwise the terrain is easy walking. There should be an abundance of wildflowers blooming at this time. Please call Marietta Poteet at 931-924-7666 or email at nannietta@blomand.net. We have had a lot of rain lately so the falls should be quite lovely.

Apr 11- Day Hiking at Edgar Evins State Park, near Smithville, during The Celebration of Spring: The Friends of Edgar Evins State Park organization is looking for TTA hike leaders (as well as hikers) for this free public event which will include hikes of various lengths and difficulties. In addition there will be guided wildflower hikes, birding and butterfly identification walks, pontoon boat rides, and more. Picnic facilities and the marina restaurant are available for lunch. The restaurant is offering a 10% discount to attendees and workers. Also, helpers may have optional free camping if they desire. Contact Fount or Anna Bertram, abertram@dtccom.net or 615-765-5357

Apr 14- Murfreesboro Chapter Meeting, 7 PM, Barfield Crescent Park Wilderness Station. Join us as our own member and the General Manager of the Cumberland Trail, **Tony Hook** gives us a presentation on his trip to the Sierra Nevada's.

MURFREESBORO_(cont)

Apr 18- Cumberland Trail, Deep Creek Crossing to Big Soddy Creek, Soddy Daisy, TN. 8 miles, moderate. The hike involves crossing both Deep Creek and Big Soddy Creek, and depending on water depth, may require some wading. This hike is rated moderate but there are some steep climbs. Besides the stream crossings, there is some interesting terrain, including along the bottom of a shear wall, a ledge crossing, a wooden step climb, and a picturesque walk along Board Camp Creek. We will meet at the Sam's parking lot behind Hardees in Murfreesboro with a planned departure of 7 AM CDT. The hike assembly point is on Hwy 111, on the east side of Board Camp Creek, which will be the main parking site. I anticipate a hike time of 4-5 hours including a lunch stop. It is imperative that all hikers pre-register with contact phone numbers in case of need to cancel because of high water or other unforeseen circumstances. Register by contacting Jim Schroeder via e-mail at doughboyjim@comcast.net or via phone at 615-896-3023. On the day of the hike, I can be reached on my cell phone at 615-417-2184.

Apr 18 Cheek's Bend Bluff View Trail (also known as Yanali), and Stillhouse Hollow Falls, Columbia, TN 3 miles total, Easy. The Cheeks Bend trail segment, located in the Duck River State Natural Area Complex, travels along a bluff overlooking the Duck. The second part of our double-feature hike takes us to the end of a long gully, deep in the Tennessee woods on the Western Highland Rim in the Duck River Watershed, where the waters of a stream high above cascade softly over the edge and down 75 feet to the bottom of Stillhouse Hollow Falls. Carpool from Sam's Club, Murfreesboro. Contact Fount or Anna Bertram, abertram@dtccom.net or 615-765-5357.

Apr 25- Wildflower Walk and Potluck Social at The Bowling Farm, Monterey, TN. 4 miles, easy. Tony and Millette Jones will again lead this annual springtime event at the country home and farm of Winston & Billie Jo Bowling. The hike is easy, but there will be a creek crossing. After the hike we will enjoy a potluck social. Bring an easy dish to share. If you do not want to hike, please plan to attend and just hang out on the porch with Winston & Billie Jo. We will leave from the Food Lion parking lot on HWY 96 (Lascasass Pk) and Rutherford Blvd. at 8: AM. Please contact Tony Jones at 615-397-4463 or awj68@comcast.net to register.

Planning Ahead.....

May 2- Foster Falls, 5 miles led by Nabil Wakid

May 2- TTA Quarterly Board Meeting

May 12- Murfreesboro Chapter's Hike Planning Meeting, 7 PM (NEW TIME). We will be planning mid- July 2009- January 2010

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Townsend, TN (on the quite side of the
Smokies)

GET THE MESSAGE !!!

NASHVILLE CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER: Nora Beck
615-517-6486 nora_beck@comcast.net

OUTINGS COORDINATOR: Libby Francis
libbyslibbys@comcast.net

(email Libby & volunteer to lead an outing)

MEETS MONTHLY: 4th Tuesday at 7:00 pm CT
TN Wildlife Resources Association meeting room at
Ellington Agricultural Center, 5105 Edmondson Pike. For
directions, visit: www.tennessee-trails.org/nashville.php

Apr 18 - Nashville Earth Day Celebration, Centennial Park. Live music, a great chance to get to know more about what's being done to keep the Nashville area green. TTA volunteers will have a booth at the event, and we'll need several folks to help out for two-hour-or-so stints through the day, 9 to 5. Contact Nora Beck or Libby Francis.

Apr 25 -26 - Earth Day Nature Festival, Long Hunter State Park. We've been invited to lead a hike, make a presentation, and have our display there. Lots of opportunities to volunteer, and you get to see the new arboretum there! Contact Nora Beck or Libby Francis.

Apr 28 7:00 p.m.: Lawyer and historian Bob Brandt will speak on his work with the Land Trust for Tennessee, and on some stories behind the books that make his name familiar to many of us already: Touring Middle Tennessee Backroads and Middle Tennessee on Foot, to name just two. Be sure to join us, bring friends, and take time to enjoy refreshments and socialize after the meeting.

Apr 2 After Work Hike on the Warner Woods Trail, Warner Parks. Nashville, TN. This hike is great for newcomers to TTA as well as beginners to hiking. The Warner Woods Trail overall is rated easy; it's short (2.5 miles); bring a flashlight. We meet at 6:15pm (CT) at the flagpole just inside the sandstone arch entrance to the park – which is at the very end of Belle Meade Blvd (and at the intersection of Page & Chickering Roads). An RSVP is not required, but if you have questions, please call Diane Manas at 615-352-7777.

Apr 4 Ashland City Bicentennial Greenway Prime wildflower viewing area. We will hike the roundtrip 8 miles. Tennis shoes are O.K., we will eat lunch afterwards. Call 615-319-8811 or e-mail njuodenas@hotmail.com.

Apr 11 Bear Waller Gap near Carthage, TN. 12 miles with an 8 mile option. Strenuous hiking along wooded and rugged shoreline of Cordell Hull Lake with rocky overlooks, old homesteads, waterfalls, and spring flowers. Contact Al Baran at mandocat@comcast.net

Apr 16 After Work Hike; see description in April 2 above.

Apr 18 Old Stone Fort Trail/Short Springs near Manchester/Tullohoma, TN. This 2 part hike is great for beginners. Old Stone Fort, in the Manchester area, is a moderate 2.6 mile hike over high river bluffs, narrow rock ledges, riverside bottomland and waterfalls circling around a 2,000 year old stone wall built by ancient American natives. We will then lunch at beautiful Rutledge Falls located a few

NASHVILLE (cont)

miles down the road. The second part of the hike is about 4 miles further to Short Springs State Natural Area. This 2.9 mile loop is a moderate hike through hardwood forest with waterfalls. Bring water, snacks, lunch and \$\$\$\$ for carpooling. For more information and to register call Garnett Rush at 352-7217 or e-mail rushga01@yahoo.com.

Apr 23 After Work Hike; see description in April 2 above.

Apr 25 Beaman Park Wildflower Hike near Nashville. Beaman Park Wildflower Hike 9:00 a.m. to Noon. Meet at the Beaman Park Nature Center, 5911 Old Hickory Blvd. Come check out the beautiful spring wildflowers at Beaman Park. We will hike about 3 miles on this easy to moderately difficult trail. Call Nancy at 615-202-5891 for information and directions.

SODDY-DAISY CHAPTER

Treasurer: Carla Hilling
423-266-2507 X4 carlahilling@comcast.net

Hike Coordinator: Don Deakins
423-842-3140 don.deakins@gmail.com

Meet Quarterly: First Monday of Jan, Apr, Jul, and Oct at 6:00pm in Soddy Daisy Municipal Building

Schedule: See current schedule at <http://tinyurl.com/6np53k>

Blog: <http://sdtda.blogspot.com>

Apr 4 Cumberland Trail - Hike Rock Creek segment in Sale Creek from Retro Hughes Trailhead to Lower Leggett Road Trailhead. Staging vehicles at both ends will be required. Meet at Leggett Road lower trailhead at 10:00 AM, leave one or more vehicles there and shuttle over to Retro Hughes trailhead where the hike will begin. Length of trail is approximately 7.5 miles. - Contact Don Deakins at 423-842-3140 or don.deakins@gmail.com

Apr 11 Cumberland Trail - Hike 5 easy to moderate rated miles from Prentice Cooper trailhead to Highway 27. Meet at pull-off on State Highway 27 about one forth mile above trail crossing. Park half the vehicles at pull-off and proceed to main trailhead in Prentice Cooper. - Contact Don Deakins at 423-842-3140 or don.deakins@gmail.com

Apr 18 Cumberland Trail - Join hike leader Jim Schroeder and Murfreesboro Chapter on a Soddy Gorge hike from Hotwater Road to Highway 111. Plans are to take a shortcut down the rock mining road to Deep Creek which will reduce walking distance to 7 or 8 miles. Staging vehicles along Highway 111 at Jones Gap Road exit will be required. - Contact Don Deakins at 423-842-3140 or don.deakins@gmail.com

Apr 25 Flipper Bend Loop - Flipper Bend Loop is located atop the plateau on south side of North Chickamauga Creek and looks down upon the North Chickamauga segment of Cumberland Trail. This hike will be about 9 to 10 miles in length, is relatively level but does include a few heart pounding grades. Flipper Bend is maintained by North Chickamauga Creek Conservancy (<http://www.northchick.org/>). - Contact Don Deakins at 423-842-3140 or don.deakins@gmail.com

PLATEAU CHAPTER (Crossville)

CO-CHAPTER OFFICERS: Jan Barber
931-839-6663 *taxxing@aol.com*

931-788-1724 *lowthesun12@live.com*
Myra Holloway

SECRETARY/TREASURER: Jim Grove

MEETS MONTHLY: 2nd Thursday at 6:30pm CT. Art
Circle Public Library's Community Room, 154 East 1st
Street, Crossville

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 Harris at (931) 484-9152 or visit the Plateau Chapter Blog at <http://ttaplateauchapter.blogspot.com> Rain cancels.

Apr 4 - Devils Breakfast Table, Catoosa Wildlife Management Area. From the trailhead, the trail proceeds down "a thousand steps" through Daddy's Creek gorge under sheer bluffs. After a mile, the trail rises out of the canyon and remains on the top of the bluff. There are a couple of overlooks that provide a view of the gorge before the trail goes back down into the gorge on the way to the junction of Daddy's Creek and the Obed River. Due to the number of rock steps and the length of the hike (8 miles roundtrip), this is a strenuous hike. Meet at the Vanity Fair outlet mall at 8:00 AM CDT. For more information and to register, contact the hike leaders Gene Holloway at 931-788-1724 or genetn1@hotmail.com or Gary Ruetenik at gruetenik456@comcast.net.

Apr 9. Chapter Meeting. Art Circle Public Library Community Room. 6:30 PM CDT. Program will be presented by Arlene Albert and Mark Richie. They will be giving a presentation about their trip to Antarctica. They have a video of the scenery as well as numerous pictures of the penguins.

Apr 25. -- North Old Mac/Panther Branch trail, Frozen Head State Park, Wartburg, TN. This hike will start at the North Old Mac trailhead at the picnic area, stop for a snack at the overlook on the way to the Panther Branch Trail Intersection. It will continue down alongside the picturesque Panther Branch for one of the best sections of the park to see many different varieties of wildflowers. We will take a short side trail to eat lunch while enjoying Emory Gap Falls before continuing down Panther Branch Trail to Debord Falls and then to Panther Branch Trailhead parking area. The hike is rated moderate due to a steady climb of about 1,000 feet over 2.5 miles from the trailhead. The one-way hike is approximately 6 miles with a 1 mile car shuttle. This is a great hike to see many spring wildflowers along with two waterfalls, an overlook and quiet forest with blooming dogwood. Wear boots, and bring water, lunch and snacks. Meet at the far southwest corner of the Vanity Fair Outlet parking lot at 8:00 AM CDT. For more information and to register, contact Cheryl Heckler at 931-456-6437 or thehecklers@charter.net

UPPER CUMBERLAND CHAPTER (Sparta / Cookeville)

CHAPTER OFFICER: Mary Jane Ware
maryjaneware@bellsouth.net

Apr 4 Cookeville Redbud Circle of Parks Hike. As part of the Highlands Redbud Festival for 2009, the members of the Upper Cumberland Chapter have created a group of urban hiking routes called the Redbud Circle of Parks of varying lengths from 3 miles to 13 miles. All begin and end behind the Cookeville Senior Citizens Center in the Walnut Park parking lot on Walnut Avenue, Cookeville. For maps of the routes and a calendar of additional Highlands Redbud festivities go to <http://redbuds.org>. Meet Paul and Pam Miller at 1:00pm for a guided tour of the 8.5 mile Walnut - Ensor Sink - Capshaw - Cinderella - TTU - Franklin - West End - Depot - Dogwood - Walnut route. This is an urban hike with places to buy snacks and use the restroom along the way, but it does include some trail hiking so suitable shoes are recommended. Dress for the weather and bring water. For information and to register contact Paul or Pam Miller at pdmiller@citlink.net or 931-526-9259.

Apr 10-11 Across the Gulf Overnight Backpacking, Savage Gulf State Natural Area, Beersheba Springs, TN. We start at Stone Door Ranger Station, cross to Hobb's Cabin where we camp overnight. We hike length of North Rim or North Plateau Trails and end at Savage Gulf Ranger Station The hike to Hobb's Cabin is 9 miles; to Savage Ranger Station is 8 -10 miles Bring all gear and food required for camping overnight. Meet at 8:00am CT in Penney's parking lot in Cookeville, or at the US Bank across from McDonald's in Sparta at 8:30. For information and to register contact Lillian Ey at 615-746-8890 or eyintn@hotmail.com. Number of participants may be limited.

Apr 18 Buggytop Trail, Carter State Natural Area, Sewanee, TN. We will hike to Lost Cove Cave's impressive Buggytop entrance which has an 80 foot mouth carved out of a 150 foot cliff. Hike is 4.5 miles rated moderate. We will do short walk to Natural Bridge and hike to Sewanne's Bridal Veil Falls. This hike is 2-3 miles rated moderate. Meet us at 8:00am CT in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville or the US Bank across from McDonald's in Sparta at 8:30am. Bring snacks, water, and lunch. For information and to register contact Pete Broehl at 931-738-3551 or pabroehl@blomand.net.

Apr 25 Savage Gulf Waterfalls, Savage Gulf State Natural Area, Altamont, TN. Highlights of this hike include six of the major waterfalls of Savage Gulf and the spectacular spring wildflower displays. The hike begins at Greeter Falls parking lot. Hike is 4 ½ miles rated strenuous. Bring snacks, water, lunch, and hiking boots. You can meet us at 7:00am CT in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville, or at the US Bank across from McDonald's in Sparta at 7:30. For info and to register contact Richard Savage at 931-526-2035 or savage_richard@hotmail.com.

Apr 25 Stone Door Ranger Station to Collins West, Savage Gulf State Natural Area, Beersheba Springs, TN. Due to lack of space please get details from persons listed below. Hike is about 9 ½ miles and rated moderate to strenuous because of the distance, elevation changes, and rocky footing in some parts. Bring snacks, water, lunch, and hiking boots. You can meet us at 9:00am CT in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville, or at the US Bank across from McDonald's in Sparta at 9:30. For information and to register contact Hix Stubblefield at 931-526-2312 or hixstub1@citlink.net.

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TN Rails To Trails Advisory Council

Bob Richards 615-532-0753
robert.richards@state.tn.us

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

Newsletter Editor

Leslie El-Sayad *editor@tennesseetrails.org*

Newsletter Deadlines:

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

<u>Due</u>	<u>For Newsletter Dated</u>
Apr 10	May 1
May 10	June 1
June 10	July 1

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

Please send all submissions to:
editor@tennesseetrails.org

TTA's Calendar*

The following dates in 2009 refer to statewide activities that
TTA as a whole participates in. Please refer to this calendar
often so that you

- will know when your volunteering interests are especially needed (such as during BreakAway, National Trail Days, etc.).
- will consider organizing/leading volunteers from your chapter/region for an event listed.

o Can be sure to prevent scheduling conflicts

Apr 13-18 TDEC's Natural Areas Week (Statewide)

Apr 18 Earth Day Events (Observed Apr 22)

Apr 19-26.....Frozen Head Outing-Trail Building on CTC
Wartburg

May 2 Board of Directors' Quarterly Meeting
(Location TBA)

May 7-10.....Southeast Foot Trails Coalition
Conference (Pine Mountain State Resort Pk,
Pineville, KY)

May 15-17.....Scout Weekend Trail Building on CT
(Scott Cty)

May 31-Jun 6 American Hiking Society's Volunteer
Vacation Trail Building Event on the
Cumberland Trail

Jun 6 National Trails Day (Locations TBA)

Aug 1 Board of Directors' Quarterly Meeting
(Location TBA)

Sep 13-19 Bike Ride Across TN (B.R.A.T.) (Proceeds
Benefit the Cumberland Trail)

Sep 26 National Public Lands Day (Location TBA)

Nov 6-8 Annual Meeting in Townsend (Smoky
Mountains) hosted by East TN Chapter

*Calendar will be revised as needed. Cut out
and save.

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P.O. Box 41446
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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.
PLEASE RENEW, STAY INFORMED, WE NEED YOU!!!

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

- A NEW MEMBER**
 RENEWING MY MEMBERSHIP

Apr 09

Please Mail This Form To:
Membership Director
P.O. Box 41446
Nashville, TN 37204-1446

Memberships are for one year, unless you have a Lifetime Membership.
Gift Memberships are also available. Contact our Membership Director,
Ron Dunn 615-867-3301 trekkingtn@comcast.net

PLEASE, PRINT CLEARLY.

___ Individual	\$25.00	Name _____
___ Family	\$35.00	Address _____
___ Student (FULL-TIME)	\$15.00	City _____ State _____
___ Supporting (\$50.00, \$100.00 or more)		Home Phone (___) _____ Zip _____ -- _____
___ Life Member (Individual)	\$500.00	Work Phone (___) _____
___ 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:

___ Big South Fork	___ Cumberland Gap	___ Memphis	___ Plateau (Crossville)
___ Clarksville	___ East TN (Oak Ridge/Knoxville)	___ Murfreesboro	___ Soddy Daisy
___ Columbia/Franklin	___ Highland Rim (Manchester/Tullahoma)	___ Nashville	___ Upper Cumberland
___ Cove Lake	___ Jackson	___ Northwest (UT at Martin/Weakley)	(Sparta/Cookeville)
			___ 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

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

Leslie El-Sayad
Home: 865-717-6246
Les1202@aol.com

March 15, 2009

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Leonard, please contact Diana Manas at 615-352-7777

- Her picking up newsletters from you at Color Plus Printing or,
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