

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



2010 EVAN MEANS SMALL GRANTS PROGRAM

The Tennessee Trails Association received three grant applications for project funding for 2010. The following awards were recommended and approved by the Board of Directors in their February 6, 2010 meeting.

- **Cumberland Trail Conference - \$ 1,000** grant was awarded to be used to help fund the 2010 Spring Breakaway Program. The CTC worked on the North Chickamauga section of the CT on newly acquired land by the State of Tennessee and 197 college students from 15 colleges along with a number of TTA and other volunteers participated this spring.
- **Friends of Bledsoe Creek State Park - \$ 100** grant was awarded to fund trail bags and gloves to aid in the cleanup of the trails at Bledsoe Creek State Park.
- **Nashville Chapter - \$ 600** grant to the Chapter to help fund a memorial stone bench in honor of Bob Brown. Bob was one of the four co-founders of the Cumberland Trail back in 1968 and personally built and maintained the Black and Brady Mountain sections of the CT which are just south of the I-40 exit at Crab Orchard, TN. The bench will be made out of granite and have a bronze plaque to honor Bob and his dog, Trouble. Bench will be located at Edwin Warner Park in west Nashville.
- **A fourth grant for \$ 300.00** from the Evan Means fund was approved by the Board of Directors to help sponsor the **2010 Southeastern Foot Trails Coalition Conference** to be held May 20-23, 2010 in Monteagle, TN at the DuBose Conference Center.

A total of \$2,000 in grants for 2010 was provided by the Evan Means Small Grants Program. Watch the newsletter this fall for information about the 2011 application period!

-----Bob Richards

A **BIG** REMINDER

SOUTHEAST FOOT TRAILS COALITION CONFERENCE DEADLINE AHEAD

Your Registration Is Due by May 1

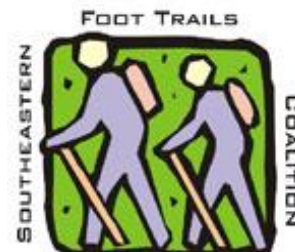
Have you signed up for the big hiking trails conference in Tennessee May 20-23?

That's right! The deadline for registration is May 1 to attend the Southeastern Foot Trails Coalition (SEFTC) 2010 Conference at the DuBose Conference Center at Monteagle, Tennessee high on the Cumberland Plateau just a mile off I-24 northwest of Chattanooga. Workshops, hikes, and entertainment aplenty are there. Good food, too! Come for the full time or any part. Food has to be ordered by the center the first week of May, so please get your registration in now.

For further information and registration go NOW to the website <http://southeastfoottrails.org> and click on "2010 Conference."

Hurry! The April days for registration are moving by fast. We hope to see you at Monteagle!

SEFTC 2010 Conference Planning Committee, George Owen, Chair (706-374-4716)
Members: Fount Bertram, Darcy Douglas (Registrar), Betty Petty. Consultant: Jeffrey Hunter



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
Office Manager Marleya Pendleton..... marleyapendleton@frontiernet.net

The Cumberland Trail has been and continues to be constructed largely by volunteers from many walks of life. CTC assists in protecting, preserving and promoting the Cumberland Trail, and assists with organizing volunteers and supporters to help build, maintain, and provide activities on the Cumberland Trail. This includes trail maintenance and building outings, trail-building training sessions, providing environmental and cultural education, and organizing periodic hikes on the CT. The CTC places a high priority on interlacing earth and conservation education within the trail building program format, and in a learning format that provides an enjoyable and rewarding experience for the students and volunteers. All CTC programs, backpack and maintenance outings, hikes, and workdays are volunteer activities and are open to the public. CTC provides the required training, safety equipment, and tools. Except for a few special programs, there is no charge. Still a work-in-progress, the Cumberland Trail will pass through 11 Tennessee counties and numerous communities on the eastern escarpment of the Cumberland Plateau. In addition to providing quality outdoor experiences and supporting tourism, the CT brings opportunities for conservation education and the protection of natural and cultural resources. Tennessee's hiking trails are a prime attraction to the most visited parks and provide numerous opportunities for environmental and cultural education. The CT brings watershed and viewshed protection, greenway corridors, and wildlife conservation to this rich ecological region. Located in an economically challenged region; the Cumberland Trail will provide both recreation and viable renewable economic opportunities to the communities of the Cumberland Plateau.



BIG SOUTH FORK CHAPTER

Currently Inactive

CLARKSVILLE CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Paul Schwab 931-645-9068
clarksville@tennesseetrails.org
CHAPTER CO-CHAIR: J.R. Tate 931-920-2692
clarksville@tennesseetrails.org
TREASURER: Sandy Janus 931-551-8523
clarksvilletreas@tennesseetrails.org
SECRETARY: Pam Gadsey 931-552-2325
clarksvillesecy@tennesseetrails.org
OUTINGS COORDINATOR: John Sneed 931.920.3828
clarksvillehikes@tennesseetrails.org

(call John & volunteer to lead an outing)

MEETS MONTHLY: 3rd Tuesday at 7:00 pm CT at Crow Community Center, 211 Richview Rd.

Additional information may be seen at our web site:
<http://www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/clarksville>

JOIN US FOR THE QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING!

The second quarter Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for May 8 at 1 pm CT at the Shelby Bottoms Nature Center in Nashville. Prior to the meeting, Libby Francis will lead a short hike along the Greenway, starting at 10 am CT.

All members are invited to join us for the hike and the board meeting. For more information, contact Don Dresser at president@tennesseetrails.org.

Directions: To the Nature Center and Main Entrance of Shelby Bottoms

Take I-24/65 to Shelby Avenue (Exit#49). Go east on Shelby (away from city) to 5th Street. Turn right on 5th Ave to Davidson Street. Turn left on Davidson and continue to Shelby Park. Follow the park road along the river to the train trestle. Shelby Bottoms entrance is located under the train trestle.

May 1 - Friends of Dunbar Cave Spring Fling. 7:00 am to 5:00 pm CT. Nature activities such as Bird Hike, Wildflower Hike, Live Birds of Prey (eagles, hawks, owls, vultures), snakes, and more. Schedule not yet available. Free to all ages.

May 8 - Walls of Jericho, TN/AL border. 8 miles. Difficult. Merri Hinton, 270-725- 0220. Meet 6:00 am CT, I 24 Exit 11 commuter parking lot.

May 15 - Nashville Greenway, Nashville, TN. 8 miles. Easy. Bob Lyon, 931-648-2354. Meet 8:30 am CT, I 24 Exit 11 commuter parking lot.

May 18 - Chapter Meeting.

May 22 - Virgin Falls, White County, TN. 8 miles. Moderate. Optional overnight. Sandy Janus 931-551-8523. Meet 7:00 am CT, I 24 Exit 11 commuter parking lot.

COLUMBIA/FRANKLIN CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Bobby Hardeman 615-430-0638
columbia@tennesseetrails.org

MEETS MONTHLY: 1st Tuesday at Grand Buffet (Hwy 31 north side of Spring Hill). Socializing and dinner at 6:00 pm CT; meeting starts at 7:00pm.

May 4 - Chapter Meeting. Speaker: Daryl Ratajczak, Big Game Program Coordinator, Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency. Daryl received his Bachelor of Science in Wildlife Management from the College of Environmental Science and Forestry in Syracuse, NY in 1992. Shortly thereafter, he and his new bride, Sandy, moved to Tennessee where Daryl accepted a position as manager of the Appalachian Bear Center in Townsend TN. His work with black bears continued until he was offered a position with the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency. He now resides with his wife and two boys in Thompson Station.

May 8 – Stillhouse Hollow Falls, Summertown, TN. 1.3 miles. Moderate. This short hike is to encourage parents and grandparents to bring any children seven years old and older. Let's get them out into our beautiful State! Our special guest is Mack Prichard, first State Archaeologist and State Naturalist Emeritus. Now is your chance to get answers to questions about Native Americans, or to ask: Is that a woodpecker? Which plants can I eat? How old are those rocks? How clean is this stream? Is that a salamander? Named for its most significant feature, Stillhouse Hollow Falls is a 90-acre state natural area on the Western Highland Rim in the Duck River watershed and includes scenic natural features such as seeps, flat shale-bottom streams, and waterfalls, both small and large. We will carpool from the back lot of McDonald's at 4908 Main Street (Hwy 31) on the north end of Spring Hill at 9:30 am CT, or you may meet us at the trailhead, located approximately 21 miles southwest of Columbia and three miles northeast of Summertown off Hwy US 43, at 11:00 am. Bring lunch and water. Wear a bathing suit if you would like to take a dip in the pool in front of the Falls. Contact Janeth McKendrick for more information and to register (how many and what are the ages of children) 615-591-9352 or *JanethMck@aol.com*.

May 22 - Virgin Falls Trail, Bowater Pocket Wilderness, near Sparta, TN. 9 miles. Difficult. Located on the western rim of the Cumberland Plateau in the canyon of the Caney Fork River, known as Scott's Gulf, this trail has an elevation change of 800 feet and features a unique combination of waterfalls and caves. This is an out and back hike to Virgin Falls. We will leave from the back lot of McDonald's at 4908 Main Street (Hwy 31) on the north end of Spring Hill promptly at 7:00 am CT, so get there 15 minutes early to sign the release form. Wear sturdy boots and bring lunch, snacks and plenty of water for the trail. Since Marvin is leading this hike, we will definitely be stopping at his favorite restaurant on the trip home. Register with Marvin Caine at *MLCaine@aol.com* or 931-486-1632.

COVE LAKE CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Richard Helm 423-562-1110
covelake@tennesseetrails.org

CO-CHAIR: George Gill 423-562-7121

May 1 - North and South Old Mac Trails, Frozen Head State Park. 6.6 mile loop. Moderate. Meet 7:30 am ET at Jacksboro Middle School. For more information contact Richard Helm 423-562-1110.

May 3 - We will meet 6:00 pm at Cove Lake State Park shelter 1 or 2. Our meeting will be open for discussion on upcoming events. Everyone is welcomed to attend. For more information contact Richard Helm 423-562-1110.

May 15 - Abrams Falls-Cades Cove. 3-4 miles. Easy. Meet 7:00 am ET at Jacksboro Middle School. For more information contact George or Susan 865-494-7933.

May 31 – Sugarland Trail, Great Smoky Mountains National Park. 6-7 miles. Moderate. Meet 7:30 am ET at Jacksboro Middle School. For more information contact Richard Helm 423-562-1110.

DYER COUNTY CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Rita Norvell 731-445-4601
dycounty@tennesseetrails.org

SECRETARY/TREASURER: Frank Salowitz
dycountysecy@tennesseetrails.org

OUTINGS COORDINATOR/BOARD REP: Jim Stark 731-589-1776
dycountyhikes@tennesseetrails.org
(Call Jim & volunteer to lead an outing.)

MEETS MONTHLY: (Sep-Jun) 4th Thursday at 5:30 pm CT at Dyersburg Main Street Office, 111 Market Street on the south side of the square in downtown Dyersburg

No hikes planned at press time.

EAST TN CHAPTER (Oak Ridge / Knoxville)

CHAPTER CHAIR: Rosemary Marshall 865-548-6171
easttennessee@tennesseetrails.org

VICE-CHAIR: Elise Eustace 865-201-5806
easttennessee@tennesseetrails.org

TREASURER: Bob Uhren
easttennesseetreas@tennesseetrails.org

May 15 – Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Walker Sister's Cabin to Laurel Falls. 7 miles. Moderate. This is a great hike with lots of historical scenes. Let's meet at the parking area at Metcalf Bottoms at 10 am ET. Be sure to pre-register with hike leader via email or phone *rosemary_L@hotmail.com* or 865-548-6171.

May 22 – Norris. 5 miles. Moderate. Join us for a hike through the very scenic areas of this Clinch River Area below Norris Dam. We'll meet at the Lenoir Museum parking area at 10am ET. You must pre-register via email or phone *alanbinth@aol.com* or 865-274-9517.

HIGHLAND RIM CHAPTER (Coffee and Franklin Counties)

CHAPTER CHAIR: Barbie Taylor 931-454-0599
highlandrim@tennesseetrails.org

VICE CHAIR: Nora Henn 931-668-1870
highlandrimvice@tennesseetrails.org

TREASURER: Marietta Poteet 931-924-7666
highlandrimtreas@tennesseetrails.org

OUTINGS COORDINATOR & NEWSLETTER CONTACT:
Jim Poteet 931-924-7666
highlandrimhikes@tennesseetrails.org

(contact Jim & volunteer to lead an outing)

MEETS MONTHLY: 1st Tuesday at 7:00 pm CT at the D. W.
Wilson Community Center, 501 N. Collins St., Tullahoma.

May 1 – South Cumberland State Recreation Area. Jim and Marietta Poteet will lead a couple of short hikes – the 3 mile Climber's Loop Trail at Foster Falls and the 2-mile Grundy Lakes Trail, both located near Tracy City. Call Marietta Poteet at 931-924-7666 or email at nannietta@blomand.net for meeting time and place.

May 1 – Float Trip. Dick McClure is leading a float trip on the Buffalo River. We'll start at Metal Ford, which is a marked exit and rest area off the Natchez Trace. It is south of, but very close to, where the river is crossed by the Natchez Trace (big concrete bridge). There is a 50 yard boat carry (or drag) from the parking lot to the river. This section of the river is rather short (about 5 miles), but is usually an easy and pleasant trip. The Buffalo is a free flow river, so if we have rain a few days before, the river could be muddy and flowing fast. There are no real rapids on this trip. Meet at the Metal Ford parking lot at 11 am CT. The shuttle will take about 45 minutes. For those who would like to explore and burn more energy after the paddle, the Meriwether Lewis National Monument (park) is nearby. Pre-register with Dick McClure at 931-598-0063 or mcclure673241@att.net.

May 4 – Chapter Meeting. Author and photographer, Barratt Hedges will present a program on backpacking in the Alaskan wilderness. Some folks will be getting together for dinner before the meeting at Fast Jacks, 122 West Lincoln Street in Tullahoma.

May 8 – Cloudland Canyon State Park. Rising Fawn, GA. 7 miles. Strenuous. Joan Hartvigsen will lead an outing to Cloudland Canyon State Park near Rising Fawn in northwest Georgia. The planned hike will be approximately 7 miles in length and will include the Overlook Trail, the Waterfalls Trail, and the recently opened Sitton Gulch Trail. Cloudland Canyon is noted for its spectacular overlooks and scenery and the timing should be right for displays of mountain laurel and rhododendron. The hike is rated strenuous due to the steep grades involved, including 1200-plus stair steps; however the trail tread is excellent. The park charges a \$5 parking fee, so we'll carpool as much as possible. Contact Joan at 931-962-0811 to pre-register.

Highland Rim – continued

May 15 - This month's **Eat-Hike-Eat** outing will be on the Sewanee Perimeter Trail from Greens View through Shakerag Hollow (2.5 miles) to the Domain Gates, with the option of then looping back via the Beckwith Point Trail (5 miles total). We will start at the Blue Chair via ad hoc carpools leaving at 9:45 am CT. This hike is for social eaters with a hiking problem. Contact Tom Bentley at htbentley@lighttube.net or 931-273-6344.

May 20-23 - The SEFTC will be meeting in Monteagle, and the Highland Rim chapter will be leading some of the hikes on their schedule. See the SEFTC website at <http://southeastfootrails.org/Hiking%20Program.htm> for more information.

May 22 – AEDC Natural Areas Tour. Barbie Taylor has arranged with the Air Force for a tour of the Arnold Engineering and Development Center's natural areas and historical sites. AEDC is located between Manchester and Tullahoma. Transportation between the center's sites will be provided by the USAF, and seating is limited. Contact Barbie Taylor at 931-808-0810 to pre-register and to get meeting time and location. This tour is also on the SEFTC schedule, and a portion of the seating space will be allocated to their attendees.

Planning ahead:

Jun 5 - Wally Bigbee is organizing a work day at Short Springs State Natural Area, Tullahoma. This is a registered AHS National Trails Day event



NATIONAL TRAILS DAY® - SATURDAY, JUNE 5

American Hiking Society's signature trail awareness program, National Trails Day® (NTD), inspires the public and trail enthusiasts nationwide to seek out their favorite trails to discover, learn about, and celebrate trails while participating in educational exhibits, trail dedications, gear demonstrations, instructional workshops and trail work projects.

Scheduled TTA Chapter events include hikes with the Plateau Chapter on Black Mountain and the Columbia/Franklin Chapter at the Devil's Back Bone State Natural Area and joint Soddy Daisy Chapter/CTC hikes. Work days are scheduled with the Highland Rim Chapter at Short Springs State Natural Area; Clarksville Chapter on the Clarksville Greenway; and the Murfreesboro Chapter at Barfield Crescent Park.

For more information, visit the American Hiking Society's website at www.americanhiking.org.

JACKSON CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Glen Rognstad 731-217-5966
jackson@tennesseetrails.org

TREASURER: Anne Goodson 664-1556
jacksontreas@tennesseetrails.org

SECRETARY: Don Dresser 731-668-4190
jacksonsecy@tennesseetrails.org

OUTINGS COORDINATOR: Glen Rognstad 731-217-5966
jacksonhikes@tennesseetrails.org

(call Glen & volunteer to lead an outing)

MEETS MONTHLY: 2nd Monday at Perkins Restaurant, 999 Vann Drive in Jackson. Socializing & dinner starts at 6:00 pm CT; meeting starts 7:00 pm

May 1 – Eagle Point Trail, Mousetail Landing State Park, Parsons, TN. 8 miles. Moderate. This loop trail to a high bluff overlooking the Tennessee River is a favorite hike for the Jackson Chapter. Bring lunch/snack and plenty of water. Hiking boots are recommended. For additional information and to register, contact Candy Higgs at (731) 695-1960 or e-mail *chiggs_3@yahoo.com*.

May 10 - 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 Glen Rognstad at 731-217-5966 or *Glenrognstad@gmail.com*.

May 15 - Harris Creek Natural Area, Jackson, TN. For information and to register, contact Vickie Moeller at 731-616-5736 or *moeller@lambuth.edu*.

May 22 - Savage Gulf/Stone Door Backpack Trip, South Cumberland State Recreation Area. For information and to register, contact Glen Rognstad at 731-217-5966 or *Glenrognstad@gmail.com*.

Planning Ahead:

June 12 - Eleven Point Wild and Scenic River Canoe Trip, Alton Mo. More information will be available in next month's newsletter or contact Glen Rognstad at 731-217-5966 or *Glenrognstad@gmail.com*.

July 17 - Buffalo River Canoe Trip, Linden, TN. More information will be available in next month's newsletter or contact Glen Rognstad at 731-217-5966 or *Glenrognstad@gmail.com*.

MEMPHIS CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Margaret Smith 901-210-6097
memphis@tennesseetrails.org

VICE-CHAIR: Francis Ruffin 901-396-1108
memphisvice@tennesseetrails.org

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

May 2 - V&E Greenline Walk. Meet John Martin at 2:00 pm CT at Springdale and RR tracks for an easy 3-mile walk along the V&E Greenline Trail. This is a rails-to-trails park that is owned by the neighborhood. For information contact John at 901-386-3722.

May 8 - Wolf River Wildlife Area. 5-8 miles. Easy. Located along the north bank of the Wolf River between Collierville-Arlington and Houston Levee road. this is an easy walk on trails lined with crushed limestone. Walk 5 miles or 8 miles, it's your choice. Meet at 9:00 am CT at the northwest parking lot at the Collierville-Arlington Road Bridge where there is a gravel parking lot on the north side of the river. If this trail is flooded, we will drive over to a second parking area off Collierville-Arlington Road a short distance north of the bridge trailhead. For information call Cathey Cole at 901-835-2273.

May 15 - Memphis Chapter Annual Picnic. Time: 4:00 pm CT Location: Johnson Road Park in Germantown - Park Pavilion on the south side of the lake. The Memphis TTA Chapter invites you to participate in our annual picnic at the park pavilion on the south side of the lake at Johnson Road Park in Germantown. This park is located behind Germantown Baptist Church. We will begin eating around 5 pm. Please assist us by bringing a food item to share as this is a potluck picnic. The organization will provide soft drinks and ice. There is a charcoal grill near the pavilion if anyone wishes to use it. There are hiking trails available, so bring your walking shoes along. Come early and walk or stay late and walk. Directions to Johnson Road Park: Take Poplar Avenue east through Germantown to Johnson Road. Take a left on Johnson Road and look for park sign. Turn right at the park sign and you will soon see the pavilion on your left.

May 20 - Monthly Meeting – CANCELLED

SAVE THE DATE
TTA ANNUAL MEETING
NOVEMBER 12-14
PICKWICK LANDING STATE PARK

MURFREESBORO CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Millette Jones 615-397-9588
murfreesorbo@tennesseetrails.org

OUTINGS COORDINATOR/BOARD REPRESENTATIVE:
Tony Jones 615-397-4463
murfreesorbohikes@tennesseetrails.org

(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.tennesseetrails.org/blog/murfreesboro

May 1 - Foster Falls at South Cumberland, 4-5 miles, moderate. We will hike down to the river to view the falls, then skirt along the bottom of famous cliffs known to rappel climbers as the White Walls and the Dihedrals. A steep climb precedes our way back along the top of the cliffs. You will need sturdy boots and plenty of water. After the hike we will have lunch in Monteagle. Register with Nabil Wakid at nwakid@bellsouth.net or call 615-893-7942.

May 8 - Cloudland Canyon. Multi-chapter hike. See Highland Rim listing for details.

May 11- Chapter Meeting. This will be our planning meeting for July 2010 - January 2011. Please come with hike ideas and finger food to contribute to our finger food supper.

May 15 - Accordion Bluff at Dale Hollow, Jamestown, TN. 4 to 7 miles. Moderate. This will be led by Larry and Maryedith McFarlin. Please contact them at 615-896-1344 for more information and to sign up.

May 20-23 SEFTC Annual Meeting, Monteagle, TN Members of hiking and trail building organizations from across the southeastern United States, partners of the coalition and any other interested parties will gather in Tennessee for a weekend of hiking, education, fun and celebration of the foot trails experience. Several guided hikes of varying length and difficulty will be offered in nearby locations. Simultaneously, at DuBose Center, there will be a series of educational sessions of varying length on tracks which address needs and interests of the hiking and trails community. Social activities will provide opportunities to share in fun with other participants and make new friends in the "trails community". The full schedule of the conference can be accessed by going to the SEFTC web site www.southeastfoottrails.org. The registration form is also on the web site. Registrations are due by May 1. This is going to be a major event and you won't want to miss out on all the fun and educational programs!

Planning Ahead:

Jun 5- National Trails Day

Jun 8- Murfreesboro Chapter Annual Picnic at Barfield Park

NASHVILLE CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Libby Francis
nashville@tennesseetrails.org

OUTINGS COORDINATOR: Libby Francis
nashvillehikes@tennesseetrails.org

(email Libby & volunteer to lead an outing)

MEETS MONTHLY: 4th Tuesday at 7:00 pm CT in the REI Community Room, 261 Franklin Road, Brentwood. For directions, visit: www.tennesseetrails.org/nashville.php

May 1 - Vanderbilt University Arboretum Trail, Nashville. 2 miles. Easy. See flower displays, historical buildings, sculptures, and Champion Trees on this stroll through the Peabody and Vandy campus. Meet at the San Antonio Taco Company, 416 21st Ave. South at 10:00 am CT. For more info contact Jenice Johnson at 615-356-6246, or jenicelj@gmail.com.

May 8 - Beaman Park Boardwalk Work Day, Nashville. 9:00 am till 4:00 pm CT. The Friends of Beaman Park have been awarded a grant to construct a 350 foot long, ADA accessible boardwalk. We need volunteers to help with this project. All the tools, training, and snacks will be provided. To volunteer, please contact the Beaman Park Nature Center. For more information and directions, call 615-862-8580.

May 9 - Stone Door, Big Creek Gulf and Big Creek Rim Trails, South Cumberland Recreation Area. Beersheba Springs, TN. 9 miles. Moderate. We'll start our hike at the Stone Door Ranger Station, stopping at the overlook at the end of the Stone Door into the Savage Gulf. We'll descend almost 900 feet into the Gulf on the Big Creek Gulf Trail and stop for lunch at Ranger Creek Falls before completing the 900 foot ascent out of the Gulf. Once back on top of the Plateau, we'll follow the Big Creek Rim trail back to Stone Door Ranger Station. Along the way we may see some late blooming spring wildflowers and wildlife that make this area their home. This hike is rate moderate for the 900 feet of ascent into and out of the Gulf, and the 4 miles of rough, uneven and very rocky terrain in the Gulf. Sturdy hiking shoes are essential! Bring snacks, lunch, plenty of water and small bills to pay towards carpooling. To register and obtain meeting time and location, call Diane Manas at 615-352-7777.

May 15 & 16 - Cumberland Trail's Obed Wild and Scenic River Segment, Trail Maintenance and Camping Weekend. We will car camp at Turkey Creek and spend Saturday and Sunday on the trail lopping, pruning, and repairing tread. You can camp on Friday night and stay the weekend, or just come for the day on Saturday or Sunday. Tony will bring his chain saw, so we will be moving lots of timber. For more details contact Libby Francis at 615-889-5718, or libbyslibbys@comcast.net.

May 16 - Walls of Jericho, TN/AL border. 8-10 miles. Moderate. Come see Tennessee's newest Natural Area. This hike is rated moderate due to the long (but not difficult) climb out of gorge. We'll take it slowly and leisurely, making this an all day hike. We will leave early in the morning and be home by dinnertime. Bring water, snacks, lunch. Waterproof boots or water shoes recommended for a short rock hop/stream crossing. Please contact Sue Lefferts at lavalump@gmail.com or 615-292-6463 to register, and to get carpooling information.

Nashville – continued from page 6

May 25 – Annual Chapter Picnic, Edwin Warner Park, Nashville, TN. We have requested Shelter 10, our traditional picnic meeting place, from 3:00 pm CT to sunset. Following a 6:00 pot luck meal we'll have a twilight hike. We may hear coyotes! Bring a potluck dish to share, and your own beverage. The chapter will provide ice, plates, cups, flatware and napkins; but you are welcome to bring your own "mess kit" as a sustainable alternative. If you have a camping lantern we ask that you bring it as the shelter won't be lighted; and for the twilight hike we may need flashlights or headlamps. Do bring friends - this is the only regular meeting at which we hike - a great introduction to the group. Directions: From Nashville, head west on Highway 100 and continue past the split with Highway 70. Drive 3 to 4 miles and turn left onto Old Hickory Blvd., a major intersection. Go to the first traffic light, and turn right onto Vaughn Road. Travel approximately 3/10 mile and turn right into the picnic shelter area, watch the signs and turn left for Shelter 10 (there will be TTA signs). For those who prefer GPS: 36.03.064 N/086.54.866 W. For more information contact Nora Beck at nora_beck@comcast.net.

NORTHWEST Chapter

(UT at Martin / Weakley County)

CHAPTER CHAIR: Scott M. Pun 731-881-7316
northwest@tennesseetrails.org
TREASURER: Sandy Davis 731-587-9134
northwestreas@tennesseetrails.org
MEETS MONTHLY: 2nd Tuesday at 7:00 pm CT during the academic year (Feb-Apr and Sep-Dec) on the UT Campus in the Paul Meek Library, Rm 120, Media Services B1

No hikes planned at press time.

PLATEAU CHAPTER (Crossville)

CHAPTER CHAIR: Cheryl Heckler 931-456-6437
plateau@tennesseetrails.org
SECRETARY/TREASURER: Jim Grove 931-484-7900
plateausecy@tennesseetrails.org
MEETS MONTHLY: 2nd Thursday at 6:30 pm CT
First United Methodist Church Annex, 69 Neecham St., Crossville
BLOG: www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/plateau

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 www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/plateau. Rain cancels.

May 8 - Piney River Trail, Spring City, TN. 12 miles. Moderate. This is intended to be a wildflower hike, so plan accordingly. The trail winds along streams and the Piney River most of its 12 mile length with plenty of opportunities to see a variety of spring wildflowers. Designated as a pocket wilderness by the Bowater Paper Company, it is now part of the Cumberland Trail. The trail is not difficult but is long and the hike should be undertaken only by hikers that can hike 12 miles on a single hike.

Plateau Chapter – Piney River Hike - continued

We will need to arrange a shuttle on this one way trail and will hike at a moderate pace. Wear boots, and bring water, lunch and snacks. Meet at 7:30 am CT at the boat dock parking lot at Cumberland Mountain State Park. For more register information and to, contact Karla Miller at 931-707-5502 or karla2957@gmail.com.

May 13 – Chapter Meeting. Program will be “Enjoying the Wilderness of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park” by Tom Harrington, Volunteer at the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Meet at the 6:30 pm CT at the Annex of the First United Methodist Church.

May 22 - Pioneer Trail Long Loop, Cumberland Mountain State Park, Crossville, TN. 5 miles. Easy. This is an easy hike of 5 miles around Byrd Lake and along the creek. We might be able to see mountain laurel and rhododendron in bloom. Meet at the boat dock parking lot at Cumberland Mountain State Park at 8 am CT. For more information and to register, contact Cheryl Heckler at 931-456-6437 or thehecklers@charter.net.

SODDY-DAISY CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Brandy Selman (423) 544-9608
soddydaisy@tennesseetrails.org
TREASURER: Jan Agee (423) 504-3581
soddydaisytreas@tennesseetrails.org
OUTINGS COORDINATOR: Don Deakins (423) 842-3140
soddydaisyhikes@tennesseetrails.org
(Call Don & volunteer to lead an outing)
MEETS QUARTERLY: 1st Monday of Jan, Apr, Jul & Oct at 6:00 pm in Soddy Daisy's Municipal Building

May 1 - Cumberland Trail near Soddy Daisy - Highway 111 Trailhead to Board Camp Creek. Meet at convenience store at Hwy 111 and Jones Gap Road exit at 9:30 am ET. Group will decide whether to drive and park alongside the exit ramp (opposite side of Hwy 111 and diagonal from store) or park further west beside the concrete drainage ditch on the eastbound side of Hwy 111. Hike to Board Camp Creek and have lunch. Backtrack to vehicles. Some rocky terrain. Longer distance is approximately 8 miles. Shorter distance is approximately 6.5 miles. Contact Nance Jo at 256-509-1541 for information.

SUMNER TRAILS CHAPTER

CHAPTER CO-CHAIRS:

Thomas & Debra Obrock 615-826-7459
sumner@tennesseetrails.org

MEETS MONTHLY: 1st Tuesday at 7:00 pm CT

First Presbyterian Church
172 West Main Street, Hendersonville

May 1 – Ellington Agricultural Center. Rogers Walk. 1.6 miles. Easy. We will stroll thru the beautiful Iris Garden and explore the 207-acre former private estate that is now home to the Tennessee Department of Agriculture. Lunch will follow at a nearby restaurant. Contact Sandy Fletcher at Sandy.Fletcher@tn.gov or 615-264-5696. We will meet to carpool at 9:00 am CT at the K-Mart parking lot on Long Hollow Pike in Goodlettsville, or meet in front of the Moss Building (antebellum mansion) at the Ag Center.

May 4 – Chapter Meeting

May 8 - Narrows of the Harpeth River. 1.8 miles. Easy. (except for one steep climb with steps). This short hike is one of the most fascinating ones in Middle Tennessee with interesting history and great vistas in this state park historic area. Meet at First Presbyterian Church in Hendersonville at 9 am CT or at the Harris Street Bridge trailhead at 10 am CT. After the hike we'll do lunch at McCabe's Pub. For info call Al Ballenger (615) 347-2623 or ballenger@aol.com

May 22 - Hendersonville Historic Walk. 3 miles. Easy. Led by Hendersonville elder law attorney and historian Tim Takacs, author of *The City by the Lake: A History of Hendersonville, Tennessee 1780-1969*, this easy, three-mile urban stroll in downtown Hendersonville will feature sites of local, regional and national historic significance. Meet at the parking lot of the First Presbyterian Church, 172 West Main St., Hendersonville, at 10 am CT. After the walk, we will enjoy lunch together at a nearby restaurant. Contact Tim Takacs at ttakacs@tn-elderlaw.com for more information.

Chapter Meeting Report: On Tuesday, April 6, our chapter gathered at Barefoot Charlie's in Hendersonville for a combination dinner and monthly meeting. Unbeknownst to us, it was also "Trivia Tuesday" at the restaurant, and we decided to compete. To honor one of our chapter's founding members, we played under the team name of "Al's Pride."

Our fledgling team shocked the other nine teams by taking over FIRST PLACE as we entered the final round. Even more astonishing, under the leadership and swift penmanship of Tom Obrock, Al's Pride won a much coveted "Beer Frame" question entitling our team to a round of free drinks. Unfortunately, our (blissful) ignorance of the baptismal names of Hip Hop artists dropped us to a fourth place finish at the game's end.

Thanks to Tom, Debra and Al for setting up our dinner meeting. Everyone had a fabulous time. If you would like to know the question (and answer) that won us the Beer Frame, or if you would like to know which gubernatorial candidate was nearly knocked down when we won the free round, come join us on a hike or at our next meeting!

UPPER CUMBERLAND CHAPTER

(Sparta / Cookeville)

CHAPTER CHAIR:

Louise Miniard 931-528-9115
uppercumberland@tennesseetrails.org

May 1 - Piney River Segment of the Cumberland Trail, Spring City, TN. 10 miles. Moderate. This trail winds along streams for much of its length. Eventually the trail crosses Piney River on a 100 foot suspension bridge. The hike is a one-way hike of about 10 miles requiring and is rated easy for the terrain and moderate for the distance. Bring snacks, water, and lunch. You can meet us in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville at 8:00 am CT. For information and to register contact Pete Broehl at 931-738-3551 or pabroehl@blomand.net.

May 8 - Charlie's Bunion, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Gatlinburg, TN. 8-9 miles. Moderate to Strenuous. Our hike begins at Newfound Gap and will follow the Appalachian Trail to Charlie's Bunion, a huge rock outcrop with views all around. There will be an optional side-trip to the Jump-Off. The hike is 8 miles (9 with the Jump-Off) and is rated moderate to strenuous due to the uneven and rocky terrain. Bring snacks, water, and lunch. You can meet us in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville at 7:00 am CT. For information and to register contact Pete Broehl at 931-738-3551 or pabroehl@blomand.net.

May 15 - Rock Creek Loop, Big South Fork NRA, Jamestown, TN. 7.5 miles. Moderate. The trail follows Rock Creek for part of its length. Other interesting features include the old railroad beds which are used for part of the trail. Bring snacks, water, and lunch. You can meet us in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville at 8:00 am CT. For information and to register contact Richard Savage at savage_richard@hotmail.com or 931-526-2035.

Attention: Hike Coordinators (aka Hike Leaders)

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

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 Bob Richards 615-532-0753
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CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVES ON THE BOARD
 ARE LISTED WITHIN EACH CHAPTER'S HEADER

Newsletter Editor
 LouAnn Partington 931-393-4835
editor@tennesseetrails.org

TTA CALENDAR

The following dates in 2010 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 or leading volunteers from your chapter/region for an event listed.
- can be sure to prevent scheduling conflicts with an activity you wish to plan.

SECOND QUARTER

May (tbd) Trail Building on the Cumberland Trail
 May 8 Board of Directors Quarterly Meeting
 (Shelby Bottoms Nature Center, Nashville, TN)
 May 20-23 Southeastern Foot Trails Coalition
 Conference (DuBose Conference Center, Monteagle, TN)
 Jun (tbd) Trail Building on the Cumberland Trail
 Jun 5 National Trails Day (Statewide)

THIRD QUARTER

Aug 7 Board of Directors' Quarterly Meeting
 (Location TBA)
 Sep (tbd) Bike Ride Across Tennessee (B.R.A.T.)
 Proceeds Benefit the Cumberland Trail
 Sep 25 National Public Lands Day (Statewide)

FOURTH QUARTER

Oct 17 – 23 CTC's "Making the Connection" Trail
 Building on the Cumberland Trail's New
 River Segment with American Hiking
 Society's Volunteer Vacation (Wartburg)
 Nov 12-14 Annual Meeting at Pickwick Landing State
 Park hosted by Jackson & Memphis
 Chapters
 Nov 14-17 American Trails National Symposium
 (Chattanooga, TN)

Newsletter Deadlines:

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

<u>Due</u>	<u>For Newsletter Dated</u>
May 10	Jun 1
Jun 10	Jul 1
Jul 10	Aug 1

All submissions are subject to editing. Articles of
 general interest and non-hiking events will be
 included as space permits.

Please send all submissions to:
editor@tennesseetrails.org

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

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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

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 membership@tennesseetrails.org

May 10

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

PLEASE, PRINT CLEARLY.

___ Individual \$25.00
___ Family \$35.00
___ Student (FULL-TIME) \$15.00
___ Supporting (\$50.00, \$100.00 or more)
___ Life Member (Individual) \$500.00
___ Life Member (Family) \$750.00

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

- Please do not list my e-mail address in the TTA Annual Membership Directory
 I would like to receive my newsletter by e-mail.

Please list me with the following chapter:

___ Clarksville ___ Highland Rim (Coffee & Franklin Counties) ___ Northwest (UT at Martin/Weakley) ___ At Large
___ Columbia/Franklin ___ Jackson ___ Plateau (Crossville)
___ Cove Lake ___ Memphis ___ Soddy Daisy
___ Dyer County ___ Murfreesboro ___ Sumner Trails
___ East TN (Oak Ridge/Knoxville) ___ Nashville ___ Upper Cumberland (Sparta/Cookeville)

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 - CTC and TRAC. (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, our annual meeting is held in the fall at one of Tennessee's many parks for a weekend of hiking, camaraderie, and programs, in addition to learning about the progress and plans of the organization.

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