

# 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



## GET – OUT ON THE TRAIL

*Submitted by: Robertson McGavock  
Soddy-Daisy Chapter, Tennessee Trails Association*

Chattanooga area hiking enthusiasts and trail aficionados were privileged to welcome two *history makers* passing through on their way to the State of New York. They were back-packing! Joanna Swanson and Gary Houck, better known now as "Someday" and "Hillbilly Bart", are attempting to be the first thru-hikers of "The Great Eastern Trail (GET)".

This trail, which is not yet completed, is a "collection of footpaths, 1800 miles long, crossing nine states", beginning in southeast Alabama and ending at the Finger Lakes Trail area of New York. The route of the GET will at some point parallel the Appalachian Trail as it moves through West Virginia on the existing Allegheny Trail. Since the GET is not yet totally linked, "Someday" and "Hillbilly Bart" will sometimes have to "walk the pavement" to reach existing segments of the GET route.

As they were making their way through Chattanooga, Red Bank, and Soddy-Daisy, several of us joined to welcome them, meeting at Nikki's Restaurant for lunch and a radio interview. They were in great spirits and full of enthusiasm, after having reached the 300 mile mark, coming off of Lookout Mountain.

After lunch they allowed me to walk a few miles with them as they continued north through the city of Red Bank. They told me that they have appreciated meeting fellow hikers and supporters who have been giving them assistance and encouragement. They also said that the main purpose of their venture was to "create a greater awareness of the GET" through contact with everyone they meet along the way. When we parted company they were fully rested and bursting with energy as they waved goodbye and prepared to enter an unbroken 32 mile stretch through the Three Gorges Segment of the Cumberland Trail State Scenic Park.

Readers may follow this adventuresome team's journey at <http://www.gethiking.net/> and learn more about the GET and how to support them at <http://www.greateasterntrail.net/>.

To learn more about Chattanooga's role in hosting the Great Eastern Trail as a GET CITY, visit WUTC's website at <http://wutc.org/post/hiking-through-chattanooga-great-eastern-trail>.



*Linda Hixon (CTC Advisory Board Member), Jo "Someday" Swanson, Gary "Hillbilly Bart" Houck, and Bob McGavock, (TTA Soddy Daisy Chapter). Photo courtesy of Linda Hixon.*



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#### From the Cumberland Trail Conference Website:

Still a work-in-progress, the Cumberland Trail is a remote footpath that will pass north to south through 11 Tennessee counties on the eastern escarpment of the Cumberland Plateau. Once completed, the trail corridor will be contained on public lands. Presently, 176 miles are maintained and open for hiking and other outdoor activities. These miles are divided into 14 different segments. Between these segments, land acquisition for the proposed trail corridor is an on-going process, so gaps in the proposed trail route do exist. The Cumberland Trail Conference working with Tennessee's Department of Environment and Conservation, other government agencies, and private organizations are all diligently working to acquire the needed land and close the gaps. The open sections are all uniquely different and allow hikers access to remote areas preserved for their natural or scenic beauty that cannot be otherwise accessed.

For trail users interested in over-night camping, regulations vary depending on the land managing agency. Some backcountry sites have been established that require registration, while in other areas camping is allowed anywhere but Leave No Trace practices are encouraged. Please see the rules and regulations for the particular section of trail of interest. As with most remote backcountry, water sources, all drinking water should be treated.

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 view shed 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. Furthermore, the Cumberland Trail is a major component of the **Great Eastern Trail**. Once completed, this trail will provide hikers with an alternative to the relatively crowded Appalachian Trail.

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## CLARKSVILLE CHAPTER

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**OUTINGS COORDINATOR:** Paul Schwab 931-645-9068  
[clarksvillehikes@tennesseetrails.org](mailto:clarksvillehikes@tennesseetrails.org)

*(call Paul & volunteer to lead an outing)*

**MEETS MONTHLY:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at 6:00 pm CT,  
Crow Community Center, 211 Richview Rd.  
*Additional information may be seen at our web site:*  
<http://www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/clarksville>

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**Mar 2 - Recovery Trail, Dunbar Cave Natural Area. 2 miles. Easy.** Ken Johnson. 931-802-6343. Meet 9:00 am CT, by the picnic table near the Reptile Interpretive Sign.

**Mar 9 - Fiery Gizzard Trail to Raven's Point, back via Dog Hole Trail, South Cumberland State Park. 9.5 miles. Difficult.** Paul Schwab 931-645-9068. Meet 6:00 am CT, I 24, Exit 11 commuter parking lot. 131 miles to trailhead.

**Mar 16 - Volunteer Trail, Long Hunter State Park. 11 miles, out and back. Moderate.** Suva Bastin 931-645-2849. Meet 7:00 am CT, I 24 Exit 11 commuter parking lot. 61 miles to trailhead.

**Mar 19 - Monthly Meeting.**

**Mar 20 - Wellness Expo, Austin Peay State University**

**Mar 23 - Green's View along the Perimeter Trail to Piney Point Trail; hike out and back to Piney Point; return to Green's View via Beckwith's Point. Sewanee Domain. 5.5 miles. Moderate.** Paul Schwab 931-645-9068. Meet 7:00 am CT, I 24 Exit 11 commuter parking lot. 129 miles to trailhead.

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## SAVE THE DATE!

Make your plans now! This year we are gathering at beautiful Fall Creek Falls State Park for our annual meeting hosted by the Plateau, Soddy-Daisy and Upper Cumberland Chapters. Mark your calendars to reserve the dates: October 25-27, 2013. Watch for details in future newsletter issues.

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## COLUMBIA/FRANKLIN CHAPTER

**CHAPTER CHAIR:** Marvin Caine 931-486-1632  
*columbia@tennesseetrails.org*

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

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**Mar 5 – Chapter Meeting.** Ellen Clark and Lou Laratta will share pictures and video of their fall 2012 trip down the Columbia and Snake Rivers in Oregon with National Geographic/Lindblad Expeditions. From walking in the footsteps of Lewis and Clark at Fort Clatsop, to riding through the Lower Monumental Dam via zodiacs, you will be awed by the grandeur, history, and geology of the Columbia River Gorge, Palouse River, and Hell's Canyon. We will have video commentary from historian, Harry Fritz, Lewis and Clark expert, who was an early supporter of Steven Ambrose in writing "Undaunted Courage". Grace Winer, naturalist and geologist, also accompanied the trip, and will provide video commentary on the wildlife and geology of the area. Please join us for this fascinating trip to the Pacific Northwest.

**Mar 9 – Varnedoe and Certain Trails, Green Mountain, Huntsville, AL. 5+ miles. Moderate. This is a joint hike with the Murfreesboro Chapter.** The Varnedoe Trail is one of the newest of the Land Trust trails. It allows a complete loop on Green Mountain which includes the Sugar Tree and the Certain Trails. Bob Goodwin and Sandra Parker will lead this hike which will include panoramic views of Huntsville and the Tennessee Valley as well as sharp rock outcroppings. The trail is in good condition, but rocky and uneven in places. About half way, there will be a 300 foot elevation gain in a half mile, and then the trail follows the top of Green Mountain and is mostly flat. Near the end, there is a 350 foot elevation loss in about a half mile. Bring water and lunch/snacks for the trail and wear sturdy boots. We will meet behind McDonalds 4908 Main Street (Hwy 31) Spring Hill, and leave at 8:00 am CT. Register with Russell Smith at *carving082334@aol.com* or 615-790-1833.

**Mar 30 – Virgin Falls Pocket Wilderness, DeRossett, TN. 8.5 miles. Moderately difficult.** Located at the western edge of the Cumberland Plateau near Sparta, this wilderness area is rich in geological features. The hike will take in several waterfalls, caves and rock shelters along the way. Virgin Falls, 110 feet, will be the destination highlight. Bring plenty of water, lunch and snacks for the trail. Wear sturdy boots. We will meet behind McDonalds 4908 Main Street (Hwy 31) on the north side of Spring Hill, and leave promptly at 7:00 am CT. Register with Rick Pinkleton at 931-619-5012.

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## COVE LAKE HIKING CHAPTER

**CHAPTER CHAIR:** John Redmon 423-869-8286  
*covelake@tennesseetrails.org*

**SECRETARY/BOARD REPRESENTATIVE:**  
Kathy Sarvis 865-494-0374  
*covelakehikes@tennesseetrails.org*

**MEETS MONTHLY:** 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday at 7:00 pm ET at the recreation center, 300 W. Beech St., La Follette.

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No hikes scheduled this month.

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## DYER COUNTY CHAPTER

Graydon Swisher

901-737-3114

*westregional@tennesseetrails.org*

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**This chapter is in the process of being reorganized.**

For further information, contact Graydon Swisher at 901-737-3114 or *westregional@tennesseetrails.org*. In the interim, you are welcome to attend (14 to select from) other chapters' outings, events and meetings.

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## 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*

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**Mar 16 - Bote Mountain/Anthony Creek/Crib Gap, Great Smoky Mountains National Park. 10.2 miles. Strenuous.** We'll hike 5.2 miles up Bote Mountain passing West Prong and Finley Cain trails, on the way. We pass a 1 mile area where a 1987 lightning strike burned much of the area and it's re-growing, however, the coves apparently weren't touched, so it's quite a contrast. Next, there will be great views of Thunderhead & Defeat Ridge as we intersect the Lead Cove Trail. Our next turn is at the Anthony Creek trail where we descend 3.4 miles towards Cades Cove. When we arrive at campsite 9, we will stop for a break & snack. After starting back, we'll pass the Russell Field trail, then travel 1.5 more to get to the Crib Gap Trail. This short 1.6 mile segment will take us to the road (which we cross), then we come to Turkey Pen Ridge where we turn to walk to a car. We'll meet at 8:30 am ET at the Townsend Y intersection. To join, please contact Larry Marchese at 615-681-2294, or email me at *lmarchese2@gmail.com*.

**Mar 23 - Piney River Trail near Spring City. 8 miles. Moderate to easy.** At times the path follows an old narrow-gauge railroad line for easy walking. The trail runs alongside the Piney River and we'll enjoy several nifty bridges along the way. There are waterfalls, gorgeous river views, and old growth forest. There could be some early wildflowers. A shuttle will be provided. Pre-register with Rosie at *Rosemary\_L@hotmail.com*.

**Mar 30 - Gabes Mountain Trail, Great Smoky Mountains National Park. 7.8 miles. Moderate.** This hike will take us through a forest of large trees and we'll stop at one of the popular waterfalls along the way. We may be able to see lots of early wildflowers blooming. Many former homesteads use to be in this area and are now piles of rocks. At 2.1 miles, we come to the spur trail that takes us to Hen Wallow Falls which is a great spot for a break. Continuing on, we'll look for Silverbells, Fraser Firs, and Beech Trees. At 4.8 miles, we arrive at campsite #34 where we'll take another break (perhaps with other campers). The next two creeks are rock hoppers, so pack water shoes just in case the water is high. At 6.6 miles, we come to an intersection of trails, and will turn right to walk the final mile to our car. We'll meet at 8:30 am ET at the Cosby Campground. To join, please contact Larry Marchese at 615-681-2294, or email me at *lmarchese2@gmail.com*.

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## HIGHLAND RIM CHAPTER

### (Coffee and Franklin Counties)

**CHAPTER CHAIR:** Linda Hudson 931-841-0540  
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**SECRETARY** Carolyn Fitz 931-598-0597  
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**TREASURER:** Marietta Poteet 931-924-7666  
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**OUTINGS & PROGRAM COORDINATOR & NEWSLETTER**  
**CONTACT:** Joan Hartvigsen 931-962-0811  
*highlandrimhikes@tennesseetrails.org*  
*(contact Joan & volunteer to lead an outing)*  
**MEETS MONTHLY:** 4<sup>th</sup> Monday at 7:00 pm CT at the D. W.  
Wilson Community Ctr., 501 N. Collins St., Tullahoma.

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**Mar 2 - Bird Mountain Trail, segment of the Cumberland Trail, Frozen Head State Park, Wartburg, TN. 6.25 mile loop. Strenuous.** 1,730 ft. elevation gain. Spectacular mountain views, early wildflowers and Castle Rock, and fascinating geologic formations are some of the attractions of this exhilarating hike. We will also visit Emory Gap Falls. Bring water, snacks, lunch and hiking poles. Contact Joan Hartvigsen at 931-962-0811 or *jhartvigs@comcast.net* to register and for carpool information.

**Mar 9 - Under the Bluff Hike and Bear Den Point Hike, Winchester, TN. 10 miles. Difficult.** Meet Joette Carter at 9:00 am CT at the Tennessee Walls of Jericho hikers' parking lot on Hwy 16 south of Winchester, TN. We will begin hiking the Blow Hole Trail just below the bluff (off trail) and walk just below the bluff all the way to the Alabama hikers' parking lot. We will see rock formations, interesting bluffs and enjoy beautiful views. We will then climb up to and across Hwy 79 to hike the 4.6 mile marked Bear Den Point Trail. We will then hike equestrian trails back to the Tennessee hikers' parking lot. Bring lunch and water. For more information contact Joette at 256-776-3551.

**Mar 16 - Eat-Hike-Eat, Segment of the Perimeter Trail, Sewanee, TN. 4.6 miles. Easy.** Meet at the Blue Chair at 9:00 am CT for coffee and breakfast or 9:30 am if you just want to hike. This month we will hike the Perimeter Trail between Brakefield Road Gate 13 (Chestnut Lake) and Lake Cheston, around Harpers Loop and Otey View. Bring water and snacks. Contact Cathleen Close at 931-841-1448 or *cathleenclose@gmail.com*.

### Highland Rim – con't.

**Mar 25 – Chapter Meeting.** Dinner at 5:00 pm CT at Ruby Tuesday Restaurant, 1936 N. Jackson St., Tullahoma, TN 37388. Karen Stevenson, our speaker, is the External Affairs Director for the Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation (TDEC) Columbia Field Office. She has a bachelor's degree from the University of Kentucky in Agriculture, with a concentration in Soil and Water Environmental Science, and a law degree from the Nashville School of Law. Karen will provide an introduction to TDEC and highlight some of the TDEC programs that focus on enhancing the quality of life for the citizens while being stewards of our natural environment. TDEC is a diverse department. It manages the Tennessee State Parks and Natural Areas, safeguards the health and safety of Tennessee citizens from environmental hazards and protects and improves the quality of Tennessee's land, air and water.

**Mar 30 – Short Springs State Natural Area Work Day, Tullahoma, TN.** Meet at 9:00 am CT at Short Springs SNA parking lot. Bring water, snack and work gloves. One team can cut the two blown down dead falls 300 and 400 yards in from the Bobo Creek crossing on the Laura Bluff Trail. A section on Machine Falls Trail on the backside needs a minor relocation to reduce its steepness. Leaf blowing and limb pick up may be helpful. Contact Wally Bigbee at 931-473-5968 or *bigb@blomand.net*.

### Planning Ahead:

**Apr 20, 21 – Backpack Trip to Hobb's Cabin. North Rim Trail, Savage Gulf SNA.**

**April 26, 27, 28 – Red River Gorge Geological Area, Slade, KY.**

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## JACKSON CHAPTER

**CHAPTER CHAIR:** Vicky Moeller 731-668-9336  
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**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:** 1<sup>st</sup> Monday at Perkins Restaurant, Vann Drive, Jackson. Socializing & dinner starts at 6:00 pm CT; meeting starts 6:45 pm

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**Mar 9 -- Walls of Jericho.** This hike takes us through a scenic rock canyon on the Alabama / Tennessee border. For those staying until Sunday, there also will be a hike to Stevens Gap. For details or to register for either hike, please contact Glen Rognstad at 731-217-5966 or *glenrognstad@gmail.com*.

**Mar 16 – Mousetail.** This 8 mile trail is rated moderate, with some steep and rugged hills. We will eat lunch at a shelter on a bluff overlooking the Tennessee River. Bring plenty of water and snacks. For those wishing to carpool, please meet at Panera Bread at by 8:00 am CT. The hike will begin at the Visitors Center at 10 am. To register please contact Terry McCoy.

**Mar 23 - Natchez Trace State Park.** This is a trail maintenance day, organized by Dick McKeen together with state park personnel. It would be helpful if you could bring work gloves and pruning equipment. Please contact Dick at *sprucemountain@Eplus.net* or 720 469-0619 for more details and to let him know if you are coming.

### Planning Ahead:

**Apr 6 - Sewanee Wildflower Hike.**

**Apr 20 - Nathan Bedford Forrest State Park.**

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

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## MEMPHIS CHAPTER

**CHAPTER CHAIR:** Charlie Bright 901-829-4434  
*memphis@tennesseetrails.org*

**VICE-CHAIR:** Francis Ruffin 662-701-6284  
*memphisvice@tennesseetrails.org*

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**Mar 2 - Lucius Burch Natural Area Wolf River off Germantown Road -- After the Hike "Soup & Sides" Lunch.** We will meet at 9:00 am CT in the main parking area off Germantown Road. Turn off at the traffic light on Germantown Road between Agri Center & Lowe's. Our hike will focus on the Yellow Trail paralleling the Wolf River for 3+ miles. Depending on trail conditions we will either return on the Yellow Trail or take the inland Blue Trail experiencing a mix of natural environments. Portions of both trails are shared with bikes. With heavy use and wet conditions the trail, especially gullies, can be muddy and slippery. For trail information call Margaret Dixon, 901-603-7680. After the hike we will meet at Woody & Carolyn's house for soup. Soup will be provided...bring salad, cornbread, rolls, or dessert and your favorite beverage. **Directions from Poplar Ave. to 8457 Briarbirch Cove in Germantown:** Take Poplar east and turn left on Kimbrough. Take immediate right on Dogwood. Drive about a half mile and turn right on Cedardale. Second cove on the left is Briarbirch Cove. House is at the end of the cove, two story with columns. You're facing it when you enter the cove. Call Woody at 901-755-5635 if you need assistance. Looking forward to good eats and fellowship!

**Mar 8-10 - Petit Jean Mountain State Park, Morrilton, AR. REGISTRATION REQUIRED!** Contact Margaret Smith, *spikie542003@yahoo.com* to register and for information. Reservations for park lodge, cabin or camping call 800-264-2462.

**Mar 16 - Herb Parsons Lake State Park.** Here's an easy 6-mile hike around the lake and through the woods. Meet at 9:30 am CT at the lake and bring snacks and water. Contact: Margaret Smith, *spikie542003@yahoo.com*.

**Mar 17 - Woodland Trail Wildflower Hike, Meeman-Shelby Forest.** Shelby Forest comes alive in the spring! Tricia will lead a leisurely 2-3 mile Sunday hike to discover the colorful wildflowers in Shelby Forest. Wear sturdy shoes and bring a bottle of water and meet us at the Shelby Forest Visitor's Center at 1:00 pm CT. Contact: Tricia at 901-488-4844 or *bestarmymom@gmail.com*.

**Mar 23 - Natchez Trace Wildflower Hike.** We will meet at the Natchez Trace Park Office at 9:30 am CT, then carpool to the Sulfur Fork Road to access the Red Leaves Trail. The hike will be approx. 5 miles and is a loop using some short sections of park roads as connectors. State Naturalist, Randy Hedgepath, will lead the hike, which he says is the best spring wildflower walk in the park. We will see Trout Lilies, Toothwort, Pennywort and Bloodroot as well as others. This is also a nice forest with picturesque scenery. Wear sturdy shoes, bring lunch and water. For information or for carpool information from Memphis, call Freddi Felt at 901-737-8882 or *jfelt2@comcast.net*. This is a hike not to be missed! Rain in the Jackson area will cancel hike.

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## MURFREESBORO CHAPTER

**CHAPTER CHAIR:** Sara Pollard 615-714-3610  
*murfreesboro@tennesseetrails.org*

**TREASURER** Ann Jacobs 615-896-3935  
*murfreesborotreas@tennesseetrails.org*

**MEMBERSHIP** Mary Belle Ginanni 615-895-6072  
*murfreesboromembership@tennesseetrails.org*

**PROGRAMS** Valerie Galan 615-586-2882  
*murfreesboroprograms@tennesseetrails.org*

**OUTINGS COORDINATOR:** Cathy Bingham 615-890-9791  
*murfreesborohikes@tennesseetrails.org*  
(Call Cathy & volunteer to lead an outing)

**MEETS MONTHLY:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at 7:00 pm CT, Barfield-Crescent Park's Wilderness Station, 697 Veterans Parkway, Murfreesboro

**BLOG:** [www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/murfreesboro](http://www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/murfreesboro)

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**Mar 2 - Radnor Lake. 4 Miles. Moderate.** We will hike the Ganier Ridge Trail and the South Cove Lake Trail. This is rated as a moderate hike, but there are a couple of steep climbs. There are usually deer, water fowl and woodland bird sightings on this hike. Wear good shoes, bring water and a snack. We will eat at a local restaurant after the hike. Contact Ann Jacobs for meeting time. 615-896-3935 *eannjacobs@aol.com*.

**Mar 9 – Varnedoe and Certain Trails, Green Mountain, Huntsville, Alabama. This is a joint hike with the Columbia/Franklin Chapter. Moderate, 5+ miles.** See the Columbia/Franklin chapter listing for hike details. We will leave from the Cracker Barrel on Church Street at Interstate 24, Exit 81 in Murfreesboro at 8:00 am CT. Distance from the meeting place to Green Mountain is about 90 miles. For more information and to register for the hike, please contact Bob Goodwin at *CAMEL40@earthlink.net* or 256-564-8417.

**Mar 12 – Monthly Meeting.**

**Mar 16 - Twin Arches Big South Fork. 5 miles. Moderate to Strenuous.** We will hike the Twin Arches Loop Trail. For info contact Ann Jacobs 615-896-3935 or *eannjacobs@aol.com*.

**Mar 16-17 – Backpack the Cumberland Trail, Spring City, TN. 11 miles. Moderate.** We will hike the Stinging Fork and Piney River segments of the Cumberland Trail near Spring City, TN. This hike will require a car shuttle from the Piney River trailhead to the Newby Branch trailhead. After dropping off a vehicle at the Piney River trailhead, we will stop at the Stinging Fork Trailhead for a 3 mile round trip hike (without packs) to the 35-foot Stinging Fork Falls and Indian Point Overlook. Then we'll drive to the Newby Branch trailhead to begin backpacking. Camping will be along the beautiful Piney River at the Rockhouse Branch Campsite. For more information and to register contact Sara Pollard 615-714-3610 or *sarabpollard@gmail.com*.

**Murfreesboro – con't.**

**Mar 23 -Walls of Jericho Hike. 7 Miles. Difficult due to rocky terrain/elevation. Vertical Rise: 1050 ft.** This shuttle hike travels to one of Tennessee's coolest geological treasures-the stony grey cliffs and walls known as the Walls of Jericho Gorge. Hike starts in Tennessee via the Plateau, descends Bear Hollow Mountain and then crosses the Alabama state line. From there, we cross Hurricane Creek, a primitive hiker campsite, an old pioneer cemetery and the beautiful natural amphitheater along Turkey Creek where the walls are progressively higher and more beautiful. The terrain can be challenging and rocky-we'll climb some rock once we get into the gorge and do some casual exploring. Return trip will be a winding ascending switchback that takes some fortitude. Bring sturdy shoes, rain gear depending on day, lunch and a sense of humor. Meet at the Cracker Barrel, Exit# 81B,I-24 & Hwy 231. Leaving at 8:00 am CT. Contact Jenny Jacobs *jjj27\_1999@yahoo.com* or 615-691-2636 for more info.

**Mar 29 – Good Friday Hike – Merritt Ridge Trail at Edgar Evins State Park. 8 miles. Difficult.** This is a beautiful trail along the hilly shoreline of Center Hill Lake. We will encounter rocky ridges, lakeside bluffs and wooded hollows. Lunch will be near the water's edge, where we should be able to see Center Hill Dam. It's possible we may see some early wildflowers, too. For more information and to register contact Sara Pollard 615-714-3610 or *sarabpollard@gmail.com*.

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

Our hike coordinators are volunteers. Make it easier for them to contact you if a hike needs to be cancelled by registering!

There are times when a hike leader must limit the number of participants (due to park regulations, etc.) on an outing. Please do not wait until the afternoon or evening before the outing to RSVP.

*Plan ahead and register early.*

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## NASHVILLE CHAPTER

**CHAPTER CHAIR:** Doug Burroughs 615-283-0507  
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**OUTINGS COORDINATOR:** Nancy Juodenas 615-319-8811  
[nashvillehikes@tennesseetrails.org](mailto:nashvillehikes@tennesseetrails.org)  
(email Nancy & volunteer to lead an outing)

**MEETS MONTHLY:** 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday at 7:00 pm CT in the REI  
Community Room, 261 Franklin Road, Brentwood. For  
directions, visit: [www.tennesseetrails.org/nashville.php](http://www.tennesseetrails.org/nashville.php)  
**BLOG:** [www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/nashville](http://www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/nashville)

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### Mar 2 - Mossy Ridge Trail, Warner Parks. Nashville, TN.

The Mossy Ridge Trail traverses through hardwood forests and several cedar ridges. The trail is 4.5 miles and is rated moderate for numerous rolling hills we will ascend and descend along the way, and for the uneven trail tread, with roots, rocks and ruts. Sturdy hiking shoes/boots are recommended for the uneven terrain. Bring snacks and water. We will meet at 8:00 am CT in the "Deep Well" area of the park. For additional information, and/or to register, call Diane Manas at 615-351-6431. Directions to Deep Well from Nashville: Head west on Hwy 70 (aka West End Ave). In Belle Meade (after you have crossed over Woodmont Blvd, passed Publix and Kroger on the right, and the Belle Meade Mansion on the left), Hwy 70 splits. Take the left split, which puts you on Hwy 100. Go approximately 1.8 miles and turn left into the grey stone entrance, drive to the end/t-intersection (approximately 1 mile) – you're in Deep Well. If you find yourself on Hwy 100 where you have reached Old Hickory Blvd, you've gone too far.

### Mar 3 - Tennessee Bicentennial Capitol Mall State Park, Mileage unknown. Easy.

We'll visit this amazing 19 acre park to learn more about Tennessee. Let's meet at 1:30 pm CT at the visitor center which currently features a civil war exhibit. Next, we'll visit the 200 foot granite state map, the Rivers of TN fountain (if it's open), the 95 county historical journey and the 1,400 ft. pathway to history. On the "green path" we'll visit the former location of the Sulphur Dell baseball park. Back on the mall, we'll visit the World War II memorial, and the Carillon (95 bells representing the 95 counties)/ Court of 3 stars. In 2011, the mall was designated as on the top 10 great public spaces in the USA. To sign up, please contact Larry Marchese at 615-681-2294, or [lmarchese2@gmail.com](mailto:lmarchese2@gmail.com).

### Mar 9 - Devil's Backbone, Natchez Trace Pkwy near Hohenwald, TN.

The Devil's Backbone State Natural area offers visitors the opportunity for a quiet hike in a natural environment little affected by modern human action. The trail takes the hiker from the pavement of the Natchez Trace Parkway out along the ridges of Tennessee's Highland Rim, down along a creek and back again. The trail is a moderately strenuous loop with 200 feet of elevation change that is about 3 miles long. We may make some additional stops along the Natchez Trace Pkwy on the way there (Gordon House Historic Site, Jackson Falls). We will have lunch at the Mt. Pleasant Grille and then view the scenic Stillhouse Falls which can be seen by walking approximately 2/3 of a mile into that Natural Area. For more information and/or to register e-mail Nancy Juodenas at [njuodenas@yahoo.com](mailto:njuodenas@yahoo.com) or call 615-319-8811.

## Nashville – con't.

**Mar 16 - Beaman Park Hike.** Beaman Park lies on the Highland Rim, just outside of the Nashville Basin along the northwest edge of Davidson County. Its terrain features steep, forested slopes, with drier ridge tops and a beautiful creek. The hike will be rated moderate, mostly flat but some terrain changes of about 300'. Come rain or shine! We will start at 9:00 am at the nature & visitor's center, which offers a nice visit as well. We'll follow the moderately easy Sedge Hill Trail for .6, turning onto the Henry Hollow Loop a short ways, then left onto Ridgetop Trail for about 1 mile. We'll about face and return, leading to continuation of the Henry Hollow Loop. A picturesque creek will be our lunch stop, and then we'll hike about 1 mile out for a total distance of approximately 5 miles. Look for signs of springtime's arrival! Come join us! Hike leader: Tom Vickstrom, phone 615-405-6713. For location and trail map visit: <http://www.nashville.gov/Portals/0/SiteContent/Parks/docs/outdoor/Hiking%20Trails/MapBeamanPark.pdf>.

### Mar 22-24 - Joint Chapter Weekend Camping Trip to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

The East Tennessee and Nashville chapters will be camping and hiking together out of the Cades Cove area this weekend, hoping for wildflowers. We will begin with a short hike Friday afternoon, then do a longer outing on Saturday and another short hike Sunday. All participants are responsible for bringing their own tent or camper, food and cooking utensils, sleeping bags and pads. There are restrooms with flush toilets and cold water at Cades Cove, but no showers. Campsites are available on a first come basis this time of year. Saturday's hike will be from Schoolhouse Gap to Chestnut Top, a moderate 6.3 miles requiring a shuttle. We will travel over gently rolling terrain to the off trail descent into White Oak Sinks. While in the Sinks we will check out the Bat Cave (no entry allowed), sinkholes, the disappearing waterfall, and those elusive wildflowers. We exit the Sinks and travel down Chestnut Top Trail. The end of the trail is a 1000 foot descent over 2.5 miles. We end at the Townsend Y. Friday and Sunday hikes will be determined based on group interest and weather. This is a good time to bring your bike if you would like to ride the loop trail at Cades Cove. All hikers must wear sturdy boots and bring water for hikes. For more information and to register contact Garnett Rush at 865-268-5181, e-mail [rushga01@yahoo.com](mailto:rushga01@yahoo.com) or Libby Francis at 615-889-5718, e-mail [libbyslibbys@comcast.net](mailto:libbyslibbys@comcast.net). All persons interested need to respond to Garnett or Libby by March 18.

## Nashville – con't

**Mar 23 - Taylor Hollow State Natural Area, northeastern Sumner County. Joint hike with the Sumner Trails Chapter.** This hike is being conducted by the state Division of Natural Areas. Taylor Hollow is only opened to the public by special arrangement, so this is a great opportunity. TTA is conducting this as a joint outing of Nashville and Sumner Trails Chapters. Botanist Roger McCoy, program manager for the state's Natural Heritage Inventory Program, will be leading the hike which is rated moderate. Read a full description at this link: <http://www.tn.gov/environment/na/events/#m23th>. To register for this popular hike YOU MUST CONTACT ROGER MCCOY DIRECTLY AT [roger.mccoy@tn.gov](mailto:roger.mccoy@tn.gov). Carpooling will be coordinated by Nora Beck for the Nashville Chapter ([nora\\_beck@comcast.net](mailto:nora_beck@comcast.net)). We will all meet at the Kroger store at the Glenbrook shopping center in Hendersonville to caravan to the hike site; the hike begins at 10 am CT and will end around 12:30 pm. Sturdy shoes are a good idea; trekking poles will be helpful as some of the terrain is steep. As always, water. Please contact Roger McCoy to register; and Nora for carpooling information.

**Mar 26 - Chapter Meeting** - Susan Castle and Cindy Smythe of Nashville's West Meade Conservancy will be talking with us about the Conservancy and about their work to protect the West Meade Waterfall. The waterfall is on land that is for sale. The West Meade Conservancy is working hard to see that it is permanently protected from inappropriate development. It's been found to have some of the cleanest water in the county. You can read more about it at [www.savewestmeadewaterfall.org](http://www.savewestmeadewaterfall.org). They'll also be describing the Radnor to River corridor, where a future hiking trail commemorating TTA founder and conservation advocate Bob Brown is part of the plan. We welcome guests to this presentation - bring some with you!

**Mar 30 - Shelby Bottoms Greenway & Nature Park, Nashville. Easy.** Four miles of flat asphalt greenway and grassy trails. Meet at 9:00 am at the Nature Center parking lot (1900 Davidson Street, 37206) near downtown Nashville. With approximately three miles of Cumberland River frontage, this area features bottomland hardwood forests, open fields, wetlands, and streams, providing excellent habitat for birds, amphibians, deer and more. We'll check out the Nature Center and then hike/walk a combination of paved and unpaved trails. Distance: 4 miles, or maybe more depending on the group's preferences and limits. Wear good walking shoes. There are water and restroom facilities at the Nature Center but not on the trails. Excellent options for lunch after the hike in nearby East Nashville. Call Doug Burroughs at 615-283-0507 for more information and to register. Rain cancels.

## OPPORTUNITIES TO GET THE WORD OUT ABOUT TTA

Spring brings out festivals and expos, and many of them represent good chances to get visibility for TTA. On **Saturday, April 6**, the Bells Bend Outdoor Center north and west of Nashville is holding an Outdoor Vendor Fair and TTA has been invited to take part. The Nashville chapter is welcomes the chance to meet all of you who can spend a little time volunteering at the TTA booth. This will be a great chance to check out this relatively recent addition to the Metro parks system, which is the only Metro facility that allows camping. We hope you can arrange time to take in the great trails at Bells Bend which include some fine bird-watching opportunities--this date falls within the spring migration period. Contact Doug Burroughs for complete details on signing up--[wm.doug.burroughs@gmail.com](mailto:wm.doug.burroughs@gmail.com).

And on **Saturday, April 20**, Nashville's Earth Day Celebration will take place at Centennial Park. Nashville's members invite members from other chapters to take in the event and spend a little time at the TTA booth, where we'll talk up TTA hikes and volunteer opportunities, especially on the Cumberland Trail. There's a whole park full of exhibitors and vendors, live performances and local food, in the shadow of the Parthenon. There's a nice network of walking paths that takes you past some really beautiful landscaping, too. To sign up or for more information, contact Doug Burroughs, [wm.doug.burroughs@gmail.com](mailto:wm.doug.burroughs@gmail.com).

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

**CHAPTER CHAIR:** Scott M. Pun 731-881-7316  
[northwest@tennesseetrails.org](mailto:northwest@tennesseetrails.org)  
**TREASURER:** Sandy Davis 731-587-9134  
[northwesttreas@tennesseetrails.org](mailto:northwesttreas@tennesseetrails.org)  
**MEETS MONTHLY:** 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

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Hike information unavailable at press time.



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## PLATEAU CHAPTER (Crossville)

**CHAPTER CHAIR:** Cheryl Heckler 931-456-6437  
*plateau@tennesseetrails.org*  
**SECRETARY/TREASURER:** Jan Barber 931-839-6662  
Don Taylor...615-973-1814  
*plateausecy@tennesseetrails.org*  
**MEETS MONTHLY:** 2nd Thursday at 6:30 pm CT  
**BLOG:** [www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/plateau](http://www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/plateau)

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There is a leaderless hike (typically 5 - 7 miles) every Wednesday morning. For additional information, contact Bill Harris at 931-484-9152 or visit the Plateau Chapter Blog. Rain cancels.

**Mar 2 - Maude's Crack, Big South Fork, Jamestown, TN.** This approximately 7 mile moderate hike will begin at the junction of Watson Cemetery Rd and Terry Cemetery road in the Big South Fork NRRRA and proceed down Watson Cemetery road to the cemetery where we will pick up a little known trail down to the John Muir trail. There we will follow the trail along the South fork of the Cumberland River to an old homestead and natural spring along Parched Corn creek. From there we will retrace our path back past Watson Cemetery trail to Maude's Crack a large crack in the side of the cliffs that the trail goes to the top of the bluff. Here there is a wonderful overlook of No Business Creek valley below. The last mile or so of the hike we will follow Terry Cemetery road back to our vehicles. Bring your water and lunch. Depart from the back of Cracker Barrel in Crossville at 8:00 am CT. Contact Curt Thomas for questions and info at [curtthomas@frontiernet.net](mailto:curtthomas@frontiernet.net) or phone: 931-260-2140.

**Mar 9 - Max Patch, Pisgah National Forest, Hot Springs, NC. Joint hike with Upper Cumberland.** Spectacular views atop the grassy bald. The 6 mile hike will begin at Lemon Gap and is rated moderate. Bring lunch, water, snacks, and hiking boots. For those leaving from Crossville we will depart at 7:00 am CT from Vanity Fair parking lot in Crossville. Registration is necessary by March 6. For information and to register contact Linda Barclay at [linbarc@yahoo.com](mailto:linbarc@yahoo.com) or 931-456-2857.

**Mar 14 - Chapter Meeting.** 6:30 pm CT. First United Methodist Church Annex, 69 Neecham Street, Crossville. Program: What New Hiking Gear is Out by Brent at Plateau Outdoors. Dinner at Gondola's Restaurant, 36 Woodmere Mall, Crossville at 5 pm. Contact Chapter Chair, Cheryl Heckler at [thehecklers@charter.net](mailto:thehecklers@charter.net) or 931-456-6437 for additional information.

**Mar 16 - Angel Falls Overlook, Big South Fork, Jamestown, TN.** This is a 10 mile hike rated difficult due to its length, but the footing is good and the overall grade is downhill. The hike passes several rock houses, a small waterfall and a couple overlooks on the way to Angel Falls Overlook, which is a massive rock outcropping several hundred feet above the Big South Fork of the Cumberland River. Hikers will shuttle cars and depart from the Bandy Creek trailhead finishing at Leatherwood Ford. Wear boots, bring water and lunch. Meet behind Cracker Barrel at 8:00 am CT. For more information and to register, call Bill Harris at 931-484-9152.

**Mar 23 - Cumberland Trail, Piney River Segment, Spring City, TN.** This trail winds along streams and the Piney River most of its 7.5 mile length and has a great wildflower display. Designated as a pocket wilderness by the Bowater Paper Co., 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 complete 7.5 miles. Sites of interest along the trail include a picturesque 100 foot suspension bridge and the remains of an old dinky railroad bed. A visit to the Spider Den will be included, if enough hikers are interested. We will need to arrange a shuttle on this one way trail and will hike at a moderate pace. Wear good hiking shoes or boots; bring water, lunch and snacks. We will meet at 7:45 am CT at the Trinity Tabernacle. For more information and to register, contact Carolyn Miller by e-mail at [cardan@frontiernet.net](mailto:cardan@frontiernet.net) or at 931-839-3213.

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## SODDY-DAISY CHAPTER

**CHAPTER CHAIR:** John Politte 423-304-8327  
*soddydaisy@tennesseetrails.org*  
**HIKE COORDINATOR:** George Bonneau 423-842-3619  
*soddydaisyhikes@tennesseetrails.org*  
**TREASURER:** Bob McGavock 423-843-4646  
*soddydaisytreas@tennesseetrails.org*  
**MEETS QUARTERLY:** 1st Tuesday in Jan, Apr, Jul, Oct at 6:00 pm ET at Burk's United Methodist Church, 6433 Hixson Pike, Hixson  
*Additional information may be seen at our web site:  
<http://www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/soddydaisy>*

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**Mar 2 - Lula Lake. 4 miles. Easy to moderate.** Meet at Bi-Lo parking lot in Red Bank at 9 am ET. Hike leader: George Bonneau.

**Mar 5 - Wolftever Greenway (Collegedale). 4-5 miles. Easy.** Meet at Target on Hwy 153 at 9 am ET. Hike leader: George Bonneau.

**Mar 9 - Fall Creek Falls. 10 miles. Moderate to strenuous.** Meet at Durham Street parking lot in Soddy Daisy at 9 am ET. Hike leader: George Bonneau.

**Mar 12 - Raccoon Mountain. 4 miles. Easy to moderate.** Meet at Bi-Lo parking lot in Red Bank at 9 am ET. Hike leader: George Bonneau.

**Mar 16 - Cedar Mountain. 4-1/2 to 5 miles. Easy to moderate.** Meet at Bi-Lo parking lot in Red Bank at 9 am ET. Hike leader: George Bonneau.

**Mar 19 - Sterchi Farm Greenway. 4 miles. Easy.** Meet at Target on Hwy 153 at 9 am ET. Hike leader: George Bonneau.

**Mar 23 - Snow Falls. 11 miles. Strenuous.** Meet at Durham Street parking lot in Soddy Daisy at 9 am ET. Hike leader: George Bonneau.

**Mar 26 - Signal Mountain High School to Mushroom Rock. 3 miles. Easy.** Meet at Bi-Lo parking lot in Red Bank at 9 am ET. Hike leader: George Bonneau.

**Mar 30 - Pigeon Mountain. 8 miles. Moderate.** Meet at Bi-Lo parking lot in Red Bank at 8:30 am ET. Hike leader: George Bonneau.

For further info, contact George Bonneau at [george.r.bonneau@gmail.com](mailto:george.r.bonneau@gmail.com) or 423-842-3619.

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## SAVE THE DATE

Spring Cleaning? Save it for the Annual Meeting!!!  
October 25 - 27, 2013 at Fall Creek Falls State Park.  
Save all those wonderful items you are no longer using -  
TTA needs them!!!  
The silent, not-so-silent auction, and white elephant sale  
await your donations.

*One person's junk is another person's  
treasure.*

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## SUMNER TRAILS CHAPTER

### CHAPTER CO-CHAIRS:

David & Shirley Primeau 615-424-2948  
[sumner@tennesseetrails.org](mailto:sumner@tennesseetrails.org)

### MEETS MONTHLY: 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday at 7:00 pm CT

Hendersonville First United Methodist Church, 217  
E. Main St. Hendersonville, TN

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**Mar 2 - Hidden Springs Trail, Cedars of Lebanon State Park, Lebanon, TN. 4.4 miles. Easy to moderate.** Very little elevation change occurs on this loop trail. The trail features interesting rock formations and sinks as we walk through cedar forests and glades as well as deciduous trees all growing in thin and rocky soil. At about half way, we will come to a vertical opening in rocks that accesses a small underground stream. This is the "Hidden Spring". Bring snacks and water. Meet at First Presbyterian Church in Hendersonville at 9 am CT. For further info contact Ron or Judy Jenkins at 615-403-0002.

**Mar 5 - Chapter Meeting.** Donna McClellan, who has been a Sumner Trails hiker, will be sharing her love of the Grand Teton National Park in Jackson/Moose, WY. She has spent the last five summers there, working a seasonal job, hiking and biking. Bring family and friends with you and arrive a few minutes early, to enjoy light refreshments and socializing prior to Donna's program and the chapter business meeting. We meet in the youth lounge (3rd floor) at Hendersonville First United Methodist Church. Please contact David or Shirley Primeau ([davidprimeau@bellsouth.net](mailto:davidprimeau@bellsouth.net)) if you'd like directions.

**Mar 9 - Bells Bend Park, Nashville.** Located in western Davidson County, this park takes its name from a peaceful arc of the Cumberland River, with the river forming the park's western boundary. We'll hike the 2.3 mile loop trail, a gentle, rolling trail that will take us through farm fields and along the river. The trail is wide but you'll be hiking on dirt/mowed fields and on crushed rock so if conditions are wet, you'll want boots. Meet at First Presbyterian Church in Hendersonville at 9 am CT or at the Bells Bend Outdoor Center at 9:45 am. We'll enjoy lunch at an area restaurant following the hike. Contact hike leader Bill Bowman at [bowmed@aol.com](mailto:bowmed@aol.com) or 615-351-0122 for questions or to confirm the hike if threatening weather.

**Mar 23 - Taylor Hollow State Natural Area, northeastern Sumner County.** This hike is being conducted by the state Division of Natural Areas. See the Nashville chapter listing for hike details.. To register for this popular hike YOU MUST CONTACT ROGER MCCOY DIRECTLY AT [roger.mccoy@tn.gov](mailto:roger.mccoy@tn.gov). Carpooling will be coordinated by Shirley and David Primeau ([davidprimeau@bellsouth.net](mailto:davidprimeau@bellsouth.net) or 615-424-2948) for the Sumner Trails chapter. We will all meet at the Kroger store at the Glenbrook shopping center in Hendersonville to caravan to the hike site. The hike begins at 10 a.m. CT and will last until about 12:30 p.m. Sturdy shoes are a good idea; trekking poles will be helpful as some of the terrain is steep. As always, water.

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## UPPER CUMBERLAND CHAPTER

### (Sparta / Cookeville)

### CHAPTER CHAIR:

Louise Miniard 931-528-9115

[uppercumberland@tennesseetrails.org](mailto:uppercumberland@tennesseetrails.org)

### HIKE COORDINATOR:

Kathleen Sullivan 931-284-7822

[uppercumberlandhikes@tennesseetrails.org](mailto:uppercumberlandhikes@tennesseetrails.org)

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**Mar 2 - Laurel-Snow** is a 2,259 acre natural area located in Rhea County. It occurs on the Walden Ridge of the Cumberland Plateau and contains a section of gorge that is deeply dissected by Morgan, Henderson, Laurel and Richland Creeks. The site is named after 2 waterfalls, Laurel Falls (80ft) and Snow Falls (35ft) and features 2 prominent overlooks. The distance for both trails is about 9 miles depending on whose trail description you read and is rated moderate. An alternative is available for those wanting a shorter hike. Logging and deep mining took place during the late 1800's and early 1900's. Part of Richland Creek was dammed and was once the water supply for Dayton. Bring water shoes, we do have to wade across Morgan Creek to see Snow Falls. It's very cold!. You can meet Vicki in Murfreesboro at Cracker Barrel on Church St. at 615 am CT. You can meet Steve at exit 111 at the school in Manchester at 7 am. You can meet at the Penny's parking lot in Cookeville at 730 am CT. OR you can meet us at the trailhead at 1030 am ET. To register for this hike contact Vicki Williams at 615-351-9599 or [vlwmt@yahoo.com](mailto:vlwmt@yahoo.com) or Steve Watson at [sfwatson2011@gmail.com](mailto:sfwatson2011@gmail.com) or 931-993-9614. There is an option for overnight camping; contact Steve for information.

**Mar 9 - Max Patch, Pisgah National Forest, Hot Springs, N.C. Joint hike with Plateau Chapter.** Spectacular views atop the grassy bald. The 6-mile hike will begin at Lemon Gap and is rated moderate. Bring lunch, water, snacks, and hiking boots. After the hike, for those interested, two hot tubs in Hot Springs have been reserved. To reserve a spot in the hot tub, email or call by March 2. There is an option for overnight camping; contact Kathleen or Steve for details. You can meet us at 6:30 am CT in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville. For information and to register contact Steve Watson 931-993-9614 or [sfwatson2011@gmail.com](mailto:sfwatson2011@gmail.com) or Kathleen Sullivan at 931-284-7822 or [ksully@frontiernet.net](mailto:ksully@frontiernet.net).

**Mar 16 - Pioneer, Byrd Lake and Creek Trails, Cumberland Mountain State Park, Crossville, TN.** We will hike the Pioneer Trail, which circles Byrd Lake and is about 5 miles long. Then we will hike 3 to 4 miles on Byrd Lake and Creek Trail below the dam. Both trails are rated easy. Bring water, snacks, lunch, and wear appropriate clothing for weather. We will meet at J.C. Penny's in Cookeville at 8:30 am CT. For information and to register contact Pete Broehl at 931-738-3551 or [pabroehl@blomand.net](mailto:pabroehl@blomand.net) or Nora Henn at 931-808-2560. Note: We were going to the Tree House but the State Fire Marshall has closed it until further notice.

**Mar 23 - Collins Gulf Loop, Savage Gulf State Natural Area, Palmer, TN.** Highlights of this hike include Horsepound and Suter Falls, numerous overlooks, and the historic Stagecoach Road built in the 1830s. We will descend into the gulf along the Collins Gulf Trail to Suter and Horsepound Falls. (Those wanting a shorter hike can return to the beginning from Horsepound Falls for a total hiking distance of 5 miles which is rated moderate). We will continue by ascending from the gulf on the Stagecoach Road and then follow the Collins Gulf loop to the beginning. The hike is 13 miles and is rated strenuous. Bring hiking boots, headlamp, snacks, water, and lunch. You can meet us at 7:00 am CT in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville or at the US Bank across from McDonald's in Sparta at 7:30. For information and to register contact Gary Kimbrell at 931-215-9520 or [gkimbrell@tbf.com](mailto:gkimbrell@tbf.com).

**Con't on page 11**

## OFFICERS:

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		<i>pastpresident2@tennesseetrails.org</i>
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<b>TN Rails To Trails Advisory Council Representative</b>	Bob Richards	615-532-0753
		<i>TRAC@tennesseetrails.org</i>
CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVES ON THE BOARD ARE LISTED WITHIN EACH CHAPTER'S HEADER		
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	LouAnn Partington	931-393-4835
		<i>editor@tennesseetrails.org</i>

### Newsletter Deadlines:

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

<u>Due</u>	<u>For Newsletter Dated</u>
Mar 10 .....	Apr 1
Apr 10 .....	May 1
May 10 .....	Jun 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*

### Upper Cumberland – con't.

**Mar 30 - Groundhog Ridge Trail, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Cosby, TN.** We will ascend Mount Cammerer along the Groundhog Ridge Trail. This trail is not maintained but is generally easy to follow. The upper parts of the trail are steep and in places trees have fallen across the trail. There is also some rock scrambling near the top. The hike is 8 to 9 miles and is rated strenuous. We will be rewarded with outstanding views from the upper parts of the trail and from the Mount Cammerer fire tower. We will descend by taking the Mount Cammerer Trail to its junction to the Appalachian Trail. Then descending to the Lower Mount Cammerer Trail and then to its junction with the Groundhog Ridge Trail and then back to the beginning. You can meet us at 7:00 am CT at the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville. For information and to register contact Richard Savage at 931-526-2035 or [savage\\_richard@hotmail.com](mailto:savage_richard@hotmail.com).

## TTA 2013 CALENDAR

The following dates in 2013 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.

### FIRST QUARTER

Mar 3-9 .....	CTC's Spring BreakAway, Week 1 in Hamilton County (Soddy-Daisy)
Mar 10-16 .....	CTC's Spring BreakAway, Week 2 in Hamilton County (Soddy-Daisy)
Mar 17-23 .....	CTC's Spring BreakAway, Week 3 in Hamilton County (Soddy-Daisy)
Mar 24-30 .....	CTC's Spring BreakAway, Week 4 in Hamilton County (Soddy-Daisy)
Mar 25 .....	Banff Mtn Film Festival Tour, Knoxville
Mar 23 .....	Earth Hour - 8:30 pm local time

### SECOND QUARTER

Apr 6-14 .....	TDEC's Natural Areas Week (Statewide)
Apr 20 .....	Earth Day Observances in many areas of TN
Apr 22 .....	Official Earth Day – 42 <sup>nd</sup> Anniversary
May 4 .....	Board of Directors' Quarterly Meeting (Location TBA)
Jun 1 .....	National Trails Day (Statewide)

### THIRD QUARTER

Aug 3 .....	Board of Directors' Quarterly Meeting (Location TBA)
Sep 14-21 .....	24 <sup>th</sup> Annual Bike Ride Across TN (B.R.A.T.) Proceeds Benefit the Cumberland Trail
Sep 28 .....	National Public Lands Day (Statewide)

### FOURTH QUARTER

Oct 25-27 .....	TTA's Annual Meeting; hosted by Plateau, Soddy Daisy and Upper Cumberland chapters at Fall Creek Falls State Park (Pikeville/Spencer, TN)
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Tennessee Trails Association  
P.O. Box 41446  
Nashville, TN 37204-1446

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



**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**

Mar 13

**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,  
Tim Townley 731-607-0512 [membership@tennesseetrails.org](mailto:membership@tennesseetrails.org)

**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 email.

\*\* CTC Membership \*\* \*\*\$5.00\*\*

\*\* Special \$5.00 rate for membership in Cumberland Trail Conference if you also are joining TTA or renewing your TTA membership. CTC is building the Cumberland Trail, which will go from Chattanooga to Cumberland Gap. Over 185 miles are now complete and open for hiking. More information can be found at [www.cumberlandtrail.org](http://www.cumberlandtrail.org). Please consider enhancing your commitment to Tennessee's great trails by joining the CTC.

Please list me with the following chapter:

\_\_\_ Clarksville  
\_\_\_ Columbia/Franklin  
\_\_\_ Cove Lake  
\_\_\_ Dyer County  
\_\_\_ East TN (Oak Ridge/Knoxville)  
\_\_\_ Highland Rim (Manchester/Tulahoma)  
\_\_\_ Jackson  
\_\_\_ Memphis  
\_\_\_ Murfreesboro  
\_\_\_ Nashville  
\_\_\_ Northwest (UT at Martin/Weakley)  
\_\_\_ Plateau (Crossville)  
\_\_\_ Soddy Daisy  
\_\_\_ Sumner Trails (Sumner County)  
\_\_\_ Upper Cumberland (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, 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 any/all TTA/CTC/TRAC functions.**