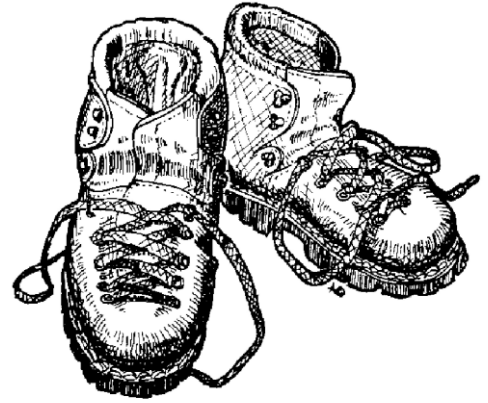


TENNESSEE TRAILS

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



President's Corner

Thanks to the Memphis and Jackson chapters for hosting the 2016 Annual meeting at Pickwick Landing State Park. Hosting the annual meeting takes a lot of planning, coordination, and just plain hard work and we appreciate their time and effort.

TTA could not host our annual meeting without the volunteer involvement of the hosting chapters, the hike leaders, the silent auction donors and the bidders, and the TTA members who travel to attend the meeting. This year the funds raised were designated for the TTA Evan Means Grant program. At the February 2017 board meeting, TTA will vote to approve what project will be funded from the 2017 annual meeting fund raising activities.

During the general membership meeting, the following awards were presented:

- Bill Stutz Award: Cheryl Heckler (Plateau Chapter)
- Tennessee Trails Association Award: Shelby Farms Park Conservancy and Wolf River Conservancy
- Bob Brown Lifetime Achievement Award: Bob Richards

Also, during the general membership meeting, TTA officers were elected for 2017. All elected offices are for one year terms, except for the regional directors which serve three year terms. Officer elections are held annually during the general membership meeting. The officers for 2017 are as follows:

- President: Carolyn Miller (Plateau Chapter)
- Vice President: Bruce Whitehead (Plateau Chapter)
- Secretary: Jackie York (Nashville Chapter)
- Treasurer: Kathy Woods (Nashville Chapter)
- Membership Director: Cheryl Heckler (Plateau Chapter)
- Middle Tennessee Regional Representative: Joan Hartvigsen (Highland Rim Chapter) - three year term beginning in 2017.

TTA wants to recognize and thank the volunteers who have served as elected officer for the last year. Secretary: Diane Manas (Secretary since 2013) and Tim Townley (Membership Director since 2013). They held key positions in the organization and have stepped down from these roles to take on new projects in their lives.

The TTA board and elected officers are volunteers who were willing to take on leadership roles as Chapter Chairs, Regional Directors and officers. They need your support, your input and your ideas.

Happy Trails,

Carolyn Miller

TTA President



Office Location 409 Thurman Avenue,
Ste 102
Crossville, TN 38555
Office Hours Tuesday – Friday
..... 10 am – 3 pm CT
Phone: 931-456-6259
Office Staff: Marianne Mailhiot
Email: ctcoffice2014@gmail.com
Website: www.cumberlandtrail.org

The 2017 CTC Spring BreakAway Program will be March 4 – April 1 with the base at Fort Bluff Camp on Dayton Mountain. To date, eleven schools have confirmed with 162 students. Last year there were 154 students from 13 different colleges.

For every 10 students, CTC wants 2 volunteers, one of those being a Wagon Master to lead the college student team. We also need adult volunteers to assist the Wagon Masters and build trail along with the students. There are also opportunities for Camp Moms and Camp Dads to assist with program oversight, student interaction, and support the trail crew. Anyone interested should contact Marianne at the CTC office: 931-456-6259 or ctcoffice2014@gmail.com. Wagon Master training and chainsaw certification will be offered during Breakaway. Dates TBD.

Not interested in building trail, but want to assist with development of the Cumberland Trail?

Connector Program Leadership/Community Field Team Members/GIS - have an interest in planning, studying, and exploring new trail corridors? CTC will be fielding numerous community teams to study routes to link our communities to the CTSP. Called the Connector Program, much of this work will be done from maps on your laptop and exploring the local back roads. Watch for local organizational meetings late summer in the Crossville/Fairfield Glade & Oak Ridge/Kingston areas. Have GIS experience, let us know.

Membership - In January 2016, CTC and TTA became stand-alone 501(3)(c) organizations with different membership benefits. CTC does not have members in the same sense as TTA which has voting members. CTC "members" are actually supporters who make an annual tax deductible contribution to support our purposes. CTC can no longer offer CTC/TTA co-membership for \$5. However, each organization will continue to actively encourage support of the other. After all, hikers need trails and trails need hikers.

CLARKSVILLE CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Ken Johnson 931-802-6343
clarksville@tennesseetrails.org
CHAPTER VICE-CHAIR: Lili Ball 931-552-2773
clarksville@tennesseetrails.org
TREASURER: Mary Schwab 931-645-9068
clarksvilletteas@tennesseetrails.org
SECRETARY: Donna Burdick 931-220-8497
clarksvillesecy@tennesseetrails.org
OUTINGS COORDINATOR: Paul Schwab 931-645-9068
clarksvillehikes@tennesseetrails.org
(call Paul & volunteer to lead an outing)
MEETS MONTHLY: 3rd 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>

Dec 3 - Nashville Urban Hike. 4.6 miles. Easy to moderate. Start at Bicentennial Capitol Mall and hike along the Downtown Cumberland Greenway, cross Shelby Street Bridge and hike around Cumberland Park. We will return to the mall through city streets and eat lunch at the Farmers Market. Paul Schwab 931-801-9484. Meet 8:00 am CT, I 24 Exit 11 commuter parking lot. 38 miles to trailhead.

Dec 10 - Christmas Party Potluck. Meet 6:00 pm CT Dotsonville Community Center. J.R.Tate 931-378-6559.

Dec 17 - McGregor Park to Ft. Defiance and back. 2.7 miles. Moderate. Eat at Wendy's after the hike. J.R.Tate 931-378.6559. Meet 9:00 am CT.

Dec 31 - New Years Eve hike downtown Clarksville. 3.5 miles. Moderate. Lionel Senseney, 931-551-6738. Meet 9:00 pm CT, Cumberland River Pavilion, McGregor Park, Riverside Drive. After the hike bring a party snack and come to Jack and Suva Bastin's house for a New Years Eve Party.

REMINDER

Many chapters hold their elections at this time of the year. If your chapter leadership is changing, please include that information with your January newsletter submission (due December 10) so that we can update your chapter masthead. Thanks!!

COLUMBIA/FRANKLIN CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: To be determined
columbia@tennesseetrails.org
HIKE COORDINATOR: Jane Coffey 615-516-6551
columbiahikes@tennesseetrails.org
MEETS MONTHLY: 1st Tuesday at Super China Buffet, 5228 Main
St., #B1, Spring Hill, TN 37174. Socializing and dinner at
6:00 pm CT; meeting starts at 7:00 pm.

Please check the TTA website for updates on our hikes.

EAST TN CHAPTER (Oak Ridge / Knoxville)

CHAPTER CHAIR: Rosemary Marshall 865-985-9144
easttennessee@tennesseetrails.org
WEBMASTER: Sherry Barber 865-209-6189
sbarber6189@comcast.net

Dec 3 - Black Mountain. 5-8 miles. Moderately strenuous. Joint hike with Plateau Chapter. We will begin at the parking lot at the top of Black Mountain and head out on the first half of the loop trail stopping for a look at the southern overlook. We then descend through the "rock gateway" of rising narrow bluffs and house sized boulders. We continue down the mountain to Windless Cave where we will have lunch. At this point, hikers wishing for a shorter hike (5 miles) can return to the parking lot via the same route. Hikers wishing to continue for an additional 1.5 miles (3 miles round trip) will hike to the SR #68 trailhead and return via the same route. Upon ascending the bluffs, we return to the parking lot via the north side of the loop trail, stopping at the northern overlook. Bring water, lunch, sturdy boots and \$\$\$\$ for carpooling. For more information and to register contact Garnett Rush at 615-210-0660 or *rushga01@yahoo.com* or Cheryl Heckler at 931-200-7436 or *thehecklers@charter.net*.

East TN Chapter – con't.

Dec 10 - Hike Little River to Goshen Prong. 7.4 miles. Moderate due to distance. The hike will be from the parking area in Elkmont along the Little River trail to Goshen Prong, about 3.7 miles, gaining about 500 feet. We will then take the Little River trail back to the parking area. An old logging railroad bed is the trail. We recommend shoes to wear to and from the hike plus sturdy hiking shoes, other weather appropriate clothing, a snack, a drink and a camera. We will meet in the Central Baptist Church of Bearden parking lot for car-pooling and leave at 8:30 am, stopping at the Browns Creek Shopping Center parking lot nearest the Sonic at 1707 E Lamar Alexander Pkwy in Maryville. We will leave there at 9:00 am. Bring \$\$\$ for carpooling. After the hike plan on stopping on the way back for a meal and refreshments. For specific information about the hike please call Tom at 865-974-4955 or leave a message at 865-588-5622 or send an email to *cressler@utk.edu* before December 9th.

Dec 17 - Bird Mountain at Frozen Head State Park. 8 miles. Difficult. This hike begins at Big Cove Campground and is a 7.2 loop. We will start our hike on the Tower Road for 3 miles and take a left and go on to the top of Bird Mountain (3,142 feet in elevation). Then we will continue on to Castle Rock, a very impressive rock formation along with many others equally as impressive. We will then proceed on the trail down the mountain encountering several switchbacks. And, of course, we will stop half-way through the hike to take a lunch break. Contact Carolyn Reeves at 865-717-3528 to pre-register.

Dec 31 - Panther Creek State Park. 8 miles. Moderate due to several steep climbs and rocky trail. This will be a joint hike with the SMHC and the East TN chapter. End the year on a good "foot" by hiking in this state park located near Morristown. Winter should offer some good views of the lake and the Cumberland Mountains. We will hike out on the Horse Connector trail to the Maple Arches Loop and return the same way. Be prepared for winter weather. Sturdy hiking boots are recommended. Bring a lunch and water. Drive is 60 miles. (\$2.40 to the drivers). Meet at Comcast exit 394 off I-40 East at 8:00 am to carpool. Leaders: Chris Hamilton, *Hikeintenn@gmail.com* and Mindy Fawver, *mindyfawver@gmail.com*.

HIGHLAND RIM CHAPTER

(Coffee and Franklin Counties)

CHAPTER CO-CHAIRS: Naullain Kendrick 931-224-6225
highlandrim@tennesseetrails.org

SECRETARY Carolyn Fitz 931-598-0597
highlandrimsecy@tennesseetrails.org

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

OUTINGS & PROGRAM COORDINATOR & NEWSLETTER CONTACT: Joan Hartvigsen 931-962-0811
highlandrimhikes@tennesseetrails.org

(contact Joan & volunteer to lead an outing)

MEETS MONTHLY: 4th Monday at 7:00 pm CT at the D. W.

Wilson Community Ctr., 501 N. Collins St., Tullahoma.

Dec 3 - Cumberland Trail, Prentice Cooper State Forest, "Lawson's Rock There-and-Back Hike. 6.6 miles round trip. Moderate. 460 ft. vertical rise. West of Chattanooga. We begin our hike at the Cumberland Trail trailhead parking lot on Tower Drive in Prentice Cooper State Forest and hike 3.3 miles to the outcrop of Lawson's Rock. Here we will enjoy awesome views of the Tennessee River Gorge, Edwards Point, Raccoon Mountain and the confluence of Suck Creek with the Tennessee River. Poplar Spring backcountry campsite is located near Lawson's Rock for those who wish to camp overnight. The Day Trippers will return to the Tower Drive Trailhead parking lot. Along the way to Lawson's Rock we will see fascinating geology including a narrow passage between two giant boulders, Indian Rock House (a huge overhang) and rock bluffs. And the beautiful Tennessee River Gorge is continually visible through the trees throughout our hike. Bring water, snacks, lunch, hiking boots and hiking sticks. Contact Joan Hartvigsen at 931-962-0811 or email *jhartvigs@comcast.net* to register and for carpool information.

Dec 10 - Short Springs State Natural Area, Tullahoma. 5 miles. Moderate due to slick rocks and steep inclines. Joan Hartvigsen will lead us on this beautiful hike on all the Short Springs Trails, including Machine Falls Trail, Adams Falls Loop, Busby Falls Loop and Laurel Bluff Loop. We will use the new TVA Bobo Creek Bridge to access Laurel Bluff Trail. Machine Falls is gorgeous in December. Meet at 9:00 am CT in the parking lot of Short Springs State Natural Area, 2250 Short Springs Road, Tullahoma. Bring water and lunch. You will need sturdy hiking boots and hiking sticks. Register with Joan Hartvigsen, *jhartvigs@comcast.net* or 931-962-0811.

Dec 17 - Hike to Piney Point on the Sewanee Perimeter Trail, Sewanee TN. 2 miles. Easy. Piney Point is a striking promontory that boasts a sweeping view out over Shakerag Hollow and Roark's Cove. Meet at 3:00 pm at Marcia Medford's home, 112 Midway Road, Sewanee. Hike led by Marietta Poteet before our Chapter Christmas Party at Marcia Medford's home. Bring water and a snack and wear sturdy hiking boots. Bring a head lamp or other light source. Contact Marietta at 931-924-7666 or *nannietta@blomand.net*.

Highland Rim Chapter - con't.

Dec 17 - Chapter Christmas Party. Gather at Marcia Medford's home, 112 Midway Road, Sewanee at 5:00 pm after Marietta Poteet's hike. Bring a wrapped gift valued at about \$10.00 if you wish to participate in the Dirty Santa Gift Exchange. Bring an ethnic dish to share. Marcia is providing chicken enchiladas. Contact Marcia at 931-598-5331 or *marciamedford@yahoo.com* to let her know what food you plan to bring so Marcia can coordinate the menu.

No Chapter Meeting this month. See December 17 Christmas Party.

Southeastern Foot Trails Coalition

Winter Hike Week

Jan 18 - 22, 2017

Music Road Inn in Pigeon Forge

The Southeastern Foot Trails Coalition will hold their annual Leadership Conference meeting and winter hiking event this coming January 18-22, 2017 at the Music Road Inn in Pigeon Forge Tennessee. The hiking component of this event is meant to continue the winter hiking tradition popularized for 25 years by Wilderness Wildlife Week, an annual winter event, now being held in May due to winter scheduling conflicts. The appeal of winter hiking in the Smokies, although not for everyone, has a sizeable following and SEFTC is glad to resurrect this winter hiking opportunity. Building upon our Biennial Conference this year, SEFTC will be offering multiple hikes daily, beginning Thursday, running through Sunday.

What is the Southeastern Foot Trails Coalition?

The Southeastern Foot Trails Coalition (SEFTC) seeks to promote and protect the long-distance foot trails in the Southeast and to connect trails and their natural trail corridors by building a regional trail system and an active network of hiking organizations.

To learn more about the Winter Hike Week and the Southeastern Foot Trails Coalition go to: <http://southeastfoottrails.org/>.

JACKSON CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Melinda Pearson 731-225-4293
jackson@tennesseetrails.org

TREASURER: Anne Goodson 731-664-1556
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: 1st Tuesday at Perkins Restaurant, Vann Drive, Jackson. Socializing & dinner starts at 6:00 pm CT; meeting starts 6:45 pm

Dec 3 - Fort Pillow State Park. This moderate hike will take us through hills and valleys of this historic area near the Mississippi River. We will leave from Panera Bread at 8 am, or you can meet us at the Fort Pillow Visitor Center and be ready to start at 9:30 am. Our hike leader is Sara Rognstad, who can be reached at *hakim.sara@gmail.com* or 206-553-9334.

Dec 6 - Chapter Meeting. Come join us at Perkins Restaurant in Jackson at 6 pm for dinner, followed by a short meeting at 7 pm.

Looking Ahead:

Mar 11-19, 2017 - Natchez Trace SP. Join project leader Dick McKeen, SP Ranger Greg Taylor, and volunteers from the American Hiking Society in rebuilding the Cub Lake Trail. For additional information or to register, please contact Dick McKeen at *sprucemountain@Eplus.net* or 720-469-0619.

Mar 25-26, 2017 - Smoky Mtn hike near Cades Cove. Hike organizer and leader is Jeff Chambers at *chambers.jeffreyb@gmail.com*.

**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.

MEMPHIS CHAPTER

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

VICE-CHAIR: Francis Ruffin 662-781-5034
memphisvice@tennesseetrails.org

Dec 3 - International Harvester Managerial Park, Lakeland. 3.5 miles. We will hike through Lakeland's International Harvester ("IH") Managerial Park. The park is located adjacent to the Lakeland Senior Center on the west side of Canada Road, between Interstate 40 and Highway 70. We will meet in the parking lot and get underway at 9:30 am. Allow two hours for the hike. IH Park contains three trails that together make up about 2.5 miles in distance and weave through mostly bottomland forest. The trail system travels through a nice meadow and along a small lake near the end. There are decent picnic facilities at the edge of the lake which make this park a nice place to enjoy lunch. For those who want more hiking we can hike the more moderately strenuous portion "backward" and add a mile or so to the hike. The park's trails could be considered moderately strenuous in places. The first mile or so is rugged terrain with steep elevation changes. There is one water crossing that we may take provided the water level is no more than an inch or so. Just be prepared for the mud if we have had recent rain. I recommend terrain-appropriate waterproof footwear and hiking poles. Remember the usual stuff: water and snacks, bug stuff, first-aid kit, etc. Bring a lunch if you would like to stick around and enjoy the lake view. Heavy rain or the threat of severe weather will cancel. Please feel free to call or email me if you have any questions, Marion Quinlen, 256-273-9720 or *mquinlen@gmail.com*.

Dec 8 - Chapter Christmas Party and Potluck. Margaret Smith will be hosting our annual party at Oaks at Woodchase Clubhouse, 1680 W Southfield Circle, Cordova. BYOB and your favorite festive dish to share with the group. The club will supply ham. Socializing begins around 5:00 pm with dinner at 6:30 pm. We will supply plates, glasses, and eating utensils. If you would like to participate in the gift exchange, bring a \$10 gift. RSVP by Dec 6th to *spikie542003@yahoo.com* or text 901-210-6097.

MURFREESBORO CHAPTER

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

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

PROGRAM COORDINATOR: Valerie Galan 615-516-6441
murfreesboroprogram@tennesseetrails.org

HIKE COORDINATOR: Jennifer Zahn 615-943-8853
murfreesborohikes@tennesseetrails.org

MEETS MONTHLY: 2nd Tuesday at 7:00 pm CT, Barfield-Crescent Park's Wilderness Station, 697 Veterans Parkway, Murfreesboro
BLOG: www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/murfreesboro

Dec 4 – Short Springs State Natural Area. Tullahoma. 4 miles. Moderate. Short Springs is a 420 acre natural area located northeast of Tullahoma. We will hike all the trails, including beautiful Machine Falls that drops 60 feet. The Busby Falls loop trail leads to the new TVA Bobo Creek Bridge. From there we'll take the Laurel Bluff Trail to see the new stone steps installed by the Friends of Short Springs. To register contact Sara Pollard at 615-714-3610 or sarabpollard@gmail.com.

Dec 10-11 - Overnight in Hobbs Cabin. Savage Gulf State Natural Area. 19 miles round trip over fairly easy terrain. This backpack trip is rated moderate due to the distance and colder weather. Total gain and loss in elevation is about 700 feet. This hike requires warm winter clothes and a warm sleeping bag. The cabin is primitive with a fireplace and six wooden bunks. It has shutters and doors that help hold what heat the fireplace can generate. There is a spring 100 yards downhill from the cabin. Space is limited to bunk space. For more information call Andy Meeks at 813-447-1224 or email usmcmeeks@gmail.com.

Dec 13 – Chapter Holiday Potluck. 6:00 pm. NOTE TIME CHANGE. Barfield Crescent Wilderness Station. Invite your family and friends to our annual holiday event. Bring a covered dish to share. Chapter will provide utensils, plates, napkins and beverages. Please RSVP to Sara Pollard at 615-714-3610 or sarabpollard@gmail.com.

NASHVILLE CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Doug Burroughs 615-283-0507
nashville@tennesseetrails.org

OUTINGS COORDINATOR: Nancy Juodenas 615-319-8811
nashvillehikes@tennesseetrails.org
(email Nancy & 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
BLOG: www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/nashville

Dec 3 - Warner Parks, Nashville, TN: 3 trails, total of 9 miles. Rated moderate to strenuous. Meet at Warner Park Nature Center, first hike Harpeth Woods trail (2.5 miles), next Cane Connector Trail (1 mile), then Mossy Ridge Trail (4.5 miles) and last, Cane Connector back to Nature Center (1 mile). For information contact Betty Magee, 615-319-5394 or e-mail: monetfan455@yahoo.com.

Dec 10 - We will again be wrapping gifts at REI in exchange for donations to support the building of the Cumberland Trail. This year we will be wrapping from 10 till 5:30. People are needed for 2 hour shifts: 10-12; 12-2, 2-4, 4-5:30. This is truly a great way to fundraise! No experience necessary, just come and join in the fun! Hope to see you there. For more info or questions call Amy at 615-739-5858 or email amy109@gmail.com.

Dec 10 - Chapter Christmas party. We'll start festivities at 6 pm CT at River Plantation's Section V clubhouse, 800 Gen. George Patton Rd. in the Bellevue area of Nashville. For directions, contact Alice Cannon, acannon12@bellsouth.net. Bring a dish to share and BYOB. Bring a friend too!! Our party takes the place of the monthly meeting for December. We'll be back at REI in January.

Dec 17 -.Montgomery Bell State Park. Overnight Trail. (but not overnight). Near Dickson TN. This is a strenuous hike due to the length of 10.5 miles. Wooded terrain with some hills. The trail passes by several lakes, a historic cabin and church, and historic iron ore pits. Bring water, snacks/lunch, boots, and clothing appropriate for the weather that day. There is an option after the hike to stop for food at the State Park Inn dining room or somewhere on the way back to town. Call Doug Burroughs at 615-587-0085 for more information and to register. Meeting Place: WalMart near 7044 Charlotte Pike parking lot just north of I-40. Meet at 7:30 am.

PLATEAU CHAPTER

(Crossville)

CHAPTER CHAIR: Cheryl Heckler 931-200-7436
plateau@tennesseetrails.org
TREASURER: Bill Quattrociochi 931-484-4230
plateautreas@tennesseetrails.org
MEETS MONTHLY: 2nd Thursday at 6:00 pm CT
BLOG: www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/plateau

There is a leaderless hike (typically 5 - 7 miles) every Wednesday morning. For additional information contact Bruce Whitehead at trailwalker80@gmail.com or 941-716-3620, or visit the Plateau Chapter Blog. Check blog for cancellations or changes before hiking.

Dec 3 - Black Mountain, Cumberland Trail. 5-8 miles. Moderately strenuous. Joint hike with the East TN Chapter. We will begin at the parking lot at the top of Black Mountain and head out on the first half of the loop trail stopping for a look at the southern overlook. We then descend through the "rock gateway" of rising narrow bluffs and house sized boulders. We continue down the mountain to Windless Cave where we will have lunch. At this point, hikers wishing for a shorter hike (5 miles) can return to the parking lot via the same route. Hikers willing to continue for an additional 1.5 miles (3 miles RT) will hike to the SR#68 trailhead and return via the same route. Upon ascending the bluffs, we return to the parking lot via the north side of the loop trail, stopping at the northern overlook. Bring water, lunch, sturdy boots and money for carpooling. Meet at Trinity Tabernacle at 8:30 am CT. For more information and to register contact Cheryl Heckler at 931-200-7436 or thehecklers@charter.net.

Dec 10 - Chapter Christmas Party. Come and enjoy the fun and food from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm across from the Fairfield Glade Community Library, upstairs in the Multi-Purpose Building. Bring a dish to share. We will have a "Dirty Santa Christmas" gift exchange. If you want to participate and to ensure everyone will receive a nice gift, bring a gift-wrapped item of around \$15. For more information contact Carol Q at quattrociochi@frontiernet.net or 931-484-4230.

SODDY-DAISY CHAPTER

CHAPTER CO-CHAIRS: Ed & Donna Pyers 423- 344-9271
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>

Dec 3 - Signal Point to Signal Mountain High School. Strenuous. Approximately 8-1/2 miles. Meet at Food City parking lot in Red Bank at 9 am. Hike leader: George Bonneau.

Dec 6 - Sterchi Farms. Approximately 4-5 miles. Easy. Meet at Target parking lot on Hwy 153 at 9 am. Hike leader: George Bonneau.

Dec 10 - Savage Gulf. Approximately 10 miles. Strenuous. Meet at Durham Street parking lot in Soddy Daisy at 9 am. Hike leader: George Bonneau.

Dec 13 - Blue Blazes. Approximately 3 miles. Easy. Meet at Food City parking lot in Red Bank at 9 am. Hike leader: George Bonneau.

Dec 17 - Heiss Mountain to Rock Climber's parking lot. Approximately 7 miles. Moderately strenuous. Meet at Durham Street parking lot in Soddy Daisy at 9 am. Hike leader: George Bonneau.

Dec 20 - Fall Creek Falls. Approximately 5 miles. Easy. Meet at Durham Street parking lot in Soddy Daisy at 9 am. Hike leader: George Bonneau.

Dec 27 - Elsie Holmes. Approximately 3-1/2 miles. Easy to moderate. Meet at Target parking lot on Hwy 153 at 9 am. Hike leader: Nancy Allen 423-344-1118.

Dec 31 - Snow Falls. Approximately 10-1/2 miles. Strenuous. Meet at Durham Street parking lot in Soddy Daisy at 9 am. Hike leader: George Bonneau.

SUMNER TRAILS CHAPTER

CHAPTER CO-CHAIRS: Sally Ticaric 615-218-1086
Bob Crouch

sumner@tennesseetrails.org

MEETS MONTHLY: 1st Monday at 7:00 pm CT.

Dec 13 - Holiday Party. 7 pm at Demos on Indian Lake Rd. We will do separate checks and an 18% gratuity will be added. Please RSVP to Barbara Krawchuk at Tnbeachbumr@aol.com or 615-822-6952 or Sally Ticaric at 615-824-7294 or daytrippersal@gmail.com by Sunday Dec. 10.

Dec 17 – Ashland City Bicentennial Greenway. 4 miles. Easy. This is a great one for winter hiking since it is paved and elevated above the sometimes muddy Cumberland River flood plain. This is a classic flat rails-to-trails which converted the old Tennessee Central Railroad tracks into a greenway. The first section has a bluff on one side and the Cumberland flood plain on the other - a couple of years ago we sighted a bald eagle on a limb on this section - further down we will cross some wood bridges over backwater but the highlight is an old iron trestle spanning Sycamore Creek near the end. Since this is a one-way walk it will necessitate a shuttle. After the hike we will have lunch at Riverview Restaurant in Ashland City. Meet for carpooling at Hendersonville First Presbyterian Church at 9 am CT or at the Mark's Creek trailhead on Chapmansboro Rd at 10 am CT. For further info contact Tennessee Central Al at ballallenger@aol.com.

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

UPPER CUMBERLAND CHAPTER

(Sparta / Cookeville)

CHAPTER CO-CHAIRS: Louise Miniard 931-239-5425
Jennifer Carroll 661-369-6619

uppercumberland@tennesseetrails.org

HIKE COORDINATORS: Kathleen Sullivan 931-284-7822
Cathy Moran 931-544-2764

uppercumberlandhikes@tennesseetrails.org

Dec 3 - Walls of Jericho. Walls of Jericho Wilderness and Recreation Area, Winchester, TN- Jackson Co., AL. The Walls of Jericho is a massive unique natural geological rock formation featuring 150-200 foot vertical limestone walls at the closed end of the half mile long narrow wooded canyon. The hike is about 9 miles total and is mostly downhill going into the gorge so the return trip is mostly uphill. The trail is often muddy after rains. There is a tricky descent from the trail to the stream, which can be hazardous, several stream crossings. The hike will begin at the TN trailhead, and return to the AL trailhead. This hike is rated strenuous. Bring hiking shoes, snacks, water, and lunch. You can meet at the trailhead at 9:00. Or call if carpooling is needed. To register, contact Cindy Watson and leave message 931-247-1459 or cgrwatson@gmail.com.

Dec 10 - Christmas social and hike Wolf Den Trail, part of CT, Crab Orchard. The hike is 5.8 miles. We will see rock houses, and a formation known as The Castle. Bring hiking boots, snacks, water, and lunch. Meet at J. C. Penney's parking lot in Cookeville at 8:00 am CT or at the trailhead on Hebbertsburg Road, Crab Orchard at 9:00 am CT. For information and to register for the hike, contact Louise Miniard at 931-239-5425 or lminiard@Flowserve.com. Christmas Social will begin at 5:00 pm CT. Bring a soup bowl to be donated to a local charity. For information and to sign up for a food item, RSVP to Kathleen Sullivan at 931-284-7822 or katsully4@gmail.com.

Dec 17 – Fiery Gizzard. For more information and to register contact Mike Shane at mikeshane@charter.net or 931-446-4306.

Dec 31 Savage Gulf, Peak Point, Savage Gulf State Natural Area, Beersheba Springs, TN. 9 miles. Strenuous. We will hike from the mouth of the gulf along the McMinnville-Chattanooga Stagecoach Road and other roads to the top of Peak Mountain. We will then walk through the woodland to Peak Point where there is a fine overlook. The walk on the plateau is over gentle terrain but vegetation may be dense in places. On the return trip we will stop at the site of the Savage Gulf School and visit the nearby cemetery. You can meet us at 7:00 am CT in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville, at the US Bank across from McDonald's in Sparta about 7:20, or at the Stone Door Ranger Station about 8:20. For information and to register contact Richard Savage at 931-526-2035 or savage_richard@hotmail.com.

OFFICERS:

President	Carolyn Miller	931-839-3213 <i>president@tennesseetrails.org</i>
Vice-President	Bruce Whitehead	941-716-3620 <i>vicepresident@tennesseetrails.org</i>
Treasurer	Kathy Woods	615-473-6824 <i>treasurer@tennesseetrails.org</i>
Secretary	Diane Manas	615-352-7777 <i>secretary@tennesseetrails.org</i>
Membership Director	Tim Townley	731-607-0512 <i>membership@tennesseetrails.org</i>
Past President	Millette Jones	615-397-9588 <i>pastpresident1@tennesseetrails.org</i>
Previous Past President	Don Dresser	731-668-4190 <i>pastpresident2@tennesseetrails.org</i>
West TN At-Large Director	Margaret Dixon	901-603-7680 <i>westregional@tennesseetrails.org</i>
Middle TN At-Large Director	Joan Hartvigsen	931-962-0811 <i>midleregional@tennesseetrails.org</i>
East TN At-Large Director	Garnett Rush	865-268-5181 <i>eastregional@tennesseetrails.org</i>
Cumberland Trail Conference Representative	Frank Jamison	865-376-4120 <i>CTC@tennesseetrails.org</i>
TN Rails To Trails Advisory Council Representative	Bob Richards	615-532-0753 <i>TRAC@tennesseetrails.org</i>
CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVES ON THE BOARD ARE LISTED WITHIN EACH CHAPTER'S HEADER		
Newsletter Editor	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>
Dec 10	Jan 1
Jan 10	Feb 1
Feb 10	Mar 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

INACTIVE CHAPTERS

We have three chapters in the process of being reorganized. If you are interested in assisting with this process, please see below for the contact information.

Cove Lake	Garnett Rush	865-268-5181 <i>eastregional@tennesseetrails.org</i>
Dyer County	Margaret Dixon	901-603-7680 <i>westregional@tennesseetrails.org</i>
Northwest	Margaret Dixon	901-603-7680 <i>westregional@tennesseetrails.org</i>

Evan Means Grant Applications Due

The Evan Means Grant program was established in February 1999 to honor Evan Means, one of the founders of TTA. This program funds trail related projects across the state and is open to TTA chapters, as well as to other non-profit, volunteer based organizations. For 2016, we budgeted \$5,000. Grant amounts should normally be in the range of \$300-\$600, but larger requests will be considered.

Some of the past projects funded by the Evan Means grant program include: Cumberland Trails Conference Alternative Spring Break, Friends of the South Cumberland Fiery Gizzard Trail Reroute, WATER trail projects at Tellico Reservoir, Friends of Short Springs State Natural Area – Bobo Creek Bridge, and Black Mountain Stair Repair.

Our normal cycle is to accept grant requests during the fourth quarter of each year, and then announce the awards the following February after the board has reviewed and approved the requests. However, requests may be considered at other times throughout the year and if funds are available.

If you are planning or coordinating a trails project in your area, now is the time to submit a request for funding for the 2017 grant cycle.

The website has a grant application. Alternatively, you may e-mail *grants@tennesseetrails.org* or Bob Richards at *Trailbob51@outlook.com* for more information or to request an application.

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

Dec 16

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

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 Trails 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. Please consider enhancing your commitment to Tennessee's great trails by joining the CTC.

Please list me with the following chapter:

- | | |
|---|--|
| ___ Clarksville | ___ Murfreesboro |
| ___ Columbia/Franklin | ___ Nashville |
| ___ Cove Lake (Inactive) | ___ Northwest (Inactive) |
| ___ Dyer County (Inactive) | ___ Plateau (Crossville) |
| ___ East TN (Oak Ridge/Knoxville) | ___ Soddy Daisy |
| ___ Highland Rim (Manchester/Tullahoma) | ___ Sumner Trails (Sumner County) |
| ___ Jackson | ___ Upper Cumberland (Sparta/Cookeville) |
| ___ Memphis | ___ 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 partner organization (CTC) and associate organization (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 any/all TTA/CTC/TRAC functions.