

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



2017 TTA MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

The TTA board would like to thank the members responding to the 2017 TTA online membership survey. Out of 462 invitations sent, 227 responded (49%).

Please review the summary of the survey results and share with your Chapter Chair or the TTA Membership Director any suggestions to help the TTA board improve the membership experience. The results are a tool that Chapters can use to assist in the Chapter planning. Individual Chapters do vary which is why it is important to share with your Chapter the ideas that may benefit your Chapter and ideas that may benefit TTA as a whole. Working as a team (board and members) we want to make this a delightful experience for our members. See contact information in this newsletter under the individual Chapter listings or back page for board listing.

Why are you a member of the TN Trails Association?

90% want to hike; 75% like hiking with friends; 72% want to learn about new trails; 67% like hiking to meet new people; 41% like the chapter meetings and other members.

How did you find about TTA? 56% friend or coworker; 19% other media such as newspaper; 15% internet search such as Google; 15% encountered a TTA member on a hike; 14% saw a newsletter or event poster; 3% booth at a public event; <1% social media such as Facebook.

How often do you like to hike? 32% 2 or more times per week; 30% twice per month; 26% once per week; 15% once per month; 5% once/twice per year; 3% once per quarter.

When do you hike? 84% on the weekends; 71% during the week.

What type of outings do you like to go on? 71% Day hikes less than 4-5 miles long; 66% day hikes 5+ miles long; 22% 2-3 day backpacking trips; 49% canoeing or kayaking trips; 20% biking on designated trails; 87% hikes to waterfalls; 67% hikes to geological formations; 38% hikes to caves; 38% walking in city parks on paved trails.

Preference on renewing your TTA membership? 61% join/renew online; 41% mail in form.

How do you want to receive the monthly newsletter? 52% electronically as a pdf; 31% paper copy mailed to your house; 19% both methods.

What age group? 50% 60-69; 35% 70+; 12% 50-59; 2% 40-49; <1 39 & under.

What is your gender? 57% female; 43% male.

To see the full survey results go to <http://www.tennesseehike.org> then Membership Services and 2017 Membership Survey Results.

Cheryl Heckler, Membership Director

50th Anniversary of TTA

2018 is the 50th anniversary of TTA. We plan to celebrate at the annual meeting at Brandon Springs Group Center in Dover October 26 – 28. The Clarksville Chapter will be hosting the meeting.

If you have ideas for the 50th anniversary celebration, please share with your chapter chairs, a member of the board of directors or the Clarksville Chapter.

All chapters are encouraged to consider compiling chapter histories (pictures are always welcome) to commemorate the past.



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: Teresa Kemmer
Email: ctcoffice2014@gmail.com
Website: www.cumberlandtrail.org

Save the dates!!

Jan 20 - CTC Board Meeting, Crossville.

Week of Feb 11 – 17 - Master Trail Building Training Certification.

Feb 11 – 15 Master Trail Building

Feb 16 – 17 Mechanized Training. Scheduled for the Crossville area.

Contact the CTC office for more information and to register.

Mar 4 – Mar 31: Spring Break Program (Alternative Spring Break) – Camp Ozone, Crossville area. Come join us for Spring Break. Enjoy the spring weather, work with energetic college students and add mileage to the Cumberland Trail.

Interested in writing grant proposals to fund the building of the Cumberland Trail? We will have a part-time position available in 2018. If interested, please contact the CTC office.

Want to help build the Cumberland Trail? Then join our trail building team on one of the regular trail days. Contact CTC office for current work site locations and to volunteer to join the crew. Training always provided.

Trail Crew News - The Central Crew and volunteers will now focus on completing the four miles remaining within Daddy's Creek Gorge in Catoosa WMA.

Not a trail builder, but want to volunteer in other ways? Consider being a cook during a planned program, hosting a group as a Camp Dad or Camp Mom, volunteer at the CTC office, or contact us with how you think that you can volunteer to serve CTC and help to build the Cumberland Trail.

Not sure how you can help build the Cumberland Trail!! Contact us and we will find a place for you.

CLARKSVILLE CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: J.R. Tate 931-220-1359
clarksville@tennesseetrails.org
CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVE: Paul Schwab 931-801-9484
clarksville@tennesseetrails.org
TREASURER: Mary Schwab 931-645-9068
clarksvilletreas@tennesseetrails.org
SECRETARY: Donna Burdick 931-220-8497
clarksvilleasec@tennesseetrails.org
OUTINGS COORDINATOR: Paul Schwab 931-801-9484
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>

Please call hike leaders to confirm hike time and meeting place.

Jan 1 - New Years Day hike, Montgomery Bell State, Park Montgomery Bell Trail. 5.4 miles. Moderate. Suva Bastin 931-645-2849. We will have a Pot Luck lunch on the trail. Meet 9:00 am CT, BigLots parking area, Riverside Drive, Clarksville, TN. 33 miles to trailhead.

Jan 6 - Clarksville Greenway, several distance options. Easy to moderate. Paul Schwab 931-801-9484. Meet 8:30 am CT at the end of Pollard Road.

Jan 13 - Erin Rails to Trails. 4 miles, out-and-back, level and paved. Easy. Eat lunch at Paul's Pizza which is where our hike ends. Bob Lyon 931-648-2354. Meet 8:30 am CT, BigLots parking area, Riverside Drive, Clarksville. 25 miles to trailhead.

Jan 15 - Martin Luther King's Birthday; LBL, Canal Loop Trail. 11.0 miles. Difficult due to length. Paul Schwab 931-801-9484. Meet 7:00 am CT, Kroger parking area, Dover Crossing Road, Clarksville. 77 miles to trailhead.

Jan 16 - Monthly Chapter Meeting.

Jan 27 – Ashland City Rails-to-Trails unpaved section. 6 miles out and back. Moderate due to length. Suva Bastin 931-645-2849. Meet 8:00 am CT, Madison Street Kmart parking lot, Clarksville. 18 miles to trailhead.

COLUMBIA/FRANKLIN CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: To be determined
columbia@tennesseetrails.org
HIKE COORDINATOR: Jane Coffey 615-516-6551
columbiahikes@tennesseetrails.org

MEETS QUARTERLY: Meets quarterly at the Barnabas Center at 506 Fair Street, Franklin, TN 37064. The Barnabas Center is located behind St. Paul's Episcopal Church. Social hour from 6:00 - 7:00 pm. Meeting at 7:00 pm.

Please check the TTA website for updates on our hikes.

Jan 2 - Chapter Meeting. The meeting will be held at the Barnabas Center. The Barnabas Center has a small working kitchen so you can bring your own food and microwave it if you choose. If you like, you can join us earlier than the 7:00 pm meeting time to eat and chat with other members of the chapter. We will be planning our future monthly hikes, and discussing "all things hiking." Contacts: Jane Coffey, *jecoffey0644@gmail.com* or Marvin Caine, *mlcaine@aol.com*.

Evan Means Grant Proposals 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. The proposed budget for 2018, pending board approval, is \$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, Black Mountain Stair Repair, StoryBook Trail at Edgar Evins and bridges at T.O. Fuller State Park.

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 be submitting a request for funding for the 2018 grant cycle.

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

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

No hikes scheduled for this month.

President's Corner

Happy New Year!!

It is a new year and the chance to get outdoors and hit the trails.

If you hiked more in 2017 than in 2016, then keep it up. If you hiked less in 2017 than in 2016, then perhaps 2018 is the year to increase your hiking miles.

For myself, I have been focusing on steps per day. As you might imagine, the days that I go on a hike are the days when I record the most steps.

Tennessee State Parks offer both New Year's Eve and New Year's Day hikes. To ring out the New Year or ring in the New Year, check out the hikes at state parks across the state. <http://tnstateparks.com/about/special-events/first-day-hikes>.

Happy Trails!!

Carolyn Miller
President

HIGHLAND RIM CHAPTER

(Coffee and Franklin Counties)

CHAPTER CHAIR: Mary Etta Ward 931-581-9906
highlandrim@tennesseetrails.org
SECRETARY Tanja Kendrick 931-224-6225
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.

Jan 1- Annual Multi-Chapter New Year's Day Hike. Edgar Evins State Park. Millennium Trail. 3.2 miles, moderate and Highland Rim Nature Trail, 2 miles, easy. Contact Joan Hartvigsen for carpool information at 931-962-0811 or *jhartvigs@comcast.net*. We need to be at Edgar Evins' covered picnic shelter at the marina parking lot at 10:00 am CT to drop off our potluck food and carpool to the Millennium Trail Head. We will then enjoy our potluck lunch under the covered picnic shelter with a warm fire in the fireplace. After lunch we will hike the Highland Rim Nature Trail.

Jan 6 – Collins West Hike past Suter Falls and Horsepound Falls to Sawmill Campground and beyond depending on time and darkness. South Cumberland State Park. Gruetli Laager, TN. 8 plus miles total mileage. Moderate due to boulder hopping at the beginning and an 800 ft. elevation change. Later the hike is very easy because it follows the river. Joint hike with the Murfreesboro Chapter. Bring water, lunch, snack, hiking sticks and head lamps. Water shoes would be helpful for possible water crossings. Email Marietta Poteet, *nannietta@blomand.net* or Jan Safavi, *safavi.jan@gmail.com*, to register and for more information.

Jan 13 - Sewanee Perimeter Trail Section. Sewanee, TN. Forestry Cabin (Gate 5) through Shakerag Hollow to eastern University Gates at Highway 41A. Moderate. 5 miles. We will leave vehicles at the eastern University Gates and begin our hike at Gate 5 off Brakefield Road. We will enjoy many great views, including Cherry Point, Rutledge Point, KA Point. We will hike down into Shakerag Hollow and see mature hardwood forests and tall cliffs and wet weather waterfalls. Bring water, snacks and lunch. Bring hiking poles and wear sturdy hiking boots. Meet at the Blue Chair Café, 35 University Avenue, Sewanee, TN at 9:00 am CT. Please register with Joan Hartvigsen, *jhartvigs@comcast.net* or 931-962-0811.

Highland Rim Chapter – con't.

Jan 20 - Sixteenth Annual Poteets' Chilly Chili Hike. Sherwood Forest, Sewanee, TN. 3 miles. Easy to moderate. Join Marietta and Jim for their annual Chilly Chili Hike. For the Chilly Chili hike, we will hike the new Sherwood Forest Acquisition, the latest land acquisition of the South Cumberland State Park. We will hike the trail to a beautiful overlook of Lost Cove and to a natural bridge. Following these points of interest, we will hike the partially complete trail around the ridge where we will continue to get spectacular views. The trail is approximately 3 miles long rated easy to moderate due to the trail being partially completed. There will be a bail out place for those who do not want to walk the incomplete portion of trail. For directions to the trailhead, email Marietta Poteet at *nannietta@blomand.net*. Please meet at the trailhead at 9:00 am CT. If the weather turns bad, we will hike an alternate trail. After our chilly hike we will proceed to the Poteets' Monteagle home for chili, cornbread, brownies and fixin's. We will have a variety of drinks. If you are not hiking please come to the Poteets' home at 12:00 pm CT. If you can, please bring a side dish or dessert to share with hungry hikers. Further information will be forthcoming. Call or email Marietta at 931-924-7666 or *nannietta@blomand.net*. If possible, please let the Poteets know you plan to attend. The Poteets live in Cliff Tops, 525 Huckleberry Place, Monteagle, TN.

Jan 22 – Chapter Meeting. Join us at 5:00 pm CT for dinner at Applebee's Neighbor Grill & Bar, 1957 N. Jackson Street, Tullahoma. Our meeting is 7:00 pm at D. W. Wilson Community Center. We will plan our hikes, floats, camping trips and all other fun activities. Please bring your bucket list. If you cannot make the meeting please email your ideas to Joan Hartvigsen, *jhartvigs@comcast.net*.

Jan 26- 28 – Brady Mountain Section of the Cumberland Trail. Crossville, TN. 8 miles. Moderately strenuous. Some rocky steep sections. Cumulative elevation change of 2,000 ft. Joint hike with the Murfreesboro Chapter. Hike on Jan 27. Vehicle shuttle required. We will begin the hike at the Jewett Road Trailhead and hike north to the Brady Mountain trailhead at Route 68. The Brady Mountain Section includes a beautiful ridge-line hike with a panoramic lookout over Grassy Cove at Brady Bluff overlook. Register with our hike leader, Sara Pollard, *sarapollard@gmail.com* or 615-714-3610 for the hike. We have reserved Cabin #27 at Cumberland Mountain State Park Friday and Saturday nights. Contact Joan Hartvigsen *jhartvigs@comcast.net* or 931-962-0811 soon to reserve a space in the cabin. Sunday morning we will visit nearby Ozone Falls State Natural Area for a half mile round trip hike to Ozone Falls.

JACKSON CHAPTER

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

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

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

OUTINGS COORDINATOR: Glen Rognstad 731-217-5966
jacksonhikes@tennesseetrails.org
(call Glen & volunteer to lead an outing)

MEETS MONTHLY: 1st Tuesday at Perkins Restaurant, Vann Drive, Jackson. Socializing & dinner starts at 6:00 pm CT; meeting starts 6:45 pm

Jan 2 – Chapter Meeting. We will start the new year with a dinner meeting at Perkins restaurant. Dinner will be at 6 pm; the meeting will start after dinner. If you cannot make the meeting, please let Melinda know what hikes you would like to have put on our schedule for the next few months. She can be reached at 731 225 4293 or *hurstme@bellsouth.net*.

Jan 6 – Mousetail Landing SP. 7 miles. We will walk a loop at Mousetail Landing, led by Terry McCoy. You can reach Terry at 731 535 0625 or *terrymccoy832@yahoo.com*. Please let her know if you plan to come. Again, carpooling is available; we will leave from Panera at 8:00 am. Let Terry know whether you plan to carpool or meet at the Mousetail visitor center.

Jan 27 – Lady Finger Bluff Small Wild Area. This will be a shorter, easy walk from the trailhead out to the river overlook. Glen Rognstad will lead the hike. If you plan to come, please let him know. You can reach him at 731-217-5966 or *glenrognstad@gmail.com*. Let Glen know whether you plan to carpool with us.

Planning Ahead:

Feb 10 – Land Between the Lakes NRA. We will walk one of the loops that start at Fort Henry, on the west side of LBL. Don Dresser will lead the hike. The length of the walk will be between 6 and 8 miles. Please let Don know if you plan to come. Carpooling is available; we will leave from Panera at 8:00 am. Let me know if you plan to carpool or wish to meet us at the Fort Henry trailhead.

Apr 7 – Wildflower Hike. Glen Rognstad will lead our annual wildflower hike, probably to Sewanee with a stopover at Bluebell Island. The exact location will depend on how the weather develops this spring.

MEMPHIS CHAPTER

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

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

Jan 1 - T.O. Fuller State Park, 1500 Mitchell Road. New Year's Day Hike. Meet at the Campground (NOT the Visitor Center) at 9:30 am. The Discovery Loop Trail is four miles long and ranges from moderate to strenuous. It includes part of the Nature Bluff Trail of Chucalissa Indian Village. Hiking boots or sturdy shoes recommended. Bring water and a snack. Rain/sleet/snow will cancel the hike. Contact for information: Wayne Simpson, 901-385-1988. Directions: From I-55, take Exit 7 South to Highway 61 (3rd Street). Drive approximately 1.5 miles. Turn right onto Mitchell Rd, continue 3 miles west to the T. O. Fuller Park sign. In the park, continue on Mitchell Rd. Turn left onto Boxtown Rd, turn right at a fork in the road, then turn left into the camp ground and park along road. Contact: Wayne Simpson, *w.simpson1@comcast.net* 901-385-1988.

Jan 6 - Herb Parsons Lake State Park, Fisherville. Here's an easy 6-mile hike around the lake and through the woods. Meet at 9:30 am at the lake and bring snacks and water. Rain or snow will cancel. For questions contact Nancy Wark, 901-240-1521.

Jan 13 - Lucius Burch Natural Area Wolf River South of Walnut Grove. Meet at 9:00 am in the unpaved parking lot on the south side of Walnut Grove immediately east of the Wolf River. The hike will be 5 to 6 miles on the Yellow/Blue/White trails. If there has been rain we may have a stream crossing. In that case a hiking stick will be useful. Bring water and a snack. Rain or snow will cancel the hike. For additional information call Nancy Wark, 901-240-1521.

Jan 20 - Nesbit Park, Bartlett. Meet at 9:00 am in Nesbit Park parking lot. We will hike the white trail with possible additions for a total of 4 to 6 miles. Bring water and a snack, hiking boots suggested. Allow 3 hours for this hike. Rain or snow will cancel this hike. Contact: *charlie.bright2010@gmail.com*. Nesbit Park is on Yale Road between Bartlett Blvd and Old Brownsville Rd on the north side of Yale.

Jan 27 - Tour de Wolf Trail, Shelby Farms. Woody will lead a 6 mile, easy hike along the Tour de Wolf "off road" bicycle course. This trail is not paved; so, wear sturdy shoes or boots. We will meet at the Shelby Farms Visitor Center at 9:00 am sharp. Rain or snow will cancel the hike. For information, contact Woody Pierce at 901-755-5635 or *woodyperce2@gmail.com*.

MURFREESBORO CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Tony Jones 615-397-4463
murfreesboro@tennesseetrails.org

TREASURER: Sara Pollard 615-714-3610
murfreesborotreas@tennesseetrails.org

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

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

BLOGMASTER Craig McBride 615-394-6121
murfreesboroblog@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

Jan 1 - New Year's Day Hike. Edgar Evins State Park. Silver Point, between Smithville and Cookeville. ALL TTA CHAPTERS AND MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO THE NEW YEAR'S DAY 1ST HIKE AND FEAST AT EDGAR EVINS STATE PARK. Meet at 10:00 am CT in the marina parking lot next to the covered picnic shelters to sign in, drop off food, and a group picture. Then we'll carpool to the trail head for a 2 ½ mile easy to moderate hike led by a Park Ranger on the Millennium Trail before returning to a blazing fire, hot beverages and a hearty lunch. Bring a prepared dish to share of foods you would normally enjoy New Year's Day. Disposable plates, cups and utensils will be furnished by Friends of Edgar Evins State Park. There are electrical outlets. After the meal those who wish to hike more may do the easy to moderate 2 mile Highland Rim Nature Trail next to the Visitors Center. For information, contact Fount or Anna Bertram, fwbertram@dtccom.net or 615-765-5357.

Jan 6 - Collins Gulf West. South Cumberland State Park. 8 miles. Moderately difficult. Joint hike with the Highland Rim chapter. Out and back to Sawmill campsite. We'll hike past Suter Falls and Horsepound Falls, on to cross the Collins riverbed and proceed to Sawmill campsite. We might go further if we have good weather, make good time and folks want to. Since we will be crossing the riverbed-you need to bring trekking poles and even water shoes would be a good idea. With winter weather there may be icy or snowy spots. Even if the roads are clear the shaded areas along the trail can stay icy and slick. Please come prepared by dressing in layers appropriate for the weather and bring water, snacks, trekking poles, water shoes and/or waterproof boots. A headlamp is also a good idea as well. We'll carpool from Murfreesboro and meet up with other folks at the Collins Gulf West parking area. Contact Jan Safavi at 615-390-9146 or safavi.jan@gmail.com for details.

Jan 9 – Chapter Meeting. Tony Jones will present a slide presentation on a recent trip to New York City. From Times Square to Central Park, Harlem, Ground Zero, Top of the Rock and much more.

Murfreesboro Chapter – con't.

Jan 20 - 16th Annual Poteet Chilly Chili Hike. We will hike the new Sherwood Forest Acquisition, the latest land acquisition of the South Cumberland State Park. We will hike the trail to a beautiful overlook of Lost Cove and to a natural bridge. Following these points of interest, we will hike the partially completed trail around the ridge where we will continue to get spectacular views. The trail is approximately 3 miles long rated easy to moderate due the trail being partially completed. There will be a bail out place for those who do not want to walk the incomplete portion of trail. For directions to the trailhead, email Marietta Poteet at nannietta@blomand.net. Please meet at the trailhead at 9:00 am CT. If the weather turns bad, we will hike an alternate trail. For carpool information from Murfreesboro, contact Sara Pollard at 615-714-3610 or sarabpollard@gmail.com.

Jan 27 - Cumberland Trail. Brady Mountain Section. Crossville. 8 miles. Moderately strenuous. Joint hike with the Highland Rim Chapter. We will begin the hike at the Jewett Road Trailhead and hike north to the Brady Mountain trailhead at TN Highway 68. There are some rocky steep sections and a cumulative elevation change of 2000 feet. The Brady Mountain Section includes a beautiful ridge-line hike with a panoramic view of Grassy Cove at Brady Bluff overlook. There is the option of spending Friday and Saturday nights in Cabin #27 at Cumberland Mountain State Park in Crossville. Sunday morning we will visit nearby Ozone Falls State Natural area for a half mile round trip to Ozone Falls. If interested in staying in the cabin, contact Joan Hartvigsen at 931-962-0811 or jhartvigs@comcast.net soon to reserve a space in the cabin. To sign up for the Brady Mountain day hike, contact Sara Pollard at 615-714-3610 or sarabpollard@gmail.com.

Joining TTA as a New Member? Membership Up For Renewal? Your Generosity Benefits All !

When you join or renew your Tennessee Trails membership, you have the opportunity to become a Supporting Member by donating a little (or a lot) above the regular dues.

In the past, Supporting Member donations in excess of the regular dues were allocated to TTA's general operating fund. During the 2001 Annual Meeting, TTA's Board of Directors voted to allocate Supporting Member donations to the Evan Means Small Grants Fund. Your tax-deductible Supporting Member donations will now directly benefit trail projects throughout the state of Tennessee. We thank you all for your support of TTA at any membership level, but we hope you will enrich Tennessee's trail system by joining or renewing as a Supporting Member.

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

Jan 6 - Percy Warner Park, Nashville TN. 11.2 miles. Strenuous for distance. Come out and work off some of those Holiday goodies with a long walk in one of Nashville's prettiest parks! We will meet at the newish Percy Warner Golf Club House, 1221 Forrest Park Dr, Nashville TN 37205 and walk an 11.2 mile loop on the paved roads in the park. Bring water, snacks, lunch, footwear for a long hike on asphalt roads, and clothing appropriate for the weather. Option 1: There will be a 6-mile option for those who want to cut the loop short and know the route back. Option 2: Stop for a warm-up, refreshments, etc. about halfway along at the Harpeth Hills Golf Club House. Contact Doug Burroughs at dougburroughs@tennessee.usa.com or leave a message at 615-587-0085 for more information and to register for this hike.

Jan 20 - Carpool to the Poteet's Chilly Chili Hike in Monteagle / Sewanee. Hike the new Sherwood Forest Acquisition, the latest land acquisition of the South Cumberland State Park. See the Highland Rim Chapter section for full description, including for the chili and pot luck afterward. The hike starts at 9:00 am in Franklin County. Contact Doug Burroughs at dougburroughs@tennessee.usa.com or leave a message at 615-587-0085 for more information about carpooling to this fun event.

Jan 23 - Chapter Meeting. The Tennessee Naturalist program offers nature lovers the opportunity to advance their own knowledge and understanding of the natural world in our state, and to pass it on to others by volunteering. There are now eight chapters of Tennessee Naturalists around the state. Bill Loewer of Cedars of Lebanon State Park administers the chapter based at his park, and he will be describing the program at our January meeting. Find out how you can be certified as a Tennessee Naturalist and pay it forward. Bring a nature-loving friend!

Nashville Chapter – con't.

Jan 27 - Eagle Pass section of the Bicentennial Cumberland River Trail, Ashland City, TN. 6.5 miles. Easy. This is a beautiful time of year to hike this trail that runs alongside the Cumberland River. With the leaves off the trees the river is visible for most of the 2.5 miles to the Corp of Engineers Campground at Lock A. Wild fowl abound and the bluffs provide a nice backdrop to the river scene. Once we arrive at the campground we will ascend a short 1.5 mile trail to a spectacular overlook and then wind our way back down to the Eagle Pass trail for the 2.5 mile return trip. There is a nice picnic shelter at the campground where we can stop for snacks and refreshment before returning to our cars at the parking area on Chapmansboro Rd. The trail is flat but it's advisable to wear hiking boots or at least sturdy trail runners. Bring water and snacks. You may also want to bring hiking poles and binoculars. Call or text Nancy Juodenas at 615-319-8811 or e-mail at njlj1011@gmail.com for information and to register.

SEFTC Winter Hike Week

The Southeastern Foot Trails Coalition will hold their annual Leadership Conference meeting and winter hiking event this coming January 25-28, 2018, 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. For more information and to register, visit the website at <http://www.southeasternfoottrails.org/>

PLATEAU CHAPTER

(Crossville)

CHAPTER CHAIR: Bruce Whitehead 941-716-3620

plateau@tennesseetrails.org

TREASURER: Gena Whitehead 941-716-3620

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 on any of the scheduled hikes, contact the hike coordinator, Deb Westervelt, via email plateauhikes@tennesseetrails.org or text/call 931-267-2243. For a list of monthly hikes, visit the Plateau Chapter Blog. **Check the blog one hour prior to hike time for cancellation or for any other updates/changes to our schedule before hiking.**

Jan 3 – CT Mullens Cove Loop, Prentice Cooper State Forest, Chattanooga. 9.8 miles. Moderate to strenuous.

Those wishing a shorter hike may retrace their steps at any point either going east from the Trailhead to the Indian Rockhouse and Stone Door or west to follow Short Creek featuring a lot of rock hopping. Depart 8 am CT from Trinity Tabernacle Church on Hwy 127 South. Carpool cost is \$8. Pack water, snacks and lunch.

Jan 10 – CT Soddy Gorge North. Soddy Daisy.

From the Little Soddy Trailhead we will travel North through the old mining camp to the Deep Creek suspension bridge and back for 8 moderate miles. Depart 8 am CT from Trinity Tabernacle Church on Hwy 127 South. Carpool cost is \$7. Pack water, snacks and lunch.

Jan 11 – Chapter Meeting.

6 pm CT at First United Methodist Church Annex, 69 Neecham Street, Crossville. Join us for dinner beforehand at 5 pm CT at LaCosta Restaurant (near Burkes). Program: Blue Bird Monitoring by Don Hazel. Contact Chapter Chair, Bruce Whitehead, 941-716-3620 or email plateau@tennesseetrails.org if you intend to join us for dinner.

Jan 17 – Big South Fork Laurel Fork Creek Trail.

Via the West Entrance Trailhead this will be an 8.4 mile moderate in and out hike along the creek. Depart from Cracker Barrel back parking lot at 8 am CT. Carpool cost is \$5. Pack water, snacks and lunch.

Jan 20 – South Cumberland State Park Denny Cove/Foster Falls. 8 miles.

Denny Cove is a 3 mile strenuous hike due to rock scrambling to a fabulous waterfall and rock climber cliffs. Foster Falls is a 5 mile moderate hike. First we will hike down to view Foster Falls (if there is any water), then on along the bottom of the cliff (used for climbing or rappelling). Depart 8 am CT Trinity Tabernacle Church on Hwy 127 South. Carpool cost is \$8. Pack water, snacks and lunch.

Plateau Chapter – con't.

Jan 24 – CT Piney River Trail, Spring City. This will be a moderate to strenuous (due to rocks) 7.4 mile one-way requiring a car shuttle. Depart 8 am CT Trinity Tabernacle Church on Hwy 127 South. Carpool cost is \$3. Pack water, snacks and lunch.

Jan 27 – Smoky Mountains - Gold Mine/Cane Creek Trail, Tallassee.

This is an 11 mile in and out hike to an abandoned gold mine, site of the Monkey House, creek crossings, Buchanan cemetery, Hesse and Nebo Quartzite. The hike is rated strenuous to due to the length and a 500 foot elevation gain. Depart VF Outlet Mall at 7:15 am CT. Carpool cost is \$10. Pack water, snacks and lunch.

Jan 31 – Bearwaller Gap Trail, Carthage.

This is a moderate 6 mile hike surrounding the Cordell Hull Dam in Carthage from the Bearwaller Gap Trail-Blue to Tater Knob overlook. At the point near the Defeated Creek entrance to the trail, a rock outcropping overhanging the trail contains fossils of animals that lived 300 million yrs ago. Between Two Prong and the overlook are many traces of early settlements. Depart from Cracker Barrel back parking lot at 8 am CT. Carpool cost is \$8. This hike will require a short car shuttle. Pack water, snacks and lunch.

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.

TTA 2018 1st Quarter Board Meeting
Saturday, February 3
1:00 PM
Bob Brown Field Station building
Percy Warner Park
7199 TN-100, Nashville, TN 37221

SODDY-DAISY CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Jean Smith 423- 596-7681
soddydaisy@tennesseetrails.org
TREASURER: Robertson (Bob) McGavock 423-667-2960
soddydaisytreas@tennesseetrails.org
HIKE COORDINATOR: George Bonneau 423-842-3619
soddydaisyhikes@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>

Welcome and Introductions

Secretary's Report –

- Approval of the Minutes of November 2017 General meeting
- Approval of the Minutes of November 2017 Board meeting
- Approval of the Minutes of the November 2017 Organizational meeting as per the new bylaws.

Treasurer's Report

- Results for 4th quarter 2017
- Approve Budget for 2018

Membership Report

New Business

- Evan Means Grants
- 2017 Annual Meeting Update
 - Board Vote: Fund Raising Use of 2018 Annual Meeting proceeds
- Standing Committee Appointments: (requesting board approval)
 - Board Vote: Nominating Committee
 - Awards Committee Nominating committee – 3 positions open for members
 - Communications committee – 1 position open for a member
 - Approve members: Finance Committee
- Special committee Appointments: (requesting board approval)
 - Website Committee
 - Evan Means Grant Committee
- TTA 50th Anniversary Celebration (2018)

Old Business

- Website Update

Jan 2 - White Oak Mountain. Approximately 4-1/2 miles. Moderate. Meet at Target parking lot on Hwy 153 at 9 am. Hike leader: Donna Pyers 344-9271.

Jan 6 - Roaring Creek (5 miles in and 5 miles out). Strenuous. Meet at Durham Street parking lot in Soddy Daisy at 9 am. Hike Leader: John Politte 423-304-8327.

Jan 9 - Nickajack Connector Trail. Approximately 6 miles. Moderate. Meet at Food City parking lot in Red Bank at 9 am. Hike leader: Donna Pyers 344-9271.

Jan 13 - Savage Gulf - south rim (5 miles in and 5 miles out). Moderate to Strenuous. Meet at Durham Street parking lot in Soddy Daisy at 9 am. Hike leader: George Bonneau 423-842-3619.

Jan16 - Roaring Creek to McGill Creek and back. Approximately 5 miles. Moderate. Meet at Durham Street parking lot in Soddy Daisy at 9 a.m. Hike leader: George Bonneau 842-3619.

Jan 20 - North Chickamauga Creek. Approximately 9 miles. Strenuous. Meet at Walmart parking lot in Soddy Daisy at 9 am. Hike leader: John Politte 423-304-8327.

Jan 23 – Sewanee Perimeter Trail, Sewanee, TN. 6.1 miles. Moderate to strenuous. We will hike portions of the Sewanee Perimeter trail starting at the University Gate TH on Hwy 41. We will descend onto the Shakerag Hollow section and hike to the intersection of the KA Point trail. We will then hike to KA Point. We will return on the same trail back to the intersection climb the stone steps to Green's View. We will return to the University Gate on the Breckwidth trail. There will be an alternate trail for those that do not want to go up steps. Meet at the Publix parking lot on North Market Street at 9 am. Hike leader: Delores Ladd 214-422-7206.

Jan 27 - Lula Lake. Approximately 4.5 miles. Moderate. Meet at Food City parking lot in Red Bank at 9 am. Hike leader: George Bonneau 842-3619.

Jan 30 - Harrison Bay State Park. Easy. Approximately 4.5 miles. Meet at Target parking lot on Hwy 153 at 9 am. Hike leader: Eddie Pyers 344-9271.

SUMNER TRAILS CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Lynn Takacs 615-479-7702
summer@tennesseetrails.org

Jan 13 - Eagle Pass Section of Cumberland River Bicentennial Trail. 3.5 miles. Easy. We will start from the Sycamore Harbor trailhead which is on Chapmansboro Road about 3.5 miles from Hwy 12. We will leave a car at the end of the trail near Cheatham Lock and Dam to bring the drivers back to our trailhead after the hike - during this shuttle time we can hike south on the paved greenway to the classic trestle over Sycamore Creek embayment. The Eagle Pass trail is a rails-to-trails greenway on gravel and dirt surface and mostly on a bluff overlooking the Cheatham Lake part of the Cumberland River with nice views - in late November we saw a flock of gulls out on the lake and I have heard reports that White Pelicans were spotted on their migration way back South. And who knows, we might spot the eagle that the trail was named after. Meet at Hendersonville First Presbyterian Church parking lot at 9 am CT for carpooling. We will make a pit stop at McDonalds in Ashland City about 9:45 or so. After the hike we will have lunch at Riverview Restaurant across the river from Ashland City. For further info contact River Rat Al at *ballallenger@aol.com*.

Jan 20 - Bledsoe Creek State Park. 3.5 mile loop. Easy to Moderate. There is one steep climb with steps. In the fall of 1771 a group of "Long Hunters" came to what is now Sumner County. One of these was Isaac Bledsoe who had a fort and creek named after him. The State Park here is named after this same Colonel. Our hike is a loop hike which will take us alongside Old Hickory Lake and then on a high ridge back to where we started near the visitor center. Al Ballenger did this one year in the snow and it was beautiful. After the hike we will eat at a restaurant to be decided. Meet at the First Presbyterian Church, 172 Main St at 9:00 am CT in Hendersonville or at the visitor center at 9:45. For further info contact Lea Whitton 615-289-4842 or *mwhitton353@gmail.com*.

UPPER CUMBERLAND CHAPTER

(Sparta / Cookeville)

CHAPTER CO-CHAIRS: Jennifer Carroll 661-369-6619
uppercumberland@tennesseetrails.org

HIKE COORDINATORS: Cathy Moran 931-544-2764
uppercumberlandhikes@tennesseetrails.org

Hike information unavailable at press time.

Board Positions for 2018

We currently have four open positions for 2018: Vice President, West Tennessee Regional Director, and two members to serve on the board.

If 2018 is your year to serve, please contact one of the officers or regional directors to submit your name for further consideration by the entire board of directors.

Committee openings include:

Nominating committee – 3 positions open for members.

Awards committee – Vice President, West Tennessee Regional Representative and several other members.

Communications committee – 1 position open for a member.

Special committees:

Website Committee – we need several members to get the website committee extremely active. The goal is to have a new website in 2018.

Evan Means Grant Committee (To be appointed)

OFFICERS:

President

Carolyn Miller 931-839-3213
president@tennesseetrails.org

Vice-President

Vacancy
vicepresident@tennesseetrails.org

Treasurer

Kathy Woods 615-473-6824
treasurer@tennesseetrails.org

Secretary

Jackie York 615-294-8241
secretary@tennesseetrails.org

At-large Directors (terms expiring listed after name)

Carolyn Miller (2018) 931-839-3213
president@tennesseetrails.org

Jackie York (2018) 615-294-8241
secretary@tennesseetrails.org

Kathy Woods (2018) 615-473-6824
treasurer@tennesseetrails.org

Jim Poteet (2019) 931-924-7666
board@tennesseetrails.org

Vacancy (2019)
board@tennesseetrails.org

Vacancy (2019)
board@tennesseetrails.org

Cheryl Heckler (2020) 931-200-7436
membership@tennesseetrails.org

Linda Latter (2020) 615-419-4845
board@tennesseetrails.org

Vacancy (2020)
board@tennesseetrails.org

Regional Directors

West TN

Vacancy (2020)
westregional@tennesseetrails.org

Middle TN

Joan Hartvigsen (2019) 931-962-0811
midlleregional@tennesseetrails.org

East TN

Garnett Rush (2018) 865-268-5181
eastregional@tennesseetrails.org

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

Newsletter Editor

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

2018 TTA Board of Directors Meetings

Saturday, Feb 3: 1 PM

Bob Brown Field
Station building at
Percy Warner Park,
Nashville 7199 TN-
100, Nashville, TN
37221

Saturday, May 5: 1 PM

Bob Brown Field
Station building at
Percy Warner Park,
Nashville 7199 TN-
100, Nashville, TN
37221

Saturday, Aug 4: 1 PM

Location to be
announced.

Sunday, Oct 28: 9 AM

Brandon Springs
Group Center, Dover.

Newsletter Deadlines:

Deadlines for Chapter announcements and articles of special interest are due on the 10th of each month for the following month's newsletter.

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

Please note: Newsletter submissions to the "editor" address are automatically copied to the webmaster for inclusion on the TTA website.

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

Jan 18

RENEWING MY MEMBERSHIP

Memberships are for one year, unless you have a Lifetime Membership.
Gift Memberships are also available. Contact our Membership Director,
Cheryl Heckler 931-200-7436 membership@tennesseetrails.org

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

PLEASE, PRINT CLEARLY.

___ Individual \$25.00

___ Family \$35.00

___ Student (FULL TIME) \$15.00

___ Supporting (\$50.00, \$100.00 or more)

___ Life Member (Individual) \$500.00

___ Life Member (Family) \$750.00

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Home Phone (_____) _____ Zip _____ -- _____

Cell 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.

** _____ **

Please list me with the following chapter:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| ___ Clarksville | ___ Murfreesboro |
| ___ Columbia/Franklin | ___ Nashville |
| ___ East TN (Oak Ridge/Knoxville) | ___ Plateau (Crossville) |
| ___ Highland Rim (Manchester/Tullahoma) | ___ Soddy Daisy |
| ___ Jackson | ___ Sumner Trails (Sumner County) |
| ___ Memphis | ___ 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 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.