

# 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.*

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## TINY TRAILS FOR TIMELESS TREASURES

*Written by Jeff Steele, Freelance Writer and Novelist*

March - what a month to be outdoors! All the natural surroundings are in an accelerated state of change. Changes can easily be seen in the turning of the foliage, as it springs forth in arrays of green, birds sing as they build nests, and animals scurry across the forest floor in preparation of raising new offspring. Nature is so entertaining to us as adults, but just think of how fantastic and unique these sites can be for children and grandchildren. Adventures shared using our trail systems create lasting memories. In fact, it is the tiny trail that provides timeless treasures as you introduce hiking to your loved ones.

Children genuinely enjoy a hike; it's understandable since outdoors they are free to be kids in pursuit of activities they love to do - running, climbing, throwing sticks or rocks, even playing in a stream. They are thrilled with the observation of bugs, flowers, trees, wildlife and all the world around them. To assure that those kinds of emotions stay positive it requires some trail selection and common sense.

Keeping the distance short is very important to appeal to the child's desire for a repeat experience; this is especially true for the very young. Little legs tire fast and if the trek is too long they may have an adverse experience, then the next time you mention hiking they may balk at the idea. Consider starting off with trails that are less than a mile in length.

Today's technology can aid in determining where to find these small hiking gems. Mobile applications such as All Trails will assist you in locating trails based on your choices. The trail apps allow you to input criteria per your specifications, then shows you trails which match up with the adventure you are seeking. By performing a search using the All Trails app today, and filtering for trails up less than one mile, easy and kid-friendly, I pulled up one hundred and thirteen trails that matched - all within a twenty-five-mile radius of my location.

Safety is paramount, not just with children but also with anyone who is hiking. Knowing the trail is the best practice. Here again, mobile apps are great tools since they provide you with maps, pictures and often offer trail reviews. You can always pre-hike the trail making notes of any risks. Still, be ready and prepared for the small things too. Things such as scrapes, minor cuts, stings, may happen; if they do, you will be glad that you packed that first aid kit. Watch the heat and hydrate often.

You can add to the fun with themed hikes such as who can find a bird feather? Start a rock collection on one trip, a leaf collection on another, or ask your hiker/s to hunt a fossil. Get them hooked on hiking and the outdoors and you will give them a lifetime filled with lots of treasures.



Note: The collection and removal of items from Tennessee state parks is prohibited or restricted. Also the possession of feathers and other parts from protected species is illegal without proper permits.

*Citation:*

<http://tnstateparks.com/about/policies>

Preservation of Public Property, Natural Features, Curiosities & Resources

<https://www.fws.gov/lab/featheratlas/featherlaw.html>

Feathers and the Law – United States Fish and Wildlife Service

<https://www.alltrails.com/mobile>



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It is not too late to volunteer for the 2018 Alternative Spring Break (Breakaway) Trail building program sponsored by CTC. **The 2018 BreakAway is scheduled for March 4 to March 31 near Crab Orchard, TN.**

The BreakAway/Alternative Spring Break for 2018 marks the 23rd year that CTC has hosted college students from all over the United States to extend the CT.

BreakAway this year works on the link between Black Mountain and Ozone Falls in Cumberland County. If you have never volunteered during BreakAway, consider making the time this year. Over 160 college students will join the paid crew and a dozen local volunteers to make the connection happen!

Never built trail before? Not sure what this is all about? No problem. You will be assigned to a crew led by an experienced Wagon Master (crew leader) and learn along with the students. Lodging, meals, and trail tools are provided. Routine work days are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, but may change based on the weather. Sunday after dinner is reserved for orientation, introductions and a safety demonstration.

Call the CTC Office and let them know what day – or days – you expect to be there. They will provide directions and information on accommodations. 931-456-6259 or email: [ctcoffice2014@gmail.com](mailto:ctcoffice2014@gmail.com).



## CLARKSVILLE CHAPTER

**CHAPTER CHAIR:** J.R. Tate 931-220-1359  
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**CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVE:** Paul Schwab 931-801-9484  
[clarksville@tennesseetrails.org](mailto:clarksville@tennesseetrails.org)  
**TREASURER:** Mary Schwab 931-645-9068  
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**SECRETARY:** Donna Burdick 931-220-8497  
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**OUTINGS COORDINATOR:** Paul Schwab 931-801-9484  
[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.

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

**Mar 3 - Rotary Park, Clarksville. 3 miles. Moderate.**  
Renate Gillis 931-624-3148. Meet 8:30 am CT, first shelter on left after entering park.

**Mar 10 - Montgomery Bell State, Park Montgomery Bell Trail. 5.4 miles. Moderate.** Suva Bastin 931-645-2849. Meet 8:00 am CT, BigLots parking area, Riverside Drive, Clarksville, TN. 33 miles to trailhead.

**Mar 17 - Irish Day Parade and Arts & Crafts Festival, Erin TN.** Wear green. There will be food vendors. Paul Schwab 931-801-9484. Meet 8:00 am CT, BigLots parking area, Riverside Drive, Clarksville, TN. 25 miles to trailhead.

**Mar 20 - Monthly Chapter Meeting.**

**Mar 24 - LBL, Canal Loop Trail. 11.0 miles. Difficult due to length.** John Harris 270-227-9871. Meet 7:00 am CT, Kroger parking area, Dover Crossing Road, Clarksville. 77 miles to trailhead.

## Carpool Etiquette

Gasoline prices have continued to roller coaster up and down. Please be considerate and take your turn as a carpool driver. If you are a rider, always contribute to the cost of gasoline (i.e. bring small bills, it'll save time and prevent the inconvenience of having to stop to locate change).

Your driver is not a chauffeur. Assist him or her by reading the map and/or directions to the trailhead. Help your driver remain alert on the drive home by staying awake and conversing.

All passengers must wear seat belts to minimize the risk of injury in case of an accident !!! *The drive to and from a trailhead is generally the most dangerous part of any hiking trip.*

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## 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.

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Please check the TTA website for updates on our hikes.

**Mar 10 - Henry Horton State Park with Swan Conservation Trust and TTA Natural Areas.** Enjoy a 3.5-mile round-trip hike through cedar glades, hardwood forest, and wetlands. A 20 foot observation tower along the way offers great views of the Duck River. This is a moderately difficult hike so remember to bring sturdy hiking shoes, water, and a snack. It might be chilly so don't forget to layer up with warm clothes. We will meet at the Park Restaurant located in Henry Horton State Park (4209 Nashville Hwy, Chapel Hill, TN 37034). We will disembark from there at 10:00 am CT. Come ready for an adventure! Erin Singer, biologist with the Natural Areas Program, will provide nature interpretation. If you are carpooling with the Columbia/Franklin Chapter, Ron Neissen will be coordinating the hike for us. The others can meet us at Henry Horton State Park Restaurant at 10 a.m. Please let Ron Neissen know if you will be attending 931-797-8834 or *rjneissen@hotmail.com*. We will be meeting behind the McDonald's in north Spring Hill (4908 Main Street, SH) at 9:00 am. Please leave a contact number in case of inclement weather.

**Mar 24 - Bluebell Island, Franklin County and Shakerag Hollow, Sewanee. 4 miles total. Easy to moderate.** Bluebell Island is a small island located in the Elk River known for its spectacular display of wildflowers, particularly Virginia bluebells. The Island was purchased by the South Cumberland Regional Land Trust in order to preserve this botanical treasure. The land trust has a once-a-year hike to the Island during the spring bloom. We will join the hike led by naturalists with the Land Trust. The hike to the Island is an easy mile in and out, but to get on the Island requires traversing fallen logs over the Elk River. Ropes are put up to help with the crossing. After enjoying the beauty of Bluebell Island we will stop and have lunch at the Blue Chair Cafe at Sewanee followed by hiking a portion of the Shakerag Hollow trail in Sewanee, also known for its wildflowers. We will meet at 7:45 am in the Tollgate Village parking lot, Columbia Ave and I-840 in front of the Medical Center. We will leave promptly at 8:00 am for Blue Bell Island. We will stop along the way for a short restroom break as there are no facilities at the Island. Hiking boots are recommended as are a change of clothes. To register, call or text Ellen Clark at 615-482-3605 or e-mail at *ERCclark@aol.com*. Please leave a contact number in case of inclement weather.

## TTA Evan Means Grants Awarded in February 2018

Two Evan Means Grants were approved at the February board meeting.

**Trails for Kids, Fayetteville** was awarded \$600 to purchase trail tools to maintain and build trails in the Don Davidson Park in Fayetteville.

**CTC, Crossville** was approved to repurpose the 2017 Evan Means Grant for the Big Dig Program (\$1000) to be used for purchasing trail tools for the 2018 breakaway program and for purchasing a spare pair of tracks for the Ditch Witch that is used to clear the trail ahead of the manual trail build.

TTA is now accepting requests for Evan Means Grants. Grants will be considered at each board meeting throughout the year dependent on the availability of funds.

If your TTA chapter or local non-profit organization requires funding for a trail project, the application for the Evan Means Grant Program is on the TTA website in the left hand column tab: Grants.

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## 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of TTA

2018 is the 50<sup>th</sup> 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 50<sup>th</sup> 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.

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## 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*

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**Mar 10 - House Mountain.** We will hike to the west overlook at the top of the mountain gaining about 900 feet in about 1 mile. After we reach the top we will hike along the crest to the east overlook, about 1.6 miles then about 2.3 miles back to the parking lot for a total of about 4.9 miles. The hike difficulty is rated as moderate primarily due to the climb to the west overlook. 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 and leave the trailhead at 9:15 am. After the hike, depending on the time, we may stop on the way back for a meal and/or refreshments. For specific information about the hike please call Tom before the 9<sup>th</sup> at 974-4422 or leave a message at 588-5622 or send an email to *cressler@utk.edu*.

House Mountain is a 500-acre natural area located in Knox County approximately eight miles from Knoxville. It is cooperatively managed under a lease agreement with the State by the Knox County Department of Parks and Recreation. The 2,100-foot crest of House Mountain provides significant vistas where visitors may scan the parallel ranges of the Unakas and Cumberlands some 30 miles away, or look northeast at the adjacent Clinch Mountain, and across the valley where the Trail of the Lonesome Pine may someday lead north into Virginia. Before erosion by Big Flat Creek, the gently dipping bedrock layers underlying House Mountain once extended to Clinch Mountain, whose base lies approximately two and half miles to the northeast. The bedrock structure represents a large synclinal fold that formed during the Appalachian mountain building event called the Alleghenian Orogeny. Folding and faulting of the bedrock occurred approximately 250 million years ago when tectonic plate motions caused the collision between North America and Africa. Through geologic time, dissolution and erosion has separated House Mountain from its larger parent. It is one of the best observable examples of geologic change that shaped the Ridge and Valley of East Tennessee. The steep slopes of House Mountain are heavily wooded and possess a unique combination of scenic views, rock outcrops, and a variety of bird and plant life. This is a rare combination of scenic and ecological values near a metropolitan area. Great sandstone boulders, encrusted with lichens, crown the western rim where rock outcropping support chestnut oak and Virginia, pitch, and table mountain pine. Mountain laurel, huckleberry, partridgeberry, trailing arbutus, and other flowering plants adapted to dry sandstone outcropping are found along the crest. A chestnut oak forest extends down slope where at lower elevations soil conditions associated with limestone, moister deeper soils, and north-facing slopes support a forest of sugar maple, tulip poplar, ash, buckeye, and other mesophytic species This moister habitat favors

### East TN Chapter – con't.

the greatest density and diversity of spring wildflowers. House Mountain is a favorite place for birdwatchers. Migrating hawks and warblers can be observed from the mountain. Ruffed Grouse, Pileated Woodpeckers, Scarlet Tanagers, Wild Turkeys, and more than one hundred additional species of birds have been observed on the mountain. House Mountain is drained by several unnamed tributaries of Roseberry Creek and by Hogskin and Brice Branches, which divide it from the 1,500 feet high McAnnally Ridge, which lies to the east and south. Unfortunately, past disturbances and House Mountain's close proximity to Knoxville have resulted in serious management concerns caused by invasive exotic pest plants.

**Mar 24 - Ft Loudon State Park Loop. 5 miles.** This is always a nice place to explore but today we can see the fort in action. It is Garrison day at the fort. Our hike will be a loop out of the picnic area, coming back to the visitor center and around the outside of the fort. We can add another 1.5 miles if we hike the trail at the Sequoyah museum. Meet at the Maryville Food Lion in Browns Ferry shopping center. The carpool leaves at 9A. Driving distance 40 miles round trip. Leader, Chris Hamilton *hikeintenn@gmail.com*.

**Mar 31 - River Bluff Trail, Norris Dam.** We will park at the trailhead on Dabney Road and hike the lower section of the trail along Norris River, less than two miles each way. The walk along the river is relatively flat. Where we will turn around the trail goes up the bluff to make a loop. Some may want to walk the loop. The total distance, about 4 miles, is about the same either way. The hike difficulty is rated as easy. We recommend shoes to wear to and from the hike plus sturdy hiking shoes, other appropriate clothing, a snack, something to drink and a camera. We will meet at the Central Baptist Church of Bearden parking lot for carpooling and leave at 9:00 am and stop at Ingles Market, 215 Cedar Lane in North Knoxville, leaving at 9:15 am for those that prefer to meet there. Also, you may meet us at the southeast end of the Wal-Mart parking lot at the I-75 / State 61 intersection near Norris, leaving there at 9:45 am. This is a short hike. On the way home, depending on the time, we may stop for lunch and/or beverages at Harrison's Grill and Bar in Clinton. For additional information on this hike, contact Tom Cressler before the 30<sup>th</sup> at 974-4422 or leave message at 588-5622 or *cressler@utk.edu*. If you want to meet us at the trailhead take I-75N to exit 122; turn right on TN-61; about 1.4 miles turn left on to US 441 and proceed across the dam; turn left on to Dabney Road, the first road on the left after the second hair-pin turn, staying left, going downhill, to the parking area.



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## 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:** 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 3 – Joette’s Wolf Cove Cave Hike. Franklin County, TN. Near Winchester, TN. 6 to 7 miles. Strenuous, off trail.** Meet Joette Carter at 9:30 am CT on Highway 16 south on left marked with pink flagging about 1 mile south of hunter checking station (station just past mile marker 23). Joette will lead this interesting, beautiful hike on her land to see caves, waterfalls and overlooks. There is a possibility of short cave excursions. Bring two sources of light, lunch and water. Contact Joette Carter at 256-509-0918. Highway 16 is the road to Walls of Jericho.

**Mar 10 – Chickamauga Battlefield. Fort Oglethorpe, GA, North Battlefield Loop. 4.8 mile double loop. Easy.** This mostly level hike starts at the Chickamauga Battlefield Visitor Center then explores the hills, creeks, forests, and the monuments and historical features of this Civil War site. Before our hike we will view the excellent video in the Visitor Center describing the history leading up to the Battle of Chickamauga and its significance. Contact Joan Hartvigsen, *jhartvigs@comcast.net*, for information on carpool from Monteagle Elementary School. Bring water and lunch. Wear hiking boots.

**Mar 17 – Little Cedar Mountain Trail. Nickajack Lake/Tennessee River. Jasper, TN. 4 miles. Easy except for a few steep sections.** This trail, located within TVA’s Little Cedar Mountain Small Wild Area, provides several opportunities for scenic overlooks of Nickajack Lake and the Tennessee River Gorge. From the spectacular panoramic view atop Gray’s bluff we will see across the lake towards Sand Mountain. The trail leads through a pine/hardwood forest and past impressive geological features. We will visit a forested wetland pond at the top of Cedar Mountain. Our hike leader, Nathaniel Mann, is a Naturalist and will help us identify the rare John Beck’s Leafcup and the amphibians in the pond. Meet at 9:00 am CT at Monteagle Elementary School to organize a carpool or 9:30 am CT at the trailhead. Trailhead is located off Interstate 24 Exit 158 on TVA Road. Bring water, lunch and hiking sticks. Wear sturdy hiking boots. Please register with Nathaniel Mann, *thany@blomand.net*.

**Mar 24 - Walls of Jericho State Natural Area, located on Highway 16 near Belvidere, TN. Joint hike with the Murfreesboro Chapter.** Marietta Poteet and Jan Safavi are our hike leaders. The Walls of Jericho is a moderate to difficult hike which is 7 miles long. We will enter the Tennessee side and exit the Alabama side. The hike itself is 1,000 ft. downhill to cross Mill Creek after crossing

## Highland Rim Chapter – con’t.

several creeks and streams. The trail continues along Turkey Creek which is often muddy and slippery. There is another creek crossing to get to the end of the trail. The Walls are a natural beautiful amphitheater which require some rock hopping to see the waterfalls. The amphitheater has two main waterfalls. The rock work in the amphitheater is fascinating. We will return via the Alabama trailhead which is a 1,000 ft. very steep climb. Please bring water shoes for possible water crossings at the Walls. Email Marietta, *nannietta@blomand.net* or Jan, *safavi.jan@gmail.com* for more information and to register. Bring water and lunch. Bring hiking sticks and wear sturdy hiking boots.

**Mar 26 – Chapter Meeting. Joint meeting with the Friends of Short Springs State Natural Area.** Dinner at 5:00 pm at Ruby Tuesday, 1936 N. Jackson Street, Tullahoma. Meeting is 7:00 pm, D. W. Wilson Community Center. Dennis Horn will present a spring wildflower program.

**Mar 29-31 – Camping and Hiking, Frozen Head State Park, Wartburg, TN. Joint hike with the Murfreesboro Chapter. Good Friday Hike. Lookout Tower Trail and Bird Mountain Trail Loop. 8 miles. Steep. Moderate.** Trailhead located at the back of Big Cove Campground. Awesome vistas. Fascinating geologic formations at Castle Rock. Hike leaders are Joan Hartvigsen and Sara Pollard. Camping at Flat Fork Primitive Group Camp Site on March 29 and March 30. Email Joan Hartvigsen, *jhartvigs@comcast.net*, to reserve a space in the Flat Fork Group Campsite. Register for the Good Friday hike with Joan or Sara Pollard, *sarabpollard@gmail.com*.

**Mar 31 – Short Springs State Natural Area, Tullahoma, TN. Work day.** Meet at 9:00 am CT in the parking lot, 2250 Short Springs Road, Tullahoma. Bring water, snack and work gloves. Specific tasks will be announced later. Please email Tom Hartvigsen, *thartvigs@comcast.net* to let him know you can help.

## Planning Ahead:

**May 11-14 – Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Camping and Hiking Weekend. Joint activity with the Murfreesboro Chapter.** Camping in Cataloochee Group Campground, Sites G001 and G002. May 11 to 13. These lovely, quiet campsites are situated along Cataloochee Creek. Site G002 is in full shade. Hikes will include the Cataloochee Divide Trail and others TBA. We will view the Elk in the evenings and early mornings. We may hike to Max Patch on the way out. More details later. Contact Joan Hartvigsen, *jhartvigs@comcast.net* or 931-962-0811 to reserve space in the two group campsites. Site G002 is almost full but there is plenty of room in G001. Cataloochee Creek runs along the back of Site G001.

## Board Positions for 2018

We currently have four open board 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 nominating committee and the entire board of directors.

We still have some committee positions open to members. These positions were created as part of the bylaws revision in October 2017 in an effort to engage members who wanted to serve the organization but not have responsibility as a board member. Open committee positions are noted below.

The following committee members were approved at the February 3 board meeting:

**Nominating Committee.** The Nominating committee is responsible for the long term development of leadership within the organization, and to provide a slate of qualified candidates for election to the board at each Annual Membership Meeting, and to recommend qualified replacements for any vacancies that may occur. A Member of the Association shall be appointed to serve as the chair of the Nominating Committee. The three Regional Directors and two other members of the Association shall serve as members of this Committee. The President shall not be a member of this committee. The Nominating Committee shall verify that all Director nominees are qualified, able, and willing to serve if elected. The Nominating Committee shall nominate a number of candidates which is at least equal to the number of anticipated vacancies. Nominating committee – 2 positions open for members and a member willing to serve as the West Tennessee Regional Director

**Audit Committee.** The duties of the Audit Committee shall be to oversee policy compliance, conflicts of interest, ethics, and program integrity. They shall select, retain, oversee, and interact with the auditors for the Association. The Auditors shall report directly to the Board. There shall be an Audit Committee consisting of two members of the Board and such additional members as may be designated by the Board. Audit Committee - two board positions and several positions for members are available on this committee.

**Finance Committee.** This committee shall recommend to the Board policies and actions for the financial management of the Association's ordinary income, its Life Membership Fund, and any other investment funds. This committee shall be chaired by the Treasurer. Two additional members of the Association shall serve on this Committee. Members of the Finance approved by the board at the February board meeting are Kathy Woods, Jennifer Zahn, and June Callahan.

**Awards Committee.** This committee shall recommend to the Board candidates for the various recognition awards provided by these bylaws. The chair of this committee shall be the Vice President. Other members of this committee shall be the Regional Directors, and other individuals as appointed by the President and approved by the Board. Current members are Joan Hartvigsen and Garnett Rush. Awards Committee – two board positions and several positions for members.

**Membership Committee.** The Membership Director (Cheryl Heckler) shall be a member of the Board and chair the Membership Committee. The Membership Committee shall be responsible for promoting and maintaining the membership, collecting dues and membership applications, and forwarding all dues to the treasurer and reporting to the Board on the status of membership. This committee shall recommend to the Board actions which promote the attraction and enrollment of new members and the retention of existing members. Other members of this committee shall be the three Regional Directors.

**Communications Committee.** The Communications Director (Jim Poteet) shall be a member of the Board and chair the Communications Committee. The Communications Committee shall be responsible for insuring clear and consistent communication between the Association and the public and the membership. This committee shall recommend to the Board actions and policies relative to the Associations communications to the public and to the membership. This committee shall also have editorial and content oversight of any printed or electronic communication projects. The Communications Director shall have supervisory responsibilities over any print or electronic editors. There shall be at least three other members appointed to this committee. The other members of the committee that were approved by the board are, LouAnn Partington (Newsletter Editor), Doug Burroughs, and Jeff Steele.

*Continued on next page*

## Board Positions – con't.

### Special Committees

A Special Committee has a limited existence, and is created to provide the Board with a recommendation on a very specific, narrow question. A Special Committee shall cease to exist whenever it has reported its recommendation to the Board.

**Website Committee** – With renewed interest and some new members, a website committee was approved at the February board meeting. Committee members are board members: Jim Poteet, Carolyn Miller, Doug Burroughs and Melinda Pearson. Other members are welcome to provide input and the committee welcomes suggestions for what the membership wants to find on a new TTA Website. The goal is to have a new website in 2018.

**Bylaws Committee** – With the approval of a new set of bylaws during the October 2017 meeting, there has been interest in further revisions. A bylaws committee was approved at the February board meeting. Committee members are board members: Jim Poteet, Carolyn Miller, Kathy Woods, Bruce Whitehead and Linda Latter.

**Evan Means Grant Committee** – Committee appointed to review the Evan Means Grants received and determine if they meet the grant requirements and make recommendation to the board regarding whether to approve. Committee members approved by the board: Carolyn Miller, Joan Hartvigsen, and Marvin Caine.

**Strategic Planning Committee** – Committee appointed to assist the organization in defining its strategy, or direction, and making decisions on allocating its resources to pursue this strategy. Committee members approved at the annual meeting: William Smith (Committee Chair), Jim Poteet. Additional committee positions available.

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## JACKSON CHAPTER

**CHAPTER CHAIR:** Melinda Pearson 731-225-42  
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**TREASURER:** Anne Goodson 664-15  
*jacksontreas@tennesseetrails.*  
**SECRETARY:** Don Dresser 731-668-41  
*jacksonsecy@tennesseetrails.*  
**OUTINGS COORDINATOR:** Glen Rognstad 731-217-55  
*jacksonhikes@tennesseetrails.*

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

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

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**Mar 17 - Natchez Trace SP.** We will walk a northern section of the Red Leaves Trail, near Maple Lake and the historic pecan tree site. Pat Broadbent will lead the hike, so let her know at *Broadbent777@aol.com* if you are coming. Those of us in Jackson will leave from Panera at 9:00 am. If you wish to go directly to the park, please meet us at the park headquarters at 9:45.

**Mar 31 – Virgin Falls.** We plan to hike in the Virgin Falls area on Saturday of Easter weekend. Terry McCoy will be our leader. You can reach her at *terrymccoy832@yahoo.com* or 731 209-0304. Carpooling will be available; we will announce details later.

### Planning Ahead:

**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.

**April (date to be determined) – Big Hill Pond.** We will visit Big Hill Pond this April for a moderate 7 mile hike including the Azalea Loop Trail. Melinda Pearson will be our hike leader, who can be reached at *hurstme@bellsouth.net* or 731 225 4293.

**May (date to be determined) -- Catoosa Wildlife Management Area.** Come walk a section of the Cumberland Trail with us. We will let you know when. Our hike leader will be Jeff Chambers. For additional information, please contact Jeff at *chambers.jeffreyb@gmail.com*. To learn more about Catoosa WMA, you can visit [http://www.morgancountytn.gov/tourism/catoosa\\_wildlife\\_management\\_area.php](http://www.morgancountytn.gov/tourism/catoosa_wildlife_management_area.php).

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## MEMPHIS CHAPTER

**CHAPTER CHAIR:** Charlie Bright 901-829-4434  
*memphis@tennesseetrails.org*  
**VICE-CHAIR:** Francis Ruffin 662-781-5034  
*memphisvice@tennesseetrails.org*

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**Mar 3 - 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 will cancel. For questions contact Linda Red, 901-489-9157.

**Mar 10 - Meeman-Shelby Forest, Chickasaw Bluff and Pioneer Springs Trails. 6-7 miles. Moderate.** Meet in the parking lot of the Nature Center at Poplar Tree Lake (NOT the Visitor Center) at 9:00. To get to the meeting point, go out North Watkins until it ends at Locke-Cuba Road and turn left. Drive 2.3 miles (go straight ahead past the General Store), then turn right into the park on Grassy Lake Road. Go straight ahead, 1.7 miles to a stop sign. Turn left and the parking lot will be on your right. We will shuttle approximately six miles to the north trailhead of the Chickasaw Bluff Trail. The trailhead, at about 417 feet, is one of the highest points in Shelby County. The trail quickly descends below 300 feet and follows a creek down to the Mississippi flood plain. Here we often see evidence of the wild pigs that have inhabited the park for the last few years. After crossing Beaver Creek at about 2.5 miles, we encounter a few rolling hills before climbing a short but steep hill up to the Woodland Shelter (approximately mile 3.5) where we will have lunch. From the shelter we join up with the Pioneer Springs Trail which through a series of rolling hills drops back down into the flood plain. We'll pass the spring before ending with a gentle uphill back to the parking lot. Bring hiking boots, water, and lunch. For more information, contact Wayne Simpson, *w.simpson1@comcast.net*, 901-385-1988.

**Mar 17 - Cane Creek Nature Preserve, Tuscumbia, AL. REGISTRATION REQUIRED.** The preserve has some of the most awesome canyon scenery you'll find anywhere - rock shelters, over hanging rocks, rock formations and waterfalls. The strenuous (steep hills, ledges) 8-9 mile hike will take us to Devil's Hollow with several waterfalls, and several large Native American Rock Shelters and a beautiful overlook called The Point. Bring hiking boots, lunch and plenty of water. Rain will cancel the hike. For information and to register, contact Wayne Simpson at *w.simpson1@comcast.net* or 901-385-1988.

### Memphis Chapter – con't.

**Mar 24 - T.O. Fuller State Park, 1500 Mitchell Road – Spring Flowers.** Meet at the visitor center at 9:00 am. The hike will begin promptly at 9:15 am. The 4-mile hike covers moderate to rugged terrain with some wet land and a possible stream crossing. Hiking boots or sturdy shoes recommended. Bring water and a snack. The Discovery Loop Trail includes part of the Nature Bluff Trail of the Chucalissa Indian Village. Time Frame: 2.5 hours. Contact for information: Lynne Witherington, 901-230-1501. Directions: I-240 West to I-55 North; Exit 7 South to Highway 61 (3rd Street). Drive approximately 1 mile. Turn right onto Mitchell Road; continue 3 miles west to the T. O. Fuller Park sign. Turn right into the visitor center parking lot.

**Mar 31 - Lovitt Trail behind Lowe's off Germantown Road.** Join us for a 6-mile hike across flat terrain in the woods along the Wolf River. Meet at 9:30 am in front of the lumber entrance of Lowe's Home Improvement at 430 South Germantown Pkwy, Cordova. This is the northeast corner of the parking lot. Wear hiking boots and bring snacks and water. Rain will cancel. Contact *charlie.bright2010@gmail.com*.

### Planning Ahead:

**Apr 6 – 8 - Petit Jean Mountain State Park, Morrilton, AR.** If you plan to stay in a lodge, cabin or camp it is wise to make reservations as soon as possible. Petit Jean books up quickly because of the waterfall. Call 1-501-727-5431 to book lodging. Watch for hike information in April Newsletter and TTA website.

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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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## MURFREESBORO CHAPTER

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

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

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

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

**BLOGMASTER**  
Craig McBride 615-394-6121  
*murfreesoroblog@tennesseetrails.org*

**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)

**Mar 10 - Long Hunter State Park Day Loop. 4.5 miles. Easy/moderate.** This loop trail winds its way through mature oak-hickory forest and offers scenic bluff views of Percy Priest Lake. We may see some wildflowers in bloom. Bring water, lunch and snacks. We'll meet at the trailhead off Bakers Grove Lane at 9:00 am. If you need directions, want to carpool from Murfreesboro, or want more info, contact Jennifer at [jenzahn@gmail.com](mailto:jenzahn@gmail.com) or 615-943-8853.

**Mar 13 - Chapter Meeting.** We will have an officer from the Murfreesboro Police Department. The officer will speak on safety for hikers and what to do in event of medical concerns while hiking. Also, provided will be website information to keep updated on crime statistics both on and off trails.

**Mar 24 - Walls of Jericho Hike Joint hike with Highland Rim chapter.** We'll go in the TN trail and out the Alabama trail - 6 miles roughly with 1000 ft elevation change. There is likely to be muddy, slippery areas with the spring rains and some water crossings. The way out is a steep climb and although it's only a 6 mi hike it's tough 6 miles-especially coming out. We should see some early wildflowers. Wear hiking boots and bring trekking poles, snacks and plenty of water. Contact Jan Safavi for carpool info from Murfreesboro. [safavi.jan@gmail.com](mailto:safavi.jan@gmail.com) or 615-390-9146.

**Mar 30 - Frozen Head State Park. Wartburg. 8.0 mile loop. Moderate. Good Friday joint hike with the Highland Rim chapter.** We'll start at the Big Cove campground trailhead and hike the Lookout Tower trail. We'll return along the Bird Mountain segment of the Cumberland Trail. There are beautiful views and we'll pass the unusual rock formation called Castle Rock. Pack lunch, water, snacks and hiking poles are recommended. Hikers have the option to camp March 29 and March 30 at the primitive group campsite area located along Flat Fork Road. For more information and to register, contact Sara Pollard at 615-714-3610 or [sarabpollard@gmail.com](mailto:sarabpollard@gmail.com).

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## 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:** 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)

**Mar 3 - Pogue Creek Canyon State Natural Area. 4.5 miles. Strenuous but short.** This trail starts at the main entrance to Pogue Creek Canyon State Natural Area on Highway 154, just west of the entrance to Pickett State Park. It will require a very brief shuttle to/from the trailhead just around the corner on Blackhouse Mountain Road. The trail is strenuous due to lots of elevation changes; it takes us through some spectacular terrain and beautiful views. Pogue Creek Canyon photos will inspire you. Check it out at <http://www.tennessee.gov/environment/article/na-na-pogue-creek-canyon> and search on Pogue Creek Canyon. Speed will not be a priority. Bring sturdy hiking boots, trekking poles or a good hiking stick, snacks and water; layers for temperature changes. Rain will cancel. Contact Nora Beck, 615-517-6486 or [norellibee@gmail.com](mailto:norellibee@gmail.com) to register and for complete logistics.

**Mar 10 - Montgomery Bell State Park, Burns TN. Overnight Trail. 10.5 miles. Strenuous due to length.** 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. Contact Doug Burroughs at [dougburroughs@tennessee.usa.com](mailto:dougburroughs@tennessee.usa.com) or 615-587-0085 (leave a message) for more information and to register. Meeting Place: WalMart near 7044 Charlotte Pike parking lot just north of I-40. Meeting Time: 7:30 am.

**Mar 24 - Hidden Lakes, Harpeth River State Park, Pegram TN. 4 miles. Easy.** Come discover a hidden jewel near Bellevue/Nashville. We will meet at the Hidden Lakes parking lot at 9:00 am CT. and hike a series of intertwining loops. This is not a strenuous hike, but hiking poles and boots or trailrunners with good tread are advisable. There are some narrow and rocky ledges to navigate. Call or text Nancy Juodenas at 615-389-8811. Or email at [njlj1011@gmail.com](mailto:njlj1011@gmail.com) for more information and to register. <http://tnstateparks.com/parks/about/harpeth-river>.

**Mar 27 - Chapter Meeting.** In September 2017, five Nashville women and a Nashville expat hiked from the west coast of England east to Robin Hood's Bay on the North Sea. It brought them 192 miles worth of adventure. June Callahan and Marietta Poteet will present their accounts of this epic trip at our March meeting. Prepare to be inspired and amazed. Bring a friend.

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## PLATEAU CHAPTER

(Crossville)

CHAPTER CO-CHAIRS: Bruce Whitehead 941-716-3620  
Bob Obohosi

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

TREASURER: Gena Whitehead 941-716-3620  
[plateautreas@tennesseetrails.org](mailto:plateautreas@tennesseetrails.org)

MEETS MONTHLY: 2nd Thursday at 6:00 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 or to register for any of our hikes, contact the hike coordinator, Deb Westervelt, via email [plateauhikes@tennesseetrails.org](mailto:plateauhikes@tennesseetrails.org) or text/call 931-267-2243. For a list of monthly hikes, visit the Plateau Chapter. **Check the blog one hour prior to hike time for cancellation or for any other updates/changes to our schedule before hiking.**

**Mar 3 – Cumberland Trail Devils Racetrack, Caryville. 7 miles. Moderate.** We will do a car shuttle to Eagle Bluff then hike the Cumberland Mountain ridge top back to Bruce Gap Trailhead near Cove Lake State Park. There are many overlooks and interesting rock formations along the trail, including the "Devil's Racetrack" plus many waterfalls. Pack your lunch and bring water and enjoy the views with us! Depart VF Outlet Mall at 7:30 am CT. Carpool cost is \$8. Pack water, snacks and lunch. Maps and guides for the Cumberland Trail sections are available at the Cumberland Trails Conference website: [www.cumberlandtrail.org](http://www.cumberlandtrail.org) or from the Cumberland Trail State Park at <http://tnstateparks.com/parks/about/cumberland-trail>.

**Mar 7 – Martha's Pretty Point, Virgin Falls State Natural Area, Sparta. 4.5 miles. Moderate.** New rerouted trail. Depart 8 am CT from Tractor Supply on West Ave. Carpool cost is \$3. Pack water, snacks and lunch.

**Mar 8 – Chapter Meeting.** 6 pm CT at First United Methodist Church Annex, 69 Neecham Street, Crossville. Program will be on TWRA and wildlife by Míme Barnes, Wildlife Information Specialist. Join us for dinner beforehand at 5 pm CT at Abuela's Cuban on Main St downtown. Contact Chapter Chair, Bruce Whitehead, 941-716-3620 or email [plateau@tennesseetrails.org](mailto:plateau@tennesseetrails.org) if you intend to join us for dinner.

**Mar 17-18 – Savage Gulf Backpack To Hobbs Cabin, Savage Gulf State Natural Area.** Day hikers will hike in 3 miles and return while our overnight backpackers will continue on to Hobbs Cabin for a total of 9 miles on Sat and 8 miles on Sun. Depart 7:30 am CT Trinity Tabernacle Church on Hwy 127 South. Backpackers must contact Deb in order to reserve enough campsites. Carpool cost is \$7. Pack water, snacks and lunch.

Plateau Chapter – con't.

**Mar 14 – Cumberland Trail McGill Creek Section, Graysville. 4.8 miles. Moderate to strenuous.** Depart 7:30 am CT from Trinity Tabernacle Church on Hwy 127 South. Carpool cost is \$6. Pack water, snacks and lunch. Maps and guides for the Cumberland Trail sections are available at the Cumberland Trails Conference website: [www.cumberlandtrail.org](http://www.cumberlandtrail.org) or from the Cumberland Trail State Park at <http://tnstateparks.com/parks/about/cumberland-trail>.

**Mar 21 – Big South Fork, John Muir Trail to Maude's Crack, Oneida.** This will be a moderate 6 mile hike along No Business Creek. Climbing up the crack is strenuous. Depart from back parking lot of Cracker Barrel, junction of Hwy 127 N & I-40, at 7:30 am CT. Carpool cost is \$6. Pack water, snacks and lunch.

**Mar 28 – Cumberland Trail Devils Breakfast Table to Turkey Creek, Hebbertsburg.** This is a 9 mile moderate to strenuous hike along Daddy's Creek and Obed River requiring a car shuttle. Pack your lunch and bring water. Depart VF Outlet Mall at 7:30 am, meeting Fairfield hikers at 7:45 am at the Peavine/Stonehenge 4-way stop. Carpool cost is \$8. Pack water, snacks and lunch. Maps and guides for the Cumberland Trail sections are available at the Cumberland Trails Conference website: [www.cumberlandtrail.org](http://www.cumberlandtrail.org) or from the Cumberland Trail State Park at <http://tnstateparks.com/parks/about/cumberland-trail>.

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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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## 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>*

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**Mar 3 - Cloudland Canyon State Park (west rim trail). Approximately 4-1/2 miles. Moderate.** \$5 parking fee. Meet at Food City parking lot in Red Bank at 9 am. Hike leader: George Bonneau.

**Mar 6 - Old Copper Rd to Thunder Rock Campground. 4 miles. Easy.** This trail begins at Boyd Gap, goes down to the Old Copper Rd to The Whitewater Center, crosses the bridge, then picks up the Rhododendron Trail ending at Thunder Rock Campground for a total of about 4 easy miles right along the Ocoee River. This will require a short shuttle leaving 1 car at Thunder Rock for the drivers to return and get the other cars at Boyd Gap. Meeting place will be the Food City at Exit 11 in Ooltewah at 9:30 am. When you get off I-75 go east to the first traffic light and turn left. Food City is located in the rear parking lot. For the ones that want to meet at Target parking lot on Hwy 153, meet at 9 am. Hike leader: Trish Appleton 423-240-3443.

**Mar 10 - Fall Creek Falls (walk along lake - in and out). Approximately 6 miles. Moderate.** Meet at Durham Street parking lot in Soddy Daisy at 9 am. Hike leader: Gail Stokes 423-756-8219.

**Mar 13 - West side of Lookout Mtn.** Starting on the Lower Truck Trail for .45 miles to the old Blue Beaver Trail. This trail climbs .73 miles to the Skyuka Trail with a few rocks which can be easily avoided. Here we will turn right on a very nice footpath for 2.6 miles on a mostly gentle downslope to Skyuka Springs. After a stop here to enjoy the springs we will return by way of the Lower Truck Trail, a very flat and wide easy walk along Lookout Creek. The total is 6.08 miles. Meet at Reflection Riding at 9:30 or Food City in Red Bank at 9:00. Call Trish at 332-6517 if you have questions.

**Mar 17 - Brady Mountain (Hwy 68 to two overlooks). Approximately 5-1/2 miles. Moderate.** Meet at Durham Street parking lot in Soddy Daisy at 9 am. Hike leader: Boodie Fox 423-842-1178.

**Mar 20 - Heiss Mountain to Big Possum Creek and back. Approximately 3 miles. Moderate.** Meet at Durham Street parking lot in Soddy Daisy at 9 am. Hike leader: Renee Grace 423-332-3863.

**Mar 24 - Retro Hughes Road trailhead to Rock Creek Bridge and back. Approximately 5-1/2 miles. Slightly strenuous.** Meet at Durham Street parking lot in Soddy Daisy at 9 am. Hike leader: John Politte 423-304-8327.

## Soddy-Daisy Chapter – con't.

**Mar 27 - Enterprise South. Approximately 6 miles. Moderate.** Meet at Target parking lot on Hwy 153 at 9 am or meet at Visitor's Center at 9:30. Hike leader: Donna Pyers 423-344-9271.

**Mar 31 - Booker T. Washington State Park. Approximately 7 miles. Moderate.** Meet at Target parking lot on Hwy 153 at 9 am or at swimming pool parking lot at the state park at 9:30 am. Hike leader: Donna Pyers 423-344-9271.

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## SUMNER TRAILS CHAPTER

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

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**Mar 8 - Station Camp Greenway Ribbon Cutting and Grand Opening (with a walk to follow).** Location: Corner of Lower Station Camp Creek Road and Bison Trail. Meet at 10 am. We hope to see you there, rain or shine! Lead by: Anthony Holt, Sumner County Executive.

**Mar 10 - Bledsoe's Fort Historical Park! 10 am – 2 pm.** Celebrate the spirit of St. Patrick's Day at the County Sumner Irish Festival. Meet for carpooling at 9 am CT at First Presbyterian Church in Hendersonville. For further info contact Lynn Takacs at *lynntakacs@comcast.net*. Guided hikes of the Bledsoe's Fort Historical Park trail will be led at the top of each hour. Live Irish music will be performed outdoors by the Belmont Trio and Kettle of Fish! (Bring chairs and/or blankets to watch from the lawn.) Beer will be on tap and for purchase from Half Batch Brewing, who will be serving up a special Irish brew! Food will be available from the food truck Delaney's Street Eats! Tours will be given of the Rogan cottage, an authentic Irish dwelling built c.1800! Irish ghost stories will be told from the porch of the Parker cabin by Brian Allison, author of the book *Murder & Mayhem* in Nashville. At noon the Nashville Gaelic Athletic Club will start exhibition games of hurling and Gaelic football! Watch the games and learn more about these Irish sports and this great organization! A costume contest will be held for the best festive outfits and prizes will be awarded! Please Note: Cost: \$5 per vehicle.

**Mar 17 – Standing Stone State Park. 3 miles. Easy.** You will have to decide for yourself if it's worth a 2 hour drive each way for a 3 mile hike. If so we will hike a section of the Lake Trail, check out the Visitor's Center and explore the damn (dam) area. Back in the 50's I led all day hikes in the Park for YMCA Camp Widjiwagon before it moved to Nashville. After the hike we will have a late lunch at Ollie's Place in Celina on the way home. Meet for carpooling (wearing your green of course) at 9 am CT at First Presbyterian Church in Hendersonville. For further info contact Irish Al at *ballallenger@aol.com*.

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## UPPER CUMBERLAND CHAPTER

(Sparta / Cookeville)

CHAPTER CO-CHAIRS: Jennifer Carroll 661-369-6619  
[uppercumberland@tennesseetrails.org](mailto:uppercumberland@tennesseetrails.org)

HIKE COORDINATORS: Cathy Moran 931-544-2764  
[uppercumberlandhikes@tennesseetrails.org](mailto:uppercumberlandhikes@tennesseetrails.org)

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**Mar 3 - Wolf Cove. Joint hike with Highland Rim Chapter.** See listing under that chapter for hike details. Contact Joette Carter 256-509-0918 for more information.

**Mar 10 - Greeter Falls to Savage Ranger station via South Rim trail, Savage Gulf State Natural Area, Beersheba Springs, TN. 17.2 miles. Strenuous.** This hike begins at Greeter Falls parking lot and ends at the Savage Gulf Ranger station. We will begin hiking at 8 am CT and will visit Greeter Falls. Then we will hike to Alum Gap, down into the Big Creek Gulf over to Sawmill campground. We may shorten the hike from Alum Gap to Sawmill depending on water levels in Big Creek. At Sawmill campground we will hike on the Connector trail to Stagecoach road up to the South Rim trail. We will follow the South Rim trail to the Savage Day Loop, then hike on the Savage Day Loop to the Savage Gulf Ranger station. Those wanting a shorter hike can exit at the Stone Door Ranger station. Another shuttle would be necessary. Please bring head lamp, lunch and snacks, water, good hiking boots, and raingear. For information about the hike, carpooling, and to register contact Gary Kimbrell at 931-215-9520 or [Gary.Kimbrell@gmail.com](mailto:Gary.Kimbrell@gmail.com).

**Mar 17 - North Rim Savage Gulf.** The Plateau to Rim Hike is located in Savage Gulf Wilderness Area. The hike, having two versions, is designed for the moderate (9 miles) as well as the long distance hiker (17 strenuous miles). Both versions of the hike will start and end at the Savage Ranger Station. The shorter version of the hike will go down the Savage Day Loop and North Plateau Trails cutting across at the Mountain Oak Trail to the North Rim Trail, which you will take back to Savage Ranger Station (9 miles). The longer version of the hike will go down the Savage Day Loop and North Plateau Trails all the way out to Hobbs Cabin to the North Rim Trail, which you will take back to Savage Ranger Station (17 miles). Groups carpooling to the hike and doing a different version of the hike should be prepared for the difference in hiking times. Bring hiking boots, water, snacks, and lunch. You can meet us at the Savage Ranger Station at 8:00 am CT. For more information and to register contact Mike Shane at [mikeshane@charter.net](mailto:mikeshane@charter.net) or 931.446.4306.

Upper Cumberland Chapter – con't.

**Mar 24 - Groundhog Ridge Trail, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Cosby, TN. 8 to 9 miles. Strenuous.** 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. We will be rewarded with outstanding views from the upper parts of the trail and from the Mount Cammerer lookout tower. We will return by taking the Mount Cammerer Trail to its junction with the Appalachian Trail. We will hike on the AT, descending to the Lower Mount Cammerer Trail, then to its junction with the Groundhog Ridge Trail and then back to the beginning. Bring lunch, water, snacks, headlamp, raingear, and wear good hiking boots. You can meet us at 7:00 am CT at the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville. For information and to register contact Gary Kimbrell at 931-215-9520 or [Gary.Kimbrell@gmail.com](mailto:Gary.Kimbrell@gmail.com).

**Mar 31 – Merritt Ridge and Millenium Trails, Edgar Evins State Park. 8 miles.** We will hike the 5.5 mile Merritt Ridge Trail, which rises upon the ridges from an intersection along the 2.5 mile Jack Clayborn Millennium Trail Loop. We will combine the two trails and enjoy approximately 8 miles of diverse terrain. Both the Millennium Trail and the Merritt Ridge Trail share the same trail head, which is located on the left just beyond the Maintenance Center on the right. Bring water, lunch, and snacks. It has been suggested to wear orange due to hunting season. You can meet us as in the JCPenney's parking lot in Cookeville at 8:30 am or at the Edgar Evins Trailhead around 9 am. Jeff Graves at [jagraves21@students.tnitech.edu](mailto:jagraves21@students.tnitech.edu).

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### 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.

Supporting Member donations support 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.

## 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  
*midleregional@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, 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 10<sup>th</sup> 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**  
 **RENEWING MY MEMBERSHIP**

Mar 18

**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,  
Cheryl Heckler 931-200-7436 [membership@tennesseetrails.org](mailto:membership@tennesseetrails.org)

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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  
\_\_\_ Columbia/Franklin  
\_\_\_ East TN (Oak Ridge/Knoxville)  
\_\_\_ Highland Rim (Manchester/Tulahoma)  
\_\_\_ Jackson  
\_\_\_ Memphis  
\_\_\_ Murfreesboro  
\_\_\_ Nashville  
\_\_\_ 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; (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 hikes or functions.**  
**Not a member yet? Please check out one of our hikes or meetings soon!**