

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.

SUPPORTING THE CUMBERLAND TRAIL



MACK S. PRICHARD – A TENNESSEE TREASURE

Mack S. Prichard, 81, of Nashville, Tennessee passed away, Tuesday, April 28, 2020 at NHC Healthcare of Cookeville.

For more than 50 years, Mack Prichard served our state as an effective thinker, teacher, advocate and actor for modern conservation in Tennessee. Mack began his career with the Tennessee Department of Conservation when he was just 16 years old, as a seasonal naturalist at Shelby Forest State Park near Memphis. In addition to developing a profound knowledge of natural and cultural history, he had a gift for connecting with the public and instilling his appreciation for nature in everyone he touched.

Over the last half of the 20th century, few people were as instrumental in promoting conservation, state parks and natural areas in Tennessee. Indeed, Mack was actively involved in the founding of more than one-half of the state parks in Tennessee's system. Mack was also Tennessee's first State Archaeologist when he established the state's new Division of Archaeology in 1971. From there, Mack moved to the department's Conservation Education section where he became Tennessee's first State Naturalist.

Mack's work outside formal government was also prodigious. He was one of three founding members of the Tennessee Trails Association in 1968 and was actively involved in the creation of at least 30 conservation associations statewide. His beloved and respected voice inspired a range of constructive work and results to advance natural resource preservation and more effective resource management across the state.

Mack served Tennessee for more than 50 years under eight governors - Clement, Ellington, Dunn, Blanton, Alexander, McWherter, Sundquist and Bredesen. In May 2006, the General Assembly commended Mack's half-century as "The Conservation Conscience" of Tennessee and conferred upon him the title Tennessee State Park Naturalist Emeritus through Senate Joint Resolution 1007 (5/17/2006).

As Mack worked to carve out state parks and conserve our beautiful Tennessee, he made many friends along the way that were inspired by his dedication. Mack was a natural leader and a friend to all. He made everyone feel special. Mack shared his love of the natural world across Tennessee traveling over one million miles. At each stop, he shared mesmerizing slides he had taken peppered with quotes from environmentalists and philosophers that engaged countless Tennesseans. Mack always found the most beautiful waterfalls, hiking trails or paths into the woods and invited others to tag along and share the natural world with him. Co-worker and friend Richard Hilten writes: "Mack has achieved so many things in his colorful life, not the least of which has been the inspiration of countless beginning and professional conservationists. He set the standard very high for all of us, and each one has done his/her part to do the right things for the right reasons, following his lead like so many happy children behind the Pied Piper!" Mack will be deeply missed by family and friends. The only comfort is that he is no longer tethered to his broken body and is now soaring with the eagles.

A celebration of his life is in the planning for later in the summer or when gathering is prudent.

In lieu of flowers, for those who wish to commemorate Mack's life through a donation, make a contribution to the "Friends of Virgin Falls" and specify on the memo line "Mack Prichard Foundation." Mail checks to PO Box 390, Sparta, TN 38583. The mission of the Mack Prichard Foundation is to engage in activities to protect and conserve the natural environment in Tennessee. For more information about Mack's legacy, visit www.mackprichard.com. In lieu of cards, please send thoughts and condolences to: macksprichard@gmail.com.



Cumberland Trails Conference

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

CLARKSVILLE CHAPTER
CHAPTER CHAIR: Philip Anderson 931-561-0925
clarksville@tennesseetrails.org
VICE-CHAIR and CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVE:
Paul Schwab 931-801-9484
clarksville@tennesseetrails.org
TREASURER: Mary Schwab 931-645-9068
clarksvilletreas@tennesseetrails.org
SECRETARY: Mary Ann Harris 931-647-9321
clarksvillesecy@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.

Most Tennessee State Parks reopened for day-use visitation between 7 am and sunset starting April 24, 2020. This includes the Cumberland Trail State Scenic Trail State Park. There is still no camping allowed. Check the Tennessee State Parks website for updated information daily. Despite the rainy, spring weather the CTC Trail Crew made great progress on Hinch Mountain, completing the trail from Roaring Fork Trail Head to the McGill Creek section.

We Are Hiring for Trail Crew Members

CTC needs Trail Builders. We currently have 2 crews working to complete sections on Hinch Mountain and in Catoosa Wildlife Management Area.

Part-time: Part-time, flexible; average 2 to 4 days per week, including some weekends. Workdays vary with season and scheduled construction projects.

Qualifications: Community members who love to build trail. Previous trail building preferred but not necessary.

Individual Considerations: Leadership skills; Communication skills; Coordination skills; Trail building related experience (helpful but we do train); Good physical condition; Able to lift 40 pounds easily; Able to hike six miles with 20-pound pack and tools; Comfortable in a backcountry setting

Transportation: Required

Salary: As per the current CTC policy.

Please contact the CTC office at: ctcoffice2014@gmail.com or 931-456-6259.

Jun 6 - National Trails Day. Assuming the park is open for this activity. Work on the new trail at Dunbar Cave State Park. Philip Anderson 931-561-0925. Meet 8:00 am CT at the picnic table at the trailhead. Bring work gloves.

Jun 13 - Harpeth River State Park. Newsoms Mill 100 yards, easy; Hidden Lake 1.9 mile loop, moderate; Mace Bluff .25 total miles out and back, difficult; Narrows of the Harpeth, 2.1 total miles, out and back, moderate. Paul Schwab 931-645-9068. Meet 8:00 am CT, Madison Street Food Line parking lot. 44 miles to the trailhead.

Jun 16 - No monthly meeting.

Jun 20 - Stones River Battlefield Loop Trail. 3.3 miles. Half paved and half unpaved. Easy. Paul Schwab 931-645-9068. Meet 8:00 am CT at I 24 park and ride near McDonalds. 80 miles to the trailhead.

Jun 27 - Annual Picnic. Dunbar Cave State Park. Assuming the park will be open for picnics by then. 2.5 mile moderate hike followed by a pot luck supper. Suva Bastin 931-645-2849. Meet at the dance floor. 4:00 pm CT until dusk. Bring a dish and a folding chair.

COLUMBIA/FRANKLIN CHAPTER

CHAPTER CO-CHAIR: Jane Coffey 615-516-6551
columbia@tennesseetrails.org

CHAPTER CO-CHAIR AND BOARD REPRESENTATIVE:
Marvin Caine 931-486-1632
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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.

Jun 2 – Quarterly Chapter Meeting. We meet at the Barnabas Center (located behind St. Paul Episcopal Church) 506 Fair Street, Franklin, TN. Social Hour from 6-7 pm. Meeting starts at 7:00 pm. Discussion on hikes for the summer and other plans you may think would interest the group. We will discuss potential hikes for the summer (maybe a redo of the April hikes). Hope to see you there.

Jun 6 - Timberland Park, Franklin, TN. Timberland Park opened in the fall of 2014, sits on 72 acres adjacent to the Natchez Trace Parkway at milepost 437.2 less than a mile south of the Tennessee Highway 96 (Double Arch Bridge) entrance to the parkway. The park is maintained and staffed by Williamson County Parks & Recreation. It is an easy to moderate hike. For those coming from Spring Hill/Columbia, we will meet at 8:00 am at McDonald's, 4910 Main St., Spring Hill, TN. We will meet the others at 8:30 am at the Interpretive Center at Timberland Park. Jane Coffey at *jecoffey0644@gmail.com* or 615-516-6551.

Jun 20 - Warner Park Access Trail. Harpeth Woods Trail is a 2.5 mile heavily trafficked loop trail located near Nashville, TN that offers the chance to see wildlife and is rated as moderate. There are some rather steep inclines. The trail offers a number of activity options and is accessible year-round. Hike leader is Jane Coffey. We will meet at Tollgate Medical Center at 8 am and carpool to Edwin Warner Park. If you want to meet at the trailhead, contact the hike leader and plan to be there around 8:45 am. Jane Coffey: *jecoffey0644@gmail.com* or 615-516-6551.

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

Jun 6 - Bald River Falls, CNF. 11 miles. Difficult due to mileage.. Join us for this great hike in Cherokee National Forest. We will park in the lot to the left of the falls and start our hike to the top of the ridge (just a short distance). Once we reach the ridge top, the trail levels out and follows the river. There is a small waterfall/large cascade close to our turn around. The total elevation gain is about 500 feet. This is a gentle but somewhat long hike. We will meet at 10:00 am in the parking lot as described. Preregistration is advised. Any questions, please call Rosie 865-985-9144.

Jun 13 - Ft. Dickerson, Civil War Battlefield. This 4 mile hike is full of history and unusual because of its proximity to our downtown Knoxville. We will meet in the farthest parking area at 10:00 am and begin our hike at the trail that quickly leads to the quarry. We'll circle and proceed on several different trails. It will seem longer than 4 miles but at the end, we'll make a rather steep climb back to our cars. Preregistration is advised. Any questions, please call Rosie 865-985-9144.

Jun 27 - Charlie's Bunion Trail, GSMNP. 8 miles. This is one of the most popular hikes in the Smokies because it is part of the Appalachian Trail. We'll begin our hike at Newfoundland Gap and hike 4 miles to a spectacular overlook rock. After a short break, we will return those same 4 miles back to our cars. This hike has very little elevation gain and loss. We will meet at the parking area at 10:00 am. Preregistration is advised. Any questions, please call Rosie at 865-985-9144.

HIGHLAND RIM CHAPTER

(Coffee and Franklin Counties)

CHAPTER CHAIR: Tom Bentley 931-455-5849

highlandrim@tennesseetrails.org

TREASURER/MEMBERSHIP: Marietta Poteet 931-924-7666

highlandrimtreas@tennesseetrails.org

OUTINGS & PROGRAM COORDINATOR & NEWSLETTER

CONTACT: Tom 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.

Jun 6 – Stone Door, Big Creek Gulf, Alum Gap, Big Creek Rim Trails Loop. 9.5 miles. Moderate to strenuous. South Cumberland State Park, 1183 Stone Door Road, Beersheba Springs, TN. Please contact our hike leader, Marietta Poteet, to register, nannietta@blomand.net or 931-924-7666. Please register soon because Tennessee State Park guidelines limit the group to ten hikers. Bring a lot of water, snacks and lunch. Wear sturdy hiking boots and bring hiking sticks. This hike offers spectacular overlooks and fascinating geology.

Jun 7 - Tennessee River Gorge Paddle. Joint outing with the Murfreesboro Chapter. Meet at the Raccoon Mountain Boat Launch (Raccoon Mountain Road, Whitwell, TN) on the Tennessee River at 8:00 am CT. Sunday morning we will paddle through the beautiful Tennessee River Gorge from TVA's Raccoon Mountain Boat Ramp. The paddle is through Prentice Cooper State Forest. We will not use a vehicle shuttle because of the COVID-19 Pandemic. Bring a lot of water, snacks, lunch, sunscreen, hat, sunglasses, binoculars and a camera. We will see Osprey and Bald Eagles. One year a river otter swam next to my kayak! You must wear your PFD. Please contact Joan Hartvigsen at jhartvigs@comcast.net, 931-962-0811 to register. Directions for the Raccoon Mountain Boat Ramp: Take Exit 174 off Interstate 24 East. Turn left onto Cummings Highway (US Hwy 41). Drive 2.6 miles then turn right onto Raccoon Mountain Road. Drive 2 miles, then left into the parking lot. A vehicle caravan leaving from Monteagle Elementary School can be arranged.

Jun 13 – Lost Creek Overlook Trail and the Evans Loop Trail. Tims Ford State Park, Winchester, TN. 3 miles. Easy. Relaxed pace. Joint activity with the Murfreesboro Chapter, Jeanne Conatser. We will take several short spur trails off Lost Creek Overlook Trail to tip of peninsulas to view Tims Ford Lake. We can swim in the lake on the Evans Loop Trail, so dress in quick dry clothes. Meet at 9:00 am CT at the Visitor Center. Please register with Joan Hartvigsen at jhartvigs@comcast.net or 931-962-0811. You will need your hiking boots and hiking sticks. Bring water and a lunch. Save room for Kemp Ice Cream, sold inside the Park at the Marina.

Highland Rim Chapter – con't.

Jun 22 – Chapter Meeting. Bring Your Own Dinner at 5 pm in Tims Ford State Park, Picnic Shelter #1. Bring lawn chairs. The program is a walk on the bicycle trail or Lost Creek Trail. Please let Joan Hartvigsen know if you plan to come to the picnic, jhartvigs@comcast.net or 931-962-0811. You will need hiking boots and hiking stick for the Lost Creek Trail.

Jun 27 - Kayak and Hike. Tims Ford Lake and Tims Ford State Park, Winchester, TN. We will put in at Anderton Boat Ramp on Tims Ford Lake and paddle to Ray Branch Peninsula. We will then hike about 3 miles on the Ray Branch Shoreline Trail in Tims Ford State Park. Bring water, snacks and lunch. You will need water shoes and walking/hiking boots. You will not be able to walk the trail in water shoes. Please register with Joan Hartvigsen, jhartvigs@comcast.net or 931-962-0811. We will meet at 8 am CT at Dollar General Store, 3460 Lynchburg Road, Winchester, TN. Lynchburg Road is Highway 50.

Planning Ahead:

Aug 31-Sep 3 - Devils Fork State Park on Lake Jocassee, Salem SC near Cashiers NC. Camping at Devils Fork State Park, kayaking Lake Jocassee and hiking in nearby state parks. We have reserved a private four hour pontoon boat tour guided by a Naturalist for September 1. We will see the entire lake and its waterfalls and contributing rivers, the northwest section and the northeast section. The park has a separate boat ramp reserved only for kayaks and canoes. Eclectic Sun LLC rents kayaks inside the park. Nearby state parks with great hiking trails are Gorges State Park, Keowee-Toxaway State Park, Table Rock State Park and Caesars Head State Park, Raven Cliff Falls. Also, the hike to the Lower Whitewater Falls on the Bad Creek Foothills Trail is a spectacular hike as well as the Chau Ram County Park hike along the Chauga River featuring several waterfalls. Two reserved lakeside tent campsites have spectacular views of the lake and Blue Ridge Mountains. We have also reserved one RV campsite with 30 amp electricity and water. Contact Joan Hartvigsen to reserve a spot in one of these campsites, jhartvigs@comcast.net or 931-962-0811. Bring kayaking and swimming gear, camping gear, hiking gear. Bring binoculars.

JACKSON CHAPTER

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

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

SECRETARY: Terry McCoy 731-535-0625
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HIKE & FACEBOOK COORDINATOR:
Glen Rognstad 731-217-5966
jacksonhikes@tennesseetrails.org
(call Glen & volunteer to lead an outing)

MEETS MONTHLY: 1st Monday at Panera Bread, Vann Dr.,
Jackson. Dinner 6:00 pm CT; Meeting 6:45 pm

Jun 6 – Section of Appalachian Trail. 6 miles. Moderate.

Subject to change so be sure and check with leader Jeff Chambers before you plan to hike. The hike will abide by the rules set forth by the state park system and the governor due to Covid-19 so plan on social distancing (6 feet between each hiker). Please refer to the TTA website for a complete copy of rulings. This section of the AT passes first through a mixed pine and hardwood forest. As you make your way, you can see Mt. LeConte through the trees before you reach the first ridgetop. The trail ascends steeply, providing spectacular views into North Carolina before it reaches its highest point and descends to the junction with Boulevard Trail. You will pass through a red spruce and Fraser fir forest, curve around the shoulder of Mount Kephart and be rewarded by a dramatic view of Charlie's Bunion. This hike passes through sections of unique, jagged Anakeesta formations (rock walls & crags) that contrast sharply with the geology of the surrounding area and provides spectacular views during the hike. The jagged peaks were named the "Sawteeth" in the 1850s. Conditions can get wet and muddy on this trail so exercise caution, especially when walking on wet rocks. The hike takes about 5 hours. Please meet Jeff at the Newfound Gap parking area at 9:00 am ET. There will not be any carpooling. Please let Jeff know if you plan to hike at 731-431-1538.

MEMPHIS CHAPTER

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

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

No hikes scheduled. See you in September.

2020 TTA Annual Conference Save the Date

The Nashville and Sumner Trails Chapters is scheduled to host the conference October 23 - 25, 2020 at Montgomery Bell State Park in Burns TN, about an hour west of Nashville. With the current public health restrictions on gatherings of large groups, however, the status of the meeting is uncertain. For the time being, we are continuing to plan for the meeting. The meeting registration form will not be published in the TTA Newsletter until August at the earliest. We will keep meeting plans updated as the situation progresses. The following information on the lodging arrangements that are applicable if the meeting does take place as scheduled.

Attendees will have the option of newly renovated rooms at the Park's Inn or the campground inside the State Park. There is also commercial lodging in Dickson and other nearby towns. In addition to Montgomery Bell, our hikes will include other nearby State and Municipal Parks and urban hikes in Nashville. Members of the Nashville and Sumner Trails Chapters are looking forward to hosting hikers from across Tennessee!

Registration information for INN ROOMS: Phone the Inn & Conference Center directly to make your reservation (615-797-3101 or 800-250-8613). Provide our GROUP CODE 9880 to receive special discount pricing on the Inn Rooms. Inn Rooms (some have 1K; some have 2Q) do not require a 2-night minimum but a deposit of one full night's stay is required (\$143.44/night; includes the tax). Any remaining group rate rooms will be released for general reservation on 9/8/20, so don't wait until the last minute! (Discounts for Seniors, Veterans, and Tennessee State Employees are available only when booking separately from our group rate.)

For the CAMPGROUND, contact the Park Office at 615-797-9052 or
<https://tnstateparks.com/parks/campground/montgomery-bell>. All sites come with a grill, fire ring, picnic table, and access to the bath house (showers with hot water). Campground sites are \$15-35*/night, before taxes.

President's Corner

June is here and the warmer weather means get outside (following guidelines). Each of our chapters has planned wonderful hiking/camping/kayaking events. Check our TTA chapter calendar and see which activity entices you. Realizing the heat many hike leaders may plan a stop at a swimming spot. If I weren't already a member of TTA, I would be signing up ASAP. TTA is your entertainment director. The next time you participate in an event, please make a point to THANK the hike coordinator. They put in considerable time and energy to make sure you have a safe and fun day.

On April 29, 2020 Mack Prichard, Tennessee's first State Naturalist and upon retirement State Naturalist Emeritus, passed away. Mack was one of the 3 founders of TTA and instilled in each of us a passion to preserve, appreciate and enjoy our beautiful Tennessee. Mack was and will always be a Tennessee Treasure and his voice will be heard for generations. Happy Trails Mack! Mack's family has requested that if you wish to commemorate Mack's life through a donation, make a contribution to the "Friends of Virgin Falls" and specify on the memo line "Mack Prichard Foundation." Mail checks to P.O. Box 390, Sparta, TN 38583. The mission of the Mack Prichard Foundation is to engage in activities to protect and conserve the natural environment in Tennessee.

On May 2, 2020 TTA Board of Directors met via Zoom. Pretty cool! Two Evan Means Grants were awarded: Friends of Short Springs for tree markers and Arboreta Certification Application Fee; Friends of Henry Horton State Park for four footbridges with handrails and two sets of staircases to be built on the Spring Creek Trail. Thank you to our committee members.

A TTA Hike Proposal was approved for Covid-19 quarantine.

A visual presentation of the new website and logo was shown with tweaks still to be made before launching. You're going to love it! We've had a hardworking committee spearheaded by Doug Burroughs. I'm thankful for those who know about these things!!

A report was given on the 2020 Annual Meeting. Due to the VIRUS, information will be held and given at a later date.

Hike safely. I use trekking poles, not for style but because they help avoid falls, twists and strains. Mine is a light-weight, sturdy metal and also adjustable.

Master the basics: With each step, move the arm opposite your stepping foot and plant the pole with your step.

Test the terrain: Use your trekking poles to assess the stability of any rocks before you step on them.

Consider the conditions: Use a trekking basket attachment on each pole when stepping on slippery or muddy ground.

Help your hands: If your hands tend to swell while hiking, using poles will keep them closer to the level of your heart, improving blood flow.

Adjust the length: Shorten your poles when you're hiking uphill, for extra leverage. Lengthen the poles when you're going downhill, extending them ahead of your body, for stability.

Tame vexing vegetation Use your poles as a weapon against poison ivy or poison oak. Brush aside those nasty plants.

Message me with any tips you have found helpful.

"There are no words than call tell the hidden spirit of the wilderness, that can reveal its mystery, its melancholy and its charm." T Roosevelt

"There are no shortcuts to any place worth going." Beverly Sills

Please respect the TTA Hiking Proposal and follow Local, State and Federal authorities.

Mary Etta Ward
TTA State President

MURFREESBORO CHAPTER

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Sara Kennedy 615-692-9057
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TREASURER/HIKE COORDINATOR/BOARD REP:
Sara Pollard 615-714-3610
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MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR: Jennifer Zahn 615-943-8853
murfreesoroborohikes@tennesseetrails.org

BLOGMASTER
Craig McBride 615-394-6121
murfreesoroboblog@tennesseetrails.org

MEETS MONTHLY (except Jan, Feb, Jul, Aug): 2nd Tuesday at
7:00 pm CT, Barfield-Crescent Park's Wilderness Station,
697 Veterans Parkway, Murfreesboro

BLOG: www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/murfreesboro

Jun 6 – National Trails Day. Barfield Crescent Wilderness Park. Come join us for trail maintenance at this beautiful park from 8:00 am until 11:00 am CT. Bring gloves, sturdy shoes, a snack and water. For more information or to sign up, contact Sara Pollard at 615-714-3610 or sarabpollard@gmail.com.

Jun 7 – Tennessee River Gorge Paddle. Joint outing with the Highland Rim chapter. Meet at the TVA Raccoon Mountain Boat Ramp at 8:00 am CT. On this Sunday morning we will paddle through the beautiful Tennessee River Gorge and Prentice Cooper State Forest. We will not use a vehicle shuttle because of the COVID-19 Pandemic. Bring water, snacks, lunch, sunscreen, and a PFD is required. We may see osprey and bald eagles along the way. Directions for the Raccoon Mountain Boat Ramp: Take Exit 174 off Interstate 24 East toward Chattanooga. Turn left onto Cummings Highway (US Hwy 41). Drive 2.6 miles and then turn right onto Raccoon Mountain Road. Drive 2 miles, then left into the parking lot. To sign up contact Sara Pollard at 615-714-3610 or sarabpollard@gmail.com.

Jun 9 - Chapter Picnic at Barfield Crescent Park, Shelter Number #5. 6:00 pm. NOTE THE TIME CHANGE. This is our annual summer picnic for our chapter members and their families. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic this will be a "bring your own meal" including drinks, personal utensils and napkins. We are not able to reserve the shelter so bring lawn chairs in case it's not available and we'll tailgate instead. Please don't attend if you are not comfortable with participating! Any questions contact Jeanne Conatser at djconatser@comcast.net.

June 13 – "Pick a Park" series. Tims Ford State Park. Lost Creek Overlook and the Evans Loop Trail. 3 miles. Easy at a relaxed pace. Joint outing with the Highland Rim chapter. We will take several short spur trails off Lost Creek Overlook Trail to tip of peninsulas to view Tims Ford Lake. We can swim in the lake on the Evans Loop Trail, so wear quick drying clothes. Bring water and lunch. Meet at 9:00 am CT at the Tims Ford State Park Visitor Center. After the hike there's the option of having Kemp ice cream sold inside the park marina. Please register with Jeanne Conatser at djconatser@comcast.net.

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

Jun 11 - Richland Park Greenway. 6 pm. Contact Doug Burroughs at dougburroughs@tennessee.usa.com for details and to register.

Jun 25 - Fort Negley. 6 pm. Contact Doug Burroughs at dougburroughs@tennessee.usa.com for details and to register.

Nominations for Bill Stutz Award

The Awards Committee are seeking nominations for the Bill Stutz Award. The Bill Stutz Award honors the memory of Bill Stutz, a much beloved hiker who played an active role in the early days of TTA. The award is to be presented to an active hiker and TTA member for his or her individual contribution to the Association or to one of its Chapters. If you would like to nominate someone for this award please contact Joan Hartvigsen, Awards Committee member, jhartvigs@comcast.net.

Evan Means Grants Awarded

The Friends of Old Stone Fort were awarded an Evan Means Grant of \$510 for a certified arboretum on the Garrison Road Trail and the Nature Trail in Old Stone Fort State Park. The monies will be used for fifty tree markers and the Arboreta Certification Application Fee.

The Friends of Henry Horton State Park were awarded an Evan Means Grant of \$1,216 for four footbridges with handrails and two sets of staircases on the new Spring Creek Trail in Henry Horton State Park. The monies will be used for lumber, concrete, equipment and tools.

Both awards were unanimously approved by the TTA Board May 2, 2020.

If your TTA Chapter or local non-profit organization require 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. Please email the completed application to Joan Hartvigsen, Chair of the Evan Means Grant Committee, jhartvigs@comcast.net, no later than September 8, 2020.

PLATEAU CHAPTER (Crossville)

CHAPTER CHAIR: Norm Brinsley 931-202-2338
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TREASURER: Clark Zedric 217-520-9889
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BOARD REPRESENTATIVE: Bob Obohoski 931-456-4282
boardplateau@tennesseetrails.org
MEETS MONTHLY: 2nd Thursday at 6:00 pm CT
BLOG: www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/plateau

Come take a GUIDED hike with us. We offer a short 5 miles or less and a long 8+/-mile hike every Wednesday and two Saturday's a month. For additional information or to register contact the hike coordinator plateauhikes@tennesseetrails.org or text/call 931-267-2243 unless otherwise noted. 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.

Instead of carpooling to trailheads our hikers may opt to drive themselves.

Jun 1 - Pickett State Park, Jamestown, TN. Glow Worm Night Hike. In the dark of night between 8:45 pm to 10:00 pm we will descend 1/2 mile round trip to the edge of Hazard Cave. Strange blue lights dot the cave floor and walls, becoming more evident as their eyes adapt to the darkness. The source of this other worldly light is the larva of the fungus gnat *Orfelia fultoni* and is the only bioluminescent dipteran, or fly species, in North America. Little is known about their biology but it is likely that they use their light to attract prey into a sticky web that they have surrounded themselves with. At Pickett State Park the most obvious congregation of the glow worms is along the small rivulet that flows in front of Hazard Cave and is a popular attraction for park visitors in late spring and early summer. Depart 7:30 pm CT from Cracker Barrel SW corner of rear parking lot. Carpool cost is \$6. Don't forget tick/bug spray and sunscreen.

Jun 3 - BSF Jamestown, TN, John Muir Trail to Maude's Crack. This will be a moderate 6 mile loop hike along No Business Creek. Bring water shoes to wade through water.
<https://www.nps.gov/biso/learn/historyculture/nobusiness.htm>. This loop that takes us in and out of No Business Gorge and past some of the most interesting natural and historical features found in the Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area, including a 100 foot climb through Maude's Crack. There are relics of an early 20th century settlement along No Business Creek. The hike is rated moderate because of the rugged terrain, a stream crossing, and a 100' climb or descent through Maude's Crack. Depart 7:30 am CT from Cracker Barrel's rear lot in Crossville. Carpool cost is \$6. Don't forget tick/bug spray and sunscreen. Pack water, snacks and lunch.

Plateau Chapter – con't.

Jun 6 - National Trails Day. CT Black Mountain Trail Maintenance Work Day and Picnic. Calling all Members to come out and help clip, lop, saw, weed-whack from 8-11am then meet up at the campground for a picnic. If you can't work you can volunteer to carry and set up the picnic. Depart at 7:30 am CT from Dorton United Methodist Church one mile East of Peavine Rd on HY 70E.

Jun 10 - BSF Oscar Blevins Farm Loop, Jamestown, TN. We begin at the West Entrance trailhead with 2.2 miles of hiking through a peaceful wooded setting on the Collier Ridge Bike Trail loaded with rhododendrons before we join the 3.7 mile Oscar Blevins loop that features the old log cabin where Oscar was born in 1915. Other features along the trail include Muleshoe Rock Shelter, bluffs, old fields and a wet-weather waterfall. After completing the loop, we return on the West Entrance trail for a total of 8 moderate miles. Short hike: Drive down West Brandy Creek Rd to the farm then hike the 3.7 moderate mile Oscar Blevins Loop Trail. Bring lunch and water. Depart from Cracker Barrel at 8:00 am CT. Carpool cost is \$6.

Jun 11 - Chapter Monthly Meeting. Meeting held 6 pm in the First Methodist Church Annex on Neecham St. Meet for dinner at 4:30 pm Las Margaritas Mexican Restaurant, 72 Woodmere Mall, Crossville, TN. Speaker Bobby Fulcher. Please let Norm know you are coming to dinner, 931-202-2338.

Jun 13 - GSMNP Walker Sisters Cabin and Little Green Brier School. Long hike: 8 mile in/out moderate to strenuous due to 1500' elevation gain. Short hike: 4.5 mile easy hike in/out turning around at the end of Little Brier Gap Trail. Our hike will start from the Metcalf Bottoms campground on Metcalf Bottoms Trail .6 mi to the school then Little Brier Gap Trail to a junction of a gravel road and Grassy Rd. The gravel road leads .25 mi to the Walker Sisters Cabin and spring house where 10 children were raised. Carpool cost \$8. Don't forget tick/bug spray and sunscreen. Pack water, snacks and lunch. Depart at 7:30 am CT from Dorton United Methodist Church one mile east of Peavine Rd on HY 70E.

Plateau Chapter – con't.

Jun 17 - Yahoo Falls-Alum Ford Loop, Big South Fork, Whitley City, KY. Short hike: 5 mi in/out moderate hike to Maker's Arch and Yahoo Falls. **Long hike:** Yahoo Falls-Alum Ford Loop is a 10-11 mile strenuous/difficult hike. We will start at Alum Ford river access and go south on Sheltoewe Trace Trail along the Big South Fork River. At Negro Creek Trail we hike uphill for 2+ miles to get out of the gorge. Then we cross Hwy 700 and continue on Yahoo Arch Trail. We pass an optional side trail to Marker's Arch for 0.5 miles one way. Next we hike on to Yahoo Arch and then to our finale of Yahoo Falls for great photo opportunities and a history story about Princess Cornblossom. Yahoo Falls is the tallest waterfall in the BSF and all of Kentucky. We will finish our hike back to Alum Ford along Yahoo creek. This loop has numerous creek crossings, a long uphill climb and confusing trail signs. Wear hiking boots and dress for the weather. Hiking poles are recommended. Bring lunch, snacks and plenty of water. Depart from Cracker Barrel at 7:30 am CT. There is a 2 hour drive to the trailhead. Carpool cost \$8.

Jun 24 - Pickett State Park, Jamestown, TN, Pogue Creek Trail. This will be a 6.6 mile moderate hike in Pogue Creek Gorge to the Pickett SP picnic area which will require a car shuttle. Features include rock houses, rock bluffs and an overlook. Depart 7:30 am CT from Crossville Cracker Barrel. Carpool cost is \$5.

Jun 27 - GSMNP Charlie's Bunion. 8.1 miles. Moderate to difficult. The steady climb over the course of the first two miles of this hike will quickly leave the crowds at Newfound Gap behind. There are some grand views of the North Carolina mountains and outstanding views of Mount LeConte and Myrtle Point towards the northwest on the way to your destination. Charlies Bunion is a rock outcropping and offers spectacular views of the mountains to the north, Mt. Kephart and the Jump Off to the west, and Mount Guyot towards the east. The trail gains 1000' elevation in 3 miles before descending 500' in a mile to the Bunion. This is reversed on the way back. Bring a light lunch to eat on the trail since we plan to eat at a restaurant on the way back to Crossville. Depart from Crossville Vanity Fair at 7:30 am CT. Carpool cost is \$10.

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: Patricia Appleton 423-332-6517
soddydaisyhikes@tennesseetrails.org

MEETS QUARTERLY: Tuesday of the week following the TTA Board Meetings in Feb, May, Aug and 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>

Hike information unavailable at press time.

SUMNER TRAILS CHAPTER

CHAPTER CO-CHAIRS: Marcia Powell 217-855-3013
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sumner@tennesseetrails.org

TREASURER: John Jones 615-533-0127
sumnertreas@tennesseetrails.org

BOARD REPRESENTATIVE: Duane Frichtl 309-830-9720
boardsummer@tennesseetrails.org

Jun 2 - Eagle Pass Trail. 2.6 miles. Easy. This trail is the extension of the paved Ashland City Greenway starting at the Sycamore Harbor trailhead on Chapmansboro Road and ending up at the Cheatham Dam picnic area. The trail surface is mostly gravel and there is very little elevation change. Most of the trail is alongside the East bank of the Cumberland River on the old Tennessee Central Railroad grade with nice views of the river - perhaps we will spot the namesake eagle. For the most part the trail is shady in the morning hours. You might want to wear hiking shoes or boots because of the gravel surface but you won't need hiking sticks or poles. If you don't want to drink from the river you might want to bring water. Also please bring a sack lunch and we will sit on picnic tables along the river bank after the hike using proper distancing of course. We are not allowed to carpool but please meet at First Presbyterian Church, 172 West Main Street in Hendersonville at 9 am CT and we will caravan to the trailhead. If you would like to go please email me at *ballallenger@aol.com* and I will take the emails in the order I receive them since we are limited to 10 hikers. To register or for further info contact Eagle Owl at *ballallenger@aol.com* or call/text at 615-454-7673.

Jun 11 - Beaman Park, Nashville. 3.9 miles. Easy to moderate with a couple of hills. Join us for an out and back hike that leaves from the Beaman Park Highlands Trailhead. We will follow the RidgetopTrail out & back. Should be less strenuous than our hikes from the Nature Center. Hiking poles recommended. Those who wish to carpool, please meet us at the Kroger in the Glenbrook Shopping Center at 9:00 am (1010 Glenbrook Way, Hendersonville) or meet at the park at the Highland Trailhead at 9:30. Take a right on Eaton's Creek Road off of Old Hickory before the turn into the Nature Center. Then take a left on Little Marrowbone Road and a left into the park. Continue up the hill to the Highlands Trailhead. For more information please contact Duane Frichtl at *duane5505@icloud.com* or 309-830-9720. We hope you will join us! We may not be able to carpool dependent on any restrictions at that time. Also, may have to limit the hike to 10.

TTA Hiking Proposal Effective May 2, 2020

As parks reopen across the state, TTA Chapters should follow the guidelines as stated by the Local, State, and Federal authorities. Following this policy are the specific TN State Park guidelines as found on their website. This is an interpretation of these guidelines for any hike or event designated as a Tennessee Trails Association event

- In order to practice social distancing, all participants should arrive in their own transportation. No carpooling.

- Hikers should travel less than an hour from their home to a planned hike

- Hikes should have 10 or less participants. Try to hike at times when the park is less crowded, especially the parking lot and trailhead. Be aware of changes that may lessen or increase these restrictions as the recovery progresses.

Here are the State Park guidelines as found on the website:

- Don't visit if you're sick or were recently exposed to someone with COVID-19.

- Practice social distancing. Maintain at least six feet of separation between you and other visitors at all times and don't visit areas where social distancing isn't possible.

- Don't travel long distances to visit state parks. Look for parks that are a short drive from your house.

- Don't visit crowded areas. If parks are full, consider coming back at a different time. Consider coming earlier in the day to allow for plenty of time if an area is full and you need to adjust your plans. Tennessee State Parks may limit access to certain parks or areas if capacity is reached.

- Only park in designated areas. Please do not park along the shoulders of roads. If a parking area is full, please adjust your plans and find another area to visit.

- Follow all park rules and regulations. You can find our rules and regulations here. We especially ask that you stay on trail and not enter areas that are closed or restricted.

- Understand if a park or area of the park you plan to visit is open or closed. Specific details on which parks will reopen will be available on the COVID-19 Closures page.

- Bring everything you will need to have a safe and enjoyable day in the park. Here are a few specific points for planning:

- Closed Buildings. Remember that many buildings will still be closed during your visit. It's important to bring your own snacks, water and hand sanitizer.

- Restrooms. Some restrooms may be open, but many will remain closed. Even if restrooms are open, we ask that you help us keep them clean and practice appropriate personal hygiene in accordance with the CDC's recommendations.

- Masks. We recommend that you bring a mask and wear it when around other people.

- Pack out your trash. When it's time to leave, please clean up after yourselves. Carry out any trash or dispose of it in the appropriate containers.

Contact Information. If you need to reach our staff, or need assistance from our rangers, you will find signage posted on Visitor Center doors. In the event of a life-threatening emergency, please call 911.

UPPER CUMBERLAND CHAPTER

(Sparta / Cookeville)

CHAPTER CHAIR: Cynthia Karrington 931-303-3409
uppercumberland@tennesseetrails.org

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

Hike information unavailable at press time.

GUIDELINES FOR SUBMITTING HIKE INFORMATION

When submitting monthly hike listings, please include the following information:

- Date, trail name, location (Park, City, State), mileage, rating (easy, moderate, etc), hike description (what you may expect to see, elevation changes, obstacles that affect the hike rating), what to wear or bring, meeting time and location, and hike leader's contact information.
- Please identify any hikes that are multi-chapter events.
- Please DO NOT format the submissions (avoid bold, italics, underlining or colored text), as this slows the editorial process.

Hike descriptions are strongly encouraged, but not mandatory. A good hike description can encourage members (and prospective members) to try a new hike, but also alerts prospective hikers to outings that may be unsuitable for their level of expertise, fitness, or fear of heights and suspension bridges.

All submissions should be made by e-mail to editor@tennesseetrails.org. This e-mail address is automatically copied to our webmaster. All submissions MUST be received by the 10th of the month PRIOR to the hikes (i.e. February hike listings must be submitted by January 10) in order to be included in the newsletter. Late submissions will be updated on the TTA website, but have no guarantee of inclusion in the newsletter.

We will also be glad to print any hike reports, general chapter news and hike or event photographs as space permits.

OFFICERS:

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

Newsletter Editor

LouAnn Partington 931-393-4835
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2020 TTA Board of Directors Meetings

Saturday, Aug 8: 11 AM

Hermitage Library
3700 James Kay Lane
Hermitage

Sunday, Oct 25

Time and Location to
be announced.

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.

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**
 RENEWING MY MEMBERSHIP

Jun 20

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

PLEASE, PRINT CLEARLY.

___ Individual	\$25.00	Name	_____
___ Family	\$35.00	Address	_____
___ Student (FULL TIME)	\$15.00	City	_____ State _____
___ Supporting (\$50.00, \$100.00 or more)		Primary Phone (___)	_____ Zip _____ -- _____
___ Life Member (Individual)	\$500.00	Alternate Phone (___)	_____
___ Life Member (Family)	\$750.00	Primary e-mail	_____
		Alternate e-mail	_____

For privacy, please do not list the following in the TTA Annual Membership Directory

- E-mail addresses
 Mailing address
 Telephone numbers

I would like to receive my newsletter by mail.

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 Annual Membership Directory and Hiking Handbook, listing members by chapter and how to reach them and including 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. 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!