

TENNESSEE TRAILS

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE TENNESSEE TRAILS ASSOCIATION

Mission: To promote, construct and maintain a statewide system of hiking trails, and to work for the conservation of natural resources inherent to this objective.

SPONSOR FOR THE CUMBERLAND TRAIL



National Park Service Office in Chattanooga Assists in River and Trails Initiatives

This past September, the National Park Service's Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program (RTCA) opened a new office in Chattanooga to provide expertise for greenways and trails planning assistance and rivers protection to the Southern Appalachian Region. RTCA has historically been involved with a number of local and regional trail projects including the Chattanooga Regional Greenways Plan, the Cumberland Trail, the North Chickamauga Creek Greenway, the Great Smoky Mountains National Park Regional Greenway System and the Buffalo Trace Greenway.

Some areas that RTCA can provide assistance include: creating visibility for your project, resource analysis, coordination of public and private partners, developing community visions and sustainable organizations,

planning and facilitating workshops, participating in the development of a project plan, sharing information on conservation strategies and helping to locate financial and programmatic assistance.

RTCA staff is invited in by organizations to help plan new trails and greenways, preserve river resources and protect community open space. RTCA works in partnership with public and private interests and citizens to help them accomplish their conservation and recreation visions.

If your chapter is interested in RTCA assistance or would like more information on this program, please contact Alison Brayton Bullock, Tennessee Projects Director, at 423-266-2359 or email: alison_bullock@nps.gov.

Forest Service Issues Final Roadless Rule

On January 5, 2001, the Clinton Administration made history by completing the Roadless Area Conservation Final Rule, protecting nearly 60 million acres of inventoried roadless areas in national forests and grasslands.

The American Hiking Society and the conservation community commend the Clinton Administration for the final roadless protection rule. The proposal represents one of the most significant conservation initiatives in the last 100 years.

What Does the Final Rule Do?

1) Prohibits new road construction and reconstruction in inventoried roadless areas on National Forest System lands, except: to protect health and safety in cases of

flood, fire, or other catastrophic threats; to conduct environmental clean up required by federal law; to allow for reserved or outstanding rights provided for by statute or treaty; to prevent irreparable resource damage by an existing road or rectify existing hazardous road conditions; where a road is part of a Federal Aid Highway project or needed in conjunction with existing mineral leases.

2) Prohibits cutting, sale and removal of timber in inventoried roadless areas, except: to maintain or improve roadless characteristics; to improve habitat for threatened, endangered, proposed, or sensitive species; to maintain or restore ecosystem composition and structure, such as reducing the risk of uncharacteristic wildfire effects; for personal or administrative use; or where roadless characteristics have been substantially altered due to road construction and

(Continued on page 2, Forest Service.)

Letters from Libby ... TTA president

Dear Friends,

It's that time again! It's time for the regular quarterly meeting of the Tennessee Trails board of directors. We will be discussing the Evan Means Small Grant awards, the budget, progress on the Cumberland Trail, local chapter news and other issues and concerns. Everyone is invited to attend on Saturday, February 17, at 1:00. We meet in the offices of the Tennessee Department of Conservation on the 17th floor of the L&C tower at 4th and Church St. in Nashville. All members are welcome. If you cannot attend, contact your chapter chair or your regional representative with any ideas or questions you might have. Their names are found on the back page of your newsletter. You may also contact me. Please note that I have a new e-mail address, so update your address book!

'Til next time, Libby Francis

ANOTHER FRIENDLY REMINDER ...

IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN ...

TTA's MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

COMING APRIL 2001

The 2001 edition of the TTA membership directory will be mailed to all current members in April. Please be sure your dues are paid up so that you will receive your copy of the directory. Also, check the mailing-label on this newsletter and let us know of changes or corrections. Otherwise, the label will be the source of information published in the directory. Mail your revisions to:

Membership Director
P. O. Box 41446
Nashville, TN 37204-1446
615-851-1052

Or, you can submit them by email sent to membership@tennesseetrails.org or through a form on the TTA web site at <http://www.tennesseetrails.org>

(Forest Service, continued from page 1) subsequent timber harvest occurring prior to the publication date of this rule.

3) Applies immediately to the ecologically significant Tongass National Forest in Alaska, including a transition provision that allows existing projects to continue.

The final rule affects 58.5 million acres, or 31 percent of Forest Service lands, in 39 states. Roadless areas are critical to ecosystem protection, including water quality, wildlife and vegetation—all valued pieces of the hiking experience. Roadless areas provide myriad opportunities for dispersed recreation and are particularly important to hikers seeking solitude and escape in wild backcountry and outstanding natural areas.

BACKGROUND:

The Clinton Administration -- recognizing the importance of national forest roadless areas for their recreational, habitat and watershed values -- first announced its intent to protect national forest roadless areas more than three years ago. In October 1999, President Clinton directed the Forest Service to develop a policy to protect up to 60 million acres of these roadless, wild lands. In May 2000, the Forest Service released its draft plan to implement Clinton's proposal. In November 2000, the Forest Service released its Final Environmental Impact Statement, which was adopted almost entirely in the final rule released in January 2001.

The Forest Service received almost two million responses to the roadless initiative over the last year with more than 95% supporting the strongest possible protection for our wild forests. The outpouring of public support was one of the main factors that led the President to provide this conservation legacy.

Several western Republican Congress Members vehemently oppose the final rule, but overturning the regulation will be extremely challenging.

For more information, visit the Forest Service's Roadless Area Conservation website at: <http://roadless.fs.fed.us/index.shtml>

Information provided by Celina Montorfano, Alliance Policy Coordinator, American Hiking Society.

Tennessee Trails is a member of the Alliance of Hiking Organizations sponsored by the AHS.

BIG SOUTH FORK CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER:

Eric Wilson 423-628-2817
ericavi@highland.net

The cold, snowy weather in late December and early January made for some beautiful scenes in the Rugby area. Several chapter members hiked the Meeting of the Waters and the Colditz Cove trails, where the ice formations were spectacular.

Feb 3rd. Our February hike will be along the John Muir Trail from near Burnt Mill Bridge to Beaver Falls. This 4-mile out-and-back hike is generally easy walking and the Falls is a very pretty spot for lunch. Meet at the Harrow Road Cafe in Rugby at 10am EST. Contact Eric Wilson at ericavi@highland.net or 423-628-2817 to sign up for the hike.

COLUMBIA CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER:

Todd Horton 615-302-3336
todd1966@aol.com

MEETS: 3rd Tuesday, 6:30pm, Bethel Room, Hunter-Matthews Complex (NE corner Columbia Square)

Feb 20th Program. The speaker and topic for our monthly program meeting are to be announced. Refreshments will be served. Call Todd Horton at 615-302-3336 with any questions or comments.

Feb 24th. Our February hike will be to the Short Springs area between Tullahoma and Manchester. Come see the trails built mainly by TTA volunteers. Contact Todd Horton at 615-302--3336 for further details and for the meeting time and location.

CLARKSVILLE CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER:

J.R. Tate 931-920-2692
model_t@bellsouth.net

MEETS: 3rd Tuesday, 7pm, The Crow Community Center, 211 Richview Rd

Feb 3rd. Rails to Trails, Ashland City. This is an easy and relaxing 8-mile hike along an old railroad bed. Contact Charlie Putnam at 931-362-3669.

Feb 10th. Rotary Park, Clarksville. This is an easy 3- to 4-mile hike. Let's stay close to home and enjoy our local hiking trails. Contact Wanda Cumberland at 931-906-3338.

Feb 24th. Indian Town Bluff, Ashland City. This is a moderate hike at the confluence of the Harpeth and Cumberland rivers. Contact Wanda Cumberland at 931-906-3338.

Mar 3rd. Ft. Henry Trail, Land Between the Lakes. An easy way to see the beautiful countryside of LBL. Contact J.R. Tate at 931-920-2692.

Mar 10th. Fall Creek Falls, Spencer. An easy-to-moderate 7 miles with breathtaking views of several waterfalls. Contact Sandi Hamilton at 931-920-2760.

Hike Report: At 10pm on New Year's Eve, about 30 people from TTA and the community enjoyed a brisk hike along the Clarksville Riverwalk. With temperatures hovering around 22 degrees, we enjoyed the Christmas lights of downtown Clarksville. Although the lights along the Cumberland River were not on, we were surrounded by the peaceful tranquility of the crystalline lights adorning the trees as if there had been a recent ice storm glittering on the boughs. We also had a few party revelers join in for a few blocks, until the novelty of the hike (or the cold) turned them away.

Submitted by Sandi Hamilton

Remembrance: In late November, we lost a cherished friend. James McKenzie, a long time member of our TTA Chapter, succumbed after a lengthy fight with Hepatitis C. James was the "Eagle Man". Each February, he would lead us to the icy waters of Reelfoot Lake to see the mighty eagles soar. What a delight to watch the pure joy on James' face as he would point and shout, "There! There it goes!" like a kid seeing his first airplane.

James always had a smile and a kind word. He never complained, never gave us a clue as to the suffering he must have endured in the latter stage of his illness. James went about life with all the zest and enthusiasm he could muster, reaping each day's harvest and sharing the bounty with all his friends. Always a hard worker, James retired from the Air Force, and he made a second career at the Clarksville zinc plant. James was 72.

This next February, when people go to the icy waters of Reelfoot Lake to gaze up at the awesome winged coursers, could they see beyond the film of life into the Great Beyond, surely they would see a smiling figure flitting among the eagles and shouting with glee, "Here! Here I go!" James, you are sorely missed!

Submitted by J.R. Tate

COVE LAKE CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER:

Siler McCarty 423-566-1291
webmaster@tnrlca.org

Feb 17th. The Cove Lake Chapter will hike a 7-mile section of the Cumberland Trail from Eagle Bluff to Tank Springs on. This section is rated moderate to difficult. Beautiful views overlooking Eagle Bluff and Powell Valley will be enjoyed by all those who come with us! Meet at the Eagle Market in Jacksboro at 8:30am EST. Bring plenty of water, snacks, lunch, etc. To register or for more information, contact Siler McCarty at 423-566-1291 or by email at webmaster@tnrlca.org.

EAST TENNESSEE CHAPTER (Oak Ridge / Knoxville)

CHAPTER OFFICER:

Keith Mertz 865-376-4827
KeithMertz@msn.com
KeithMertz@hotmail.com

Feb 10th. Laurel-Snow Pocket Wilderness near Dayton, TN. A moderate 5 or 6 mile hike, depending on whether we go to Bryan Overlook or Buzzard Bluff, with an approximate 850' elevation gain from parking lot to the overlooks. We should have great views of the Tennessee Valley if the weather is good. Meet in the parking lot across the street from Roane County High School in Kingston at 9am. EST or at the trailhead at 10am EST. Bring lunch and water and dress appropriately for the weather. For further info or to pre-register, call Keith at 865-376-4827 or email keithmertz@hotmail.com.

Feb 24th. Hemlock Bluff Trail at Norris Lake. A moderate 7-mile loop along the shore of Norris Lake (Loyston Point). Features on this trail include varied terrain and vegetation, old home sites, bluffs, and rock outcrops. Dress warmly and bring lunch and water. To carpool, meet at Norris Commons in the town of Norris at 9am EST. Questions or to pre-register, please call Phil at 865-376-1511 or email him at pcav@icx.net. Note: The hike leader reserves the right to select another destination if the Hemlock Bluff Trail is ice-covered.

MEMPHIS CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER:

Frederick Belton 901-327-3674
fbelton@hotmail.com

ELECTED BOARD REPRESENTATIVE:

Gloria Norrid 901-382-4227
gnorrid@yahoo.com

MEETS: 3rd Thursday, 7pm, Germantown Library
(September through May)

Feb 15th. Program. Keith Kirkland, manager for 15 years at Outdoors, Inc., will present a program on the latest and greatest in hiking equipment, revolutionary boot-fitting techniques, and reveal some unfamiliar local hiking and paddling trails. Keith, is originally from Memphis and has over 25 years experience in canoeing, backpacking, and hiking. He is active in environmental issues and instrumental in mapping the Ghost River Trail. Keith also formed the corps of guides to lead canoeist through the maze of river trails. Keith is extremely knowledgeable in outdoor subjects, so come prepared with your questions about the great outdoors. See you at 7pm, Germantown Library.

Feb 10th. Meeman-Shelby Forest, Chickasaw Bluff Trail, Millington, TN. Meet at the visitor center at 9am CST and bring water and lunch. Hike begins with a car shuttle to the north end of the trail for an 8-mile easy-to-moderate hike through the forest and ending at Poplar Lake with another car shuttle to the visitor center. For information, call Ken Novak, 901-377-9127.

Feb 24th. Wapanocca National Wildlife Refuge, Turrell, AR. Join us to see wildlife along an easy and flat 6-mile levee walk. We will meet at the visitor center at 9am CST and car-poolers meet at Davis Kidd Bookstore, Perkins and Poplar at 8 am. The Wapanocca refuge literally stands as a wildlife oasis in an agricultural sea. An excellent diversity of habitat exists comprised of mainly agricultural land, bottomland, hardwood forest, upland forest, open water and flooded cypress/willow swamp. Thirty small field impoundments have been developed for waterfowl in the agricultural land. Because of its strategic location in the heart of the Mississippi Flyway and the diverse habitat, the refuge is a prime wintering area for migratory waterfowl and a major stopping place for migrating warblers. Nesting on the refuge are bald eagles, great blue herons, great egrets and anhingas. For information call Kathleen Griffin at 901-767-0529.

Mar 2nd-4th. Winding Stairs, Glenwood, AR. Join us for a weekend hike at Albert Pike Recreational Area in the Ouachita National Forest. On Saturday we will hike the Winding Stairs Trail, a section of Little Missouri River known as one of the most scenic hiking trails in Arkansas. This is a 5-mile trail, rated moderate, passing cascading waterfalls and wildflowers. On Sunday, we will do a short hike before returning to Memphis. Directions to the Refuge: Take Exit 21 off Interstate 55 onto Highway 42, then east 1.5 miles. For lodging information contact Norma McMinn at 901-785-1479 or Kathleen Griffin at 901-767-0529.

MURFREESBORO CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER:

Fount Bertram

615-765-5357

fwbertram@hotmail.com

MEETS: 2nd Tuesday, 7pm, St. Marks United Methodist, 1403 E. Main St

Notice: We will be changing our meeting location beginning in February to the Wilderness Station (the building located behind the ball field) at the Barfield-Crescent Park. The address is 697 Barfield Road. We will still meet at 7pm on the second Tuesday of each month. For directions, call Fount Bertram at 615-765-5357 or send email to him at fwbertram@hotmail.com.

Feb 10th Bear Waller Gap near Carthage, TN. This scenic trail, once the gathering place of black bears that came to wallow in the woods, is 7 miles in length and is rated moderate. We'll meet at St. Marks Methodist Church at 8am CST. To register, call Barbara Draude: 615-895-5546 or email bdraude@mtsu.edu.

Feb 24th Edgar Evins State Park Millennium Trail. If you've never hiked the park's newest trail, you need to check it out! The trail is 4.5 miles in length and is rated easy. We'll meet at St. Marks Methodist Church at 8am. To register, call James Herring: 615-896-4356.

Mar 6th Program. Mack Pritchard will speak on "Birding." Mack is well known for his entertaining presentations and is especially famous for his ability to mimic various bird species. This is a Tennessee Ornithological Society meeting and it's open to TTA members. We'll meet at St. Marks Methodist Church at 7:30pm. For more information, call Bertha Chrietberg at 615-896-1146 or send email to her at bertha@hotmail.com.

NASHVILLE CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER:

Dan Brennan

615-599-4713

dbrennan@cambar.com

MEETS: 4th Tuesday, 7pm, Radnor Lake Visitor Center, on Otter Creek Road off Granny White Pike.

HIKING HOTLINE 615-367-7045

Feb 23rd Program. Our guest speaker will be Joe Allen, who specializes in landscape and scenic photography. His photos have appeared in various photography and conservation journals and books. Joe is currently engaged in a book project for Fodors Travel Corporation with author (and TTA member) Robert Brandt. In other words, bring a friend and prepare to "ooh" and "aah" at some very fine images.

Feb 2nd. Friday Night Out. Paul Smith is hosting Friday Night Out at The Orchid, 73 White Bridge Road. We will meet at 6:30 - 7:00pm CST and we'll try to eat at 7pm. If you have any questions, Paul can be reached at 616-832-9388 or by email paolov@bellsouth.net.

Feb 4th. Mammoth Cave National Park. Come hike "above ground" at Mammoth Cave National Park. We will hike off-trail on historic Flint Ridge. We will start and finish our hike on old gravel roads that pre-date the National Park's existence. Along the way, we will pass old "show caves" that were once privately owned. In the middle portion of our hike, we will be making our own trail as we follow the Green River for several miles. Total distance will be approximately 7 miles. By popular demand, we will also drive to Sand Cave where Floyd Collins' entrapment made national headlines in 1925. As with all off-trail hikes, you will need sturdy boots, a sense of adventure and a little patience with the route finding. If Flint Ridge Road is closed due to poor weather, this hike will have to

be canceled. Call Anne Wesley at 615-851-1052 for more information and to pre-register.

Feb 10th. Radnor Lake. This is a moderate 5- to 6-mile hike, which will incorporate portions of the Lake Trail, the Ganier Ridge Trail, and the South Cove Trail. Meet at the Visitor Center at 9am CST. Contact Jim or Marietta Poteet at 615-824-7666 or by email at jpoteet@genesco.com.

Feb 10th. Mammoth Cave NP. This hike is a 14-mile loop that will include the McCoy Hollow and First Creek Trails on the northern side of the Green River. We will see a variety of scenery including creeks, hollows, sinks, sandstone cliffs and the Green River. This hike should be considered strenuous due to its length and some short but steep trail sections. We will meet in the Goodlettsville K-Mart parking lot (Long Hollow Pike & I-65) at 6:30am CST for a 6:45am departure to the trailhead. Please call Richard Horvath at 270-586-0178 for information or to register for this hike.

Feb. 10th. Beaman Park Trail Work. Come see the new trail that is being built in this park and lend a hand. We will meet at the spring on Little Marrowbone Road at 9am CST and will finish about noon. Call Dave Walton at 615-646-5355 to register.

Feb. 11th. Short Springs led by Charlie and Jennifer Hann. We'll hike approximately 4 1/2 miles on a relatively easy trail. Bring sturdy shoes and rain gear since it has a few steep hills above a spring, which is generally wet and quite muddy. Bring light snacks and water. We plan to stop for

NASHVILLE CHAPTER

(continued from page 5)

lunch at the local town cafe. Meet at 8am CST at the Target parking lot at I-24 and Bell Road. (The entrance to Target is from Cane Ridge Road, which is just west of I-24.) Call Jennifer and Charlie Hann at 615-941-1503 to register.

Feb 11th. Beaman Park. Identifying trees when the leaves are on is easy. Join Mary Theroux and the Friends of Beaman Park for a Trees-in-Winter Hike and see how many you can name at this time of year. Meet time is 1:00pm CST at the spring on Little Marrowbone Road. Reservations are required. Call Nancy Dorman at 615-229-9586 to register.

Feb 16th-19th. Norris Dam/Cumberland Trail President's Day Holiday Weekend. If you have Monday, Feb 19 off for President's Day, or you just want an extra day to hike, join Doug Burroughs as he leads us on a 3-day weekend filled with Cumberland Trail hikes. The plan is to meet in the Kinko's/K-mart parking lot on Donelson Pike on Friday at 5:00pm CST, then drive to Norris Dam State Park just north of Knoxville. We'll stay 3 nights in "deluxe" cabins and then hike Saturday and Sunday on the Smoky Mountain and Eagle Bluff sections of the CT, as well as other trails in the area. At present, two cabins are reserved with a maximum of 6 persons per cabin "strictly enforced", so the maximum for the trip is 12 people. Final costs will be shared equally by all participants, but should be around \$40 per person for the 3 nights. PRE-REGISTRATION with a DEPOSIT is REQUIRED. Please do not wait until the last minute to make your reservations. RSVP early to Doug to be sure he has space available and before sending a deposit. Need additional information? Call Doug Burroughs: 615-587-0085. (Note: If Doug receives more than 12 registrations, he'll reserve an additional cabin to accommodate the extra folks.)

Feb 17th. Trail work on the newly acquired section of the Cumberland River Bicentennial Trail. We are meeting at the Sycamore Creek Trailhead at the far end of Chapmansboro Rd. Take Highway 12 (Ashland City Highway) toward Clarksville, go through Ashland City, turn left one mile beyond the courthouse onto Chapmansboro Rd. Go past the first trailhead, continuing for about 4 miles. The Sycamore Creek Trailhead is on the right. Meet here at 9:00 a.m. Bring work gloves and a gasoline weed eater if you have one. Wear an orange vest (we will have some extras). The bed is flat so we shouldn't need shovels, but pruning saws would be useful. Call Penny Brooks at 615-792-5306 to let her know you are coming. There is another work day scheduled March 3.

Feb. 18th. Mark's Creek Trail, aka Bicentennial Trail, aka Ashland City Rail-Trail. 8 miles, rated both easy and scenic. Nashville area hikers can meet at 1:30 at the Kroger parking lot on Charlotte Pike just west of White Bridge Road. Otherwise, meet at the trailhead at 2:15. Afterwards: a trip to Stratton's? To pre-register or for more information, call Dave Walton at 615-646-5355.

Feb 24th. Hiking in Warner Parks: On the Trail with Ms. Manners. For those who are new to hiking, Heather Perry, the Warner Park Naturalist, has put together a series of short presentations by park staff, park friends, and TTA members from 9am to 11am CST at the Nature Center. Topics include park policy, trail maintenance, safety, volunteer watch, and will conclude with TTA discussing trail etiquette.

Feb 24th. Newcomers Hike at Percy Warner Park-Harpeth Woods Trail. Glenn Turner has coordinated this hike to follow the Warner Parks presentations. This 2-½ mile hike will begin at 11am CST. Register by calling Glenn at 615-352-1907.

Feb 25th. Bridgestone/Firestone Centennial Wilderness, near Sparta, TN. In the November, 2000, TTA Newsletter, is the following statement: "Ross Cardwell has gotten all of the trail signs up at the trailheads as well as at each point of interest and intersection so you can't get lost, even if you try." These will be new trails for the hike leader unless she can scout them before hand. Come along and bring your adventuresome spirit for this all-day trip. We'll hike at least 8 of the 12 miles that are cleared, sign-posted and opened for hiking. The terrain is rated moderate. Wear hiking boots and appropriate clothing for the weather. Bring snacks, lunch and water. Meet at 6:45am CST at Kinko's in the K-Mart parking lot on Donelson Pike, Eastbound exit 216-C off I-40. Questions and/or to pre-register, call Diane Manas at 615-352-7777.

Feb 27th. Pre-meeting dinner at Ruby Tuesday. Meet Paul Smith at Ruby Tuesday in Brentwood, next to REI, anytime after 5pm CST and we can hang around until about 6:45. (Does Paul really only hike in restaurants?). Pre-registration is not necessary, but you may contact Paul at 615-832-9388 or by email at paolov@bellsouth.net if you have any questions.

LOOKING AHEAD:

Mar 15th-18th. Leprechaun Leap! You have a chance to see 60 miles of the North-South Trail in Land Between the Lakes NRA in one long weekend with Herb Kneeland. Starting at the south end of this trail, the first day you will warm up with a 10-mile hike to the campsite. Day 2 will be 17 miles, day 3 will be 18, and then 16 on day 4. This recreational area covers 170,000 acres with a variety of wildlife and vegetation. The terrain is relatively flat, but the distance and need to carry a pack cause it to be rated strenuous. For those who cannot commit to the full 4 days, you can join or leave the hike at the midpoint. There is a small fee of \$25 for the backcountry group permit, which will be divided among the hikers. Each person is responsible for his or her own food and gear. Herb will assist with facilitating carpools, but transportation is largely the responsibility of the hikers. **THE DEADLINE FOR REGISTERING IS FRIDAY MARCH 9th. PREREGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.** Call Herb at 615-460-1144 (home), 615-298-4462 (work) or contact him by email at hdk3@home.com.

NORTHWEST CHAPTER (UT Martin / Weakley County)

CHAPTER OFFICER:

Joe Seago 901-587-8405
joeseago@backpacker.com

ELECTED BOARD REPRESENTATIVE:

Jim Clark 901-587-7369
jclark@utm.edu

MEETS: 2nd Thurs, 7pm, UT Martin Campus, Boling University Center, Room 230

website: <http://mug.utm.edu/trails>

The Northwest Chapter met on January 11 for a program by Sandy Davis on snow shoeing and skiing in Colorado.

Jan 20th. Land Between the Lakes. Meet in the University Center parking lot at 7am CST, or meet at LBL's North Welcome station by 9am CST.

Feb. 8th. Our next general meeting will be in room 232 of the University Center at 7pm.

Feb 10th. Tim Johnson will lead us on an exploration of the proposed route of the new Brian Brown Memorial Greenway.

Feb 18th or 25th. Nathan Bedford Forest State Park. Hike led by Chris Fox. Car-poolers meet in UC parking lot at 7:30am CST. Otherwise, meet at Pilot Knob at 9am CST. Contact Chris at 901-586-4744 or by e-mail at towndawg@hotmail.com.

Feb TBA. Joe Seago will conduct a land navigation course to be followed by a trip to the orienteering trail at Shiloh National Military Park to be scheduled for March.

Feb TBA. Larry Smith of the Wolf River Conservancy will talk to us about the Ghost River section of the Wolf River.

Apr 28th. Larry Smith is going to lead us down the river for a day canoe trip.

PLATEAU CHAPTER (Crossville)

CHAPTER OFFICER:

Vicki Perdue 931-456-6466

MEETS: 3rd Thurs, 7pm, Crossville Housing Authority

There is a leaderless hike every Wednesday morning at 9:30 a.m. CST. Meet at the boat launch area of Cumberland Mountain State Park. The hikes are moderately paced and may average five or six miles. Call Bill Haynes at 931-707-7606 for details. Rain cancels.

Feb 10th. Gentlemen's Swimming Hole at Rugby. 3 miles rated easy to moderate. Join us as we explore Rugby, starting with the Gentlemen's Swimming Hole. If the weather is good, we may also do Colditz Cove, a short 1½-mile hike. Further exploration of Rugby will lead us to the Harrow Road Café for a delicious lunch. Meet in back of the Cracker Barrel restaurant at the I-40 exit in Crossville at 8:00 a.m. CST. Hike Leaders: Jim and Kathy Kraus 931-707-5170.

Feb 15th. Plateau Chapter meeting at 7:00 p.m. CST at the Crossville Housing Authority. Visit Tahiti...free of charge! Janie Mertz, with the East TN chapter, will be presenting an exquisite slide show of this beautiful tropical paradise. We'll enjoy this romp in the sun after the frigid winter we've had...think beach!!

Feb 24th. O & W Bridge Hike in Big South Fork; 5 miles – easy; Oneida, TN. Hike on the old O & W railway with the Plateau Chapter. Bring lunch and water. Meet in back of the Cracker Barrel restaurant at the I-40 exit in Crossville at 8:00 a.m. CST. Hike Leaders: Charlie and Leigh Jones 931-277-3228

UPPER CUMBERLAND CHAPTER (Sparta / Cookeville)

CHAPTER CO-CHAIRS:

Helen Anglemier 931-858-5947 helena@cookeville.com
Sue Bass 931-528-1386 jmbass@usit.net

Feb 17th Stone Door/Greeter Falls. Register with Wayne and Bonnie Broadway at 931-520-8827 or jwb@multipro.com. We will shuttle, and it is about a six-mile moderate hike. Meet at First Union Bank in Sparta at 8am CST or at the Stone Door Ranger Station at 9:30am CST.

Mar 10th. Virgin Falls

Mar TBA. Wildflower walk with a park ranger at Edgar Evins

Apr 21st. Bridgestone/Firestone Centennial Wilderness.

Apr 28th. Twin Arches.

May 5th. Piney River.

May 19th. Cumberland Mountain State Park.

Jun 9th. Savage Gulf.

Hike report:

The December 16 hike to Hidden Passage was canceled due to the heavy rain, and the January 1 hike to Edgar Evins and the barbecue at Barbara Phifer's were canceled due to the snow. However, on January 6, we had a great hike with 12 people led by Carol Swindell to Standing Stone State Park. We mostly contacted people by e-mail and phoned those who had expressed an interest in the January 1 hike. The barbecue potluck was held at Barbara Phifer's after the hike, and the food tasted extra good after having been out hiking all day. Seventeen attended, and we planned our spring hikes. Helen Anglemier and Sue Bass will co-chair the chapter.

-submitted by Helen Anglemier

CUMBERLAND TRAIL CONFERENCE

CUMBERLAND TRAIL CONFERENCE CONTACTS:

Executive Director	Rob Weber	robweber@usit.net
Resource Manager	Arleen Scheller	scheller@usit.net
Program Coordinator	Tanya Meachen	tmeachen@onemain.com
Office Manager	Susan Weber	sweber1@usit.net

Office Location	19 East 4 th Street Crossville, TN 38555
Office Hours	8am-5pm
Phone:	931-456-6259
Fax:	931-456-4934
E-Mail:	cumberlandtrail@rocketmail.com
Website:	www.cumberlandtrail.org

You're Invited!

CTC would like to invite you to the 2nd Annual Trail Training Workshop, February 23-25, 2001, at the Tennessee Signal Mountain Church of God Camp. From trail leadership to building rock steps and blazing new trail, this year's workshop will offer training for anyone interested in learning more about the trail "experience." Check out the CTC Winter 2000 Newsletter for more information and a registration form. Don't wait...**registration deadline is February 9th.**

Spring BreakAway 2001 March 4 through 24

Spring is just around the bend...and with spring comes BreakAway! Join CTC and its volunteers as we host students from Villanova University, University of Pittsburgh, Michigan State University, Emory University, Florida State University, Iona College, University of Vermont, and West Virginia Wesleyan College for Spring BreakAway 2001 at Norris Dam State Park. There will be three weeks of friends, food, and fun as we build new trail and bridges on the Smoky Mountain Segment of the CT. To sign up as a volunteer, see the CTC Winter 2000 Newsletter for a registration form. For more information, contact **Tanya Meachen** at tmeachen@onemain.com or 931-456-6259.

ADOPT-A-TRAIL NEWS

ADOPT-A-TRAIL OFFICER:

Harold Draper

865-689-7757

h.m.draper@att.net

If you are interested in maintaining a particular trail or section of trail, please contact Harold Draper, Adopt-A-Trail Coordinator 865-689-7757.

TENNESSEE RAILS-TRAILS ADVISORY COUNCIL (TRAC)

BOARD REPRESENTATIVE:

Jim Pascoe

615-382-4443

screendoor@bigfoot.com

website: <http://members.aol.com/trac2trail/depot.htm>

MISSION: *To act as a resource and mentor for the planning, development and management of rail-trails throughout the State of Tennessee for the purposes of appropriate recreation, preservation of rail corridors and alternate transportation, in order to benefit the general public, communities, commerce and tourism.*

Trail Work Days have been scheduled on the newly acquired section of the Cumberland River Bicentennial Trail at Ashland City. See the Nashville Chapter schedule for details.

Board of Directors

President

Libby Francis 615-889-5718
libbylibbys@home.com

Vice-President

Leigh Jones 931-277-3228
cejones@webtv.net

Treasurer

Barbara Matheson 615-373-7291
bmath@mindspring.com

Secretary

Patti Shaw 615-889-6472
snappy1@mindspring.com

Past President

Jim Poteet 615-824-7666
jpoteet@genesco.com

Past President

Harold Draper 865-689-7757
h.m.draper@att.net

West TN Regional Director

Jerry Lenski 901-255-6574
jlenski@lurgipsi.com

Middle TN Regional Director

Barbara Draude 615-895-5546
bdraude@mtsu.edu

East TN Regional Director

Arleen Scheller 931-707-8333
scheller@usit.net

Membership Director

Anne Wesley 615-851-1052
ttahiker@msn.com

Cumberland Trail Conference Reps

Barry & Sandra Spearman 931-839-2320
sandbar@multipro.com

TN Rails To Trails Advisory Council Rep

Jim Pascoe 615-382-4443
screendoor@bigfoot.com

Chapter representatives on the board are listed within each Chapter's header.

Newsletter Editor

Diane Manas 615-352-7777
dianemanas@home.com

February Guest Editor

Jim Poteet

Newsletter Deadlines:

Copy due the 10th of the month for an announcement to appear on the 1st of the following month

(I.e.: Feb 10th submissions will appear Mar 1st)

Please send all submissions to:

Diane Manas
5729 Stoneway Trail
Nashville, TN 37209
615-352-7777

e-mail: dianemanas@home.com

You Are Invited to Join...

TN Conservation Voters Education Fund

The First Conservation Voter Action Network in TN

Are you concerned about sprawl, pollution, protecting our natural and scenic areas and the quality of life for your family? Then take this opportunity to participate in a new e-mail based network that will enable concerned citizens throughout Tennessee to become informed and target key decision-makers about significant environmental decisions at the local, regional and state level.

The Action Network is NOT a listserv. You and other participants will only be contacted via email 6-10 times a year when your voice is needed. The Network will send you a summary of the targeted issue and a sample letter for you to personalize. The Network's system will then send these letters to the targeted decision-maker and report on the outcome. Though it is the first in the state, the Network is modeled after other successful national and state systems and uses new technology that is more effective than just using e-mail alone.

The Action Network is a new initiative of the TN Conservation Voters Education Fund, a recently formed, non-profit conservation organization, working in coalition with several groups in the state to establish and manage this Network. Your e-mail address is safe and will never be sold or given out. At any time, you may contact the program to be removed permanently from the Network.

To sign up, send an e-mail to Erin Kelley, Director, at: tenneaf@mindspring.com

Please encourage friends and colleagues to join as well.

... twenty well-timed letters can make all the difference in the world!

TN Conservation Voters Education Fund • 1 Vantage Way • Suite D-115
Nashville, TN • 37228 • 615 • 846 • 3993

Tennessee Trails Merchandise Order Form

_____ Hiking Tennessee Trails, 5th Edition \$12.95
_____ TTA Patch..... 3.00
Round embroidered patch, sew it on anything.
_____ TTA Window Decal 1.00
A must for each car.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State ____ Zip _____
Home Ph _____ Work Ph _____

Mail your check payable to:

*Tennessee Trails Association
c/o Marietta Poteet
324 Raintree Drive
Hendersonville, TN 37075*

Please allow 4 weeks for delivery.

Prices shown include postage.

Tennessee Trails Association
P.O. Box 41446
Nashville, TN 37204-1446

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

First Class Mail
U.S. Postage Paid
Nashville, TN
PERMIT NUMBER 4053



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. If you fail to re-apply we will send you one newsletter and a reminder notice. If you have not re-applied by this time, your membership will terminate.

PLEASE RENEW, STAY INFORMED, WE NEED YOU!!!

**NEW MEMBER AND
RENEWAL MEMBERSHIP FORM**

YES, I want to join Tennessee Trails Association...

(Memberships are for one year, unless you have a Lifetime Membership.)

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

- ___ Individual \$25.00
- ___ Family \$35.00
- ___ Student \$15.00
- ___ Life Member \$500.00
- ___ Supporting (\$200.00, \$100.00, \$50.00 or other)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Home Phone _____ Zip _____ -- _____

Work Phone _____

e-mail _____

Please do not list my e-mail address in the TTA Annual Membership Directory

Please list me with the following chapter:

- ___ Big South Fork
- ___ Clarksville
- ___ Columbia
- ___ Cove Lake
- ___ East TN(Oak Ridge/Knoxville)
- ___ Memphis
- ___ Murfreesboro
- ___ Nashville
- ___ Northwest(UT at Martin/Weakley)
- ___ Plateau(Crossville)
- ___ Upper Cumberland(Sparta/Cookeville)
- ___ At Large

...Volunteer ?...
endless opportunities
available
contact your local
Chapter Chairperson

When you become a TTA member, you will receive a monthly newsletter containing information on hiker safety, upcoming hikes / overnight trips, volunteer opportunities, chapter meeting announcements as well as events occurring within TTA's Associate Organizations: C.T.C. and T.R.A.C. You are invited to attend any number of monthly meetings scheduled, where you will enjoy diverse programs, socializing and refreshments. Each April you will receive the Membership Directory listing members by chapter and how to reach them. Every spring and fall we meet at one of Tennessee's many parks for a weekend of hiking, camaraderie and where the board members can meet to exchange ideas and hear reports on TTA's progress.

As a member of TTA, you are welcome to attend all TTA / CTC / TRAC functions.