

# 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



## CABIN FEVER STRIKES!!!

There is a Cure!!!  
GET OUTSIDE!!!

As winter winds down and spring approaches, TTA experts are predicting a virulent outbreak of Cabin Fever. There is only one known cure for this ailment - GETTING OUTDOORS! We hope to see all TTA members on the trail enjoying the warmer weather, but we also hope you will consider inviting a friend or family member to join in on our hikes and outings. The spring schedule always includes trips that are perfect for introducing new hikers to TTA. Almost every chapter will have at least one wildflower hike that generally offers a slower pace for admiring the budding plants. Each month the Nashville Chapter leads a "Newcomers' Hike" tailored for new and prospective members.

Every member can be an ambassador for TTA and Tennessee hiking. If you know someone who is interested in hiking, we would love to send him/her a copy of our newsletter. Please email their name and address to [tahiker@msn.com](mailto:tahiker@msn.com) or phone Anne Wesley at 615-851-1052. Do you know a business that attracts outdoors-minded people? Contact Anne. She will arrange to have some newsletters mailed or hand-delivered each month.

Every time we hike at Mammoth Cave NP, we run into out-of-state hikers who think Mammoth Cave NP is a hiking heaven. Little do they know a real hiker's heaven is just an hour or so south of the Kentucky border. If you meet other hikers out on the trail, tell them to visit our website, [www.tennesseetrails.org](http://www.tennesseetrails.org). There is a new form for Internet surfers to fill out to receive a copy of our newsletter. You can also ask your chapter officer for a couple of TTA brochures to stash in your pack. We have had quite a few people join after they ran into TTA hikers on the trail.

No matter what the Pennsylvania rodent says, spring is just around the corner. Let's not keep TTA a secret!

## SPRING BREAKAWAY 2001

MARCH 4 - 24

BreakAway is here! And, you're not too late. Jump on in, pick up the phone, call us with the dates you're able to volunteer and come on out and give us a hand.

**No experience required!**

**FREE on-site training is available!**

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, West Virginia and Wesleyan Colleges during this year's Spring BreakAway.

Again, we will be housed at Norris Dam State Park in their 'Luxury' cabins (much appreciated at the end of the day - yum, hot showers!). We promise three weeks of friends, food, and fun while we together, build new trail and bridges on the Smoky Mountain segment of the CT.

Don't delay, call Tanya Meachen today: 931-456-6259.

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## FINAL REMINDER . . . NEW MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

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 revisions by email to:  
[membership@tennesseetrails.org](mailto:membership@tennesseetrails.org)

Or, through a form on our website:  
[www.tennesseetrails.org](http://www.tennesseetrails.org)

# Letters from Libby..... TTA's President

Dear friends,

Hurray!!! Spring is almost here, and my thoughts turn to fire rakes. Service opportunities abound, and I am really looking forward to getting out there on the trail and lopping some unruly bushes. Doesn't that sound like fun? I hope you will look through this issue and find a project that interests you. BreakAway is an awesome experience, combining the enthusiasm of youth with the determination of us old folks. Harold Draper will be happy to guide you through the process of Adopt-A-Trail, either individually, or by chapter. Dave Walton or Dan Brennon can get you information on trail workdays at Edgar Evins SP and Beaman Park. Fount Bertram and the Murfreesboro Chapter are going to be trail-breaking at a new city park in Murfreesboro. Gloria Norrid can get you information on trail and bridgework at Meeman-Shelby park and other projects in the Memphis area. Jim Clark can get you information on the development of a Greenway project near Martin. We are looking for volunteers to help finish the Devil's Backbone trail on the Natchez Trace, and to finish some bridge work at Short Springs SNA near Tullahoma. Give me a call if you can help with these projects, or if you need the phone numbers of any of the members listed above. Hope to see you on the trail!

Till next time ... Libby Francis

## WEBSITE UPDATE

We're in the process of redesigning and updating our Internet website (THE ADDRESS WILL REMAIN THE SAME). And, you're invited to help in the construction. What we're looking for right now are photographs of the places we have gone and we really need the photos to contain people. (What better way to show others surfing the Internet the fun we have.) Photographs of us on a day hike or backpacking, even car-camping. How about the celebrations we've had on the trail – like New Year's and birthdays come to mind. Won't take much time, just pull together the photos you have, write on the back of the photo or attach them to a paper and identify:

- who took the photo
- where the photo was taken
- who are the people in the photo

SEND PHOTOS TO:  
ATTN: WEBMASTER  
TN Trails Assoc.  
P.O. Box 41446  
Nashville, TN 37204-1446

## YOUR GENEROSITY BENEFITS ALL

Although Blanche DuBois may have "always depended on the kindness of strangers," TTA depends on the kindness (and generosity) of our members. When you join or renew your TTA membership, you may become a "Supporting Member" by donating a little (or a lot) above the regular dues. These donations support any number of TTA projects and programs, and we thank the following people who renewed their 2001 memberships as Supporting Members:

- |                        |                   |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Jenice & Jim Johnson   | Nashville Chapter |
| Diane & Zvi Manas      | Nashville Chapter |
| Bonnie & Bill Hancock  | Nashville Chapter |
| Anne Wesley            | Nashville Chapter |
| Cumberland Hiking Club | At Large          |
| Dorothy & Jim Lesch    | Nashville Chapter |

## BIG SOUTH FORK CHAPTER

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Eric Wilson 423-628-2817 ericavi@infoave.net

**CHAPTER BUSINESS:** Our annual meeting occurred on Jan 13. There were 15 members present. An election of officers and hike schedule was completed. The election resulted in the following: Eric Wilson, *Chapter Chair*; Peter Erickson, *Assistant Chapter Chair*; Barbara Stagg, *Secretary and Treasurer (and 2001 Hike Coordinator)*. Members present volunteered to lead hikes in the months ahead. Feel free to contact any of the officers above to voice suggestions, concerns or your interest in volunteering on the many trail projects we have in the works.

### **MARCH HIKE:**

Mar 31 Some old, some new, and some recently restored trails in the immediate vicinity of Rugby. This hike will include the new Laurel Branch trail, the recently reopened Tabard trail from the Tabard Inn site to the Gentlemen's Swimming Hole, and the trail to the Ladies' Swimming Hole and Decapitation Rock. Figure about 2-3 hours of moderate hiking. Pack a lunch to eat on the rocks along the river and, if you feel really brave, a bathing suit for the first swim of the season. Meet 10:30am EST at the Harrow Road Café. For information and to pre-register, call Bob Hemminger: 615-297-4522 or email him: [hemminrl@math.vanderbilt.edu](mailto:hemminrl@math.vanderbilt.edu) Consider making it a full day in Rugby because Bob will also be leading an evening of English Country Dancing in Rugby. Bring your dancing shoes (no experience required). Bob can give you the particulars.

**HIKE REPORT:** On Feb 3 we had a great turnout for our outing to Beaver Falls. Fifteen hikers braved the cold morning (we would have had sixteen but for a mix-up between Eastern and Central times) and the bright sunshine soon had us feeling fine. Our leader, Eric Wilson, managed to lose part of the group before the hike had properly begun as one segment of hikers took off down the wrong trail as they left the parking area. We were eventually reunited as the strays completed the Burnt Mill Bridge Loop at about the same time the rest of us were returning from Beaver Falls.

## CLARKSVILLE CHAPTER

### CHAPTER OFFICER:

J.R. Tate 931-920-2692 modelt@charter.net

**MEETS:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Tues, 7pm, The Crow Community Center, 211 Richview Rd

Mar 3-4 Ft. Henry Trail system, Land Between the Lakes NRA. We have a choice. We can day hike or backpack this network of trails at LBLNRA. A combination of 10 trails form a series of loops that provide us lots of options for day hiking as well as backpacking. For information and to pre-register, call our hike leader J.R. Tate: 931-920-2692.

Mar 10 Fall Creek Falls. Pikeville, TN. Fall Creek Falls is the highest waterfall east of the Rocky Mountains, plunging 256 feet into a shaded pool at the base of its gorge. We'll hike about 7 miles, on trails rated moderate, to view the Falls from the top as well as the bottom. For information, carpool meeting time/location and to pre-register, call Sandi Hamilton: 931-920-2760.

Mar 17-18 Angel Falls Overlook, Big South Fork NRR. Jamestown, TN. We have an option. We can day hike up to the Overlook and back or continue on and make this an overnight backpacking trip. For information and to pre-register, call Wanda Cumberland: 931-906-3338.

Mar 24-25 Fiery Gizzard trail backpack, Grundy Forest SNA. Tracy City, TN. Join J.R. Tate for an overnight backpacking hike on the Fiery Gizzard trail on the Cumberland Plateau. Expect beautiful scenery. The total mileage covered will be about 12 miles. The terrain is rated moderate. For information and to pre-register, call J.R. Tate: 931-920-2692

Mar 20 **MONTHLY MEETING**

Mar 31-Apr 1 Frozen Head SP. Wartburg, TN. Come spend the weekend hiking and camping in FHSP. We'll hike amidst a park with 14 peaks ranging in elevation from 1,340 ft to over 3,300 ft with views from the top of the TN Ridge and Plateau. For information and to pre-register, call Manuel McKnight: 931-358-2115.

### IN LOVING MEMORY

Mary Tom had a wonderful smile. Even on those dreary hikes, when the sun simply refused to push the clouds away, Mary's smile and sunny disposition brightened the miles. She imbued our spirits with her soft charm and inner strength, and we always left her company enriched, taking away far more than we brought. Nature lover, advocate of responsible stewardship, birder, doting "Grandma", talented "quilter", Mary accepted each sunrise as a gift not to be squandered; each friendship as a precious treasure; each minute as a chord in the joyful rhapsody of Life. On January 15, 2001, the last poignant, haunting notes of the "rhapsody" faded, and Mary Tom Cowan Stoddard passed from this life. We will miss you Mary - especially on those dreary hikes when the sun simply refuses to shine.

## COLUMBIA CHAPTER

### CHAPTER OFFICER:

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

**MEETS:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Tues, 6:30pm, Bethel Room, Hunter Matthews Complex (NE corner Columbia Square)

Mar 17 Old Stone Fort SAA. Manchester, TN. Come explore the Native American history, scenic bluffs and waterfalls of this scenic area. The hike is about 4½ miles and rated easy to moderate. For carpool meeting time/location and to pre-register, call Todd Horton: 615-302-3336.

Mar 20 **MONTHLY MEETING.** Come learn hiker safety tips, hear about past and upcoming hiking trips, meet/greet members/friends and see a fun-filled program presentation from a like-minded outdoor enthusiast. Lots in store!

### HIKE REPORT:

On Jan 20 our hike to Montgomery Bell SP was cancelled due to what turned out to be a missed forecast of snow. We will reschedule. Watch for an upcoming announcement.

On Jan 28 we had 9 people (8 from the Columbia/Spring Hill area) hike the beautiful trails of Radnor Lake SNA. We saw wildlife!!! Several deer and an otter. It doesn't get much better.

## COVE LAKE CHAPTER

### CHAPTER OFFICER:

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

Mar 17 Alley Ford trail, Obed Wild & Scenic RA. Wartburg, TN. Come with us and enjoy the beauty of the woods! We will hike 2.6 miles to Alley Ford, then back. (The trail past there is closed 'til May.) It is a beautiful trail, with the river on one side and magnificent rock cliffs on the other. It is an easy, well-maintained trail, except for the climb back up from the river. We'll meet 9am EST behind the Eagle Market gas station in Jonesboro and should return around 3:30pm. For information and/or to pre-register, call Faith Dippold: 423-566-8026.

## EAST TN CHAPTER (Oak Ridge / Knoxville)

### CHAPTER OFFICER:

Keith Mertz 865-376-4827 keithmertz@hotmail.com

Mar 10 Big Valley trail and Sharp's Station loop, Big Ridge SP. Maynardville, TN. Esther Ruffner (or the Big Ridge SP Ranger) will lead us on this 8-mile hike. We will pass the site of a 1794 Indian ambush, the first of two settlements west of the Appalachians, an old mill and cemetery. There will be two ridge ascents and descents; thus, the hike's rating is moderate. Bring lunch, water and dress appropriately for the weather. We'll meet 9am EST at the Big Ridge SP Visitor's/Ranger's station located just off State Hwy 61 in Union County. For information and/or to pre-register, call Esther Ruffner: 865-281-0567.

Mar 31 House Mountain SNA. Corryton, TN. Come see the sites! This is a 5-mile loop hike that is rated moderate for the 1000 feet climb required to get us to the top of House Mountain (highest point in Knox County). If the weather cooperates and the skies are clear, we should have an excellent view of the suburbs of Knoxville, the East TN valley, the Smoky mountains and Clinch Mountain. Bring lunch, water and dress appropriately for the weather. We'll meet 9:30am EST in the parking lot of Shoney's on Rutledge Pike. For information and/or to pre-register, call Marvin Shanks: 865-690-6070. (cont. on pg. 4)

## EAST TN CHAPTER

(cont. from pg. 3)

### HIKE REPORT:

Our Jan 13 hike to Fort Loudoun SHA, led by Ranger Jeff Wells, and Jan 27 hike to the UT Arboretum, led by Pat Barbieri, were fun, educational and well attended. We had 30 people on each hike. Thanks to Jeff, and Pat. With the group's size, you didn't lose anybody!!!

## MEMPHIS CHAPTER

### CHAPTER OFFICER:

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

### ELECTED BOARD REPRESENTATIVE:

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

MEETS: 3<sup>rd</sup> Thur 7pm, Germantown Library  
(Sept-May)

ORIGINALLY: Mar 2-4 Winding Stairs hike. This hike has been postponed until Oct 19 due to ice damage. In its place ...

Mar 2-4 Cumberland Mountain State Park. Crossville, TN. On Sat we'll meet 8am EASTERN TIME at the Park's office/restaurant. We'll hike a 7-10 mile section of the Cumberland trail on terrain rated moderate. On Sun we will do an easy 4-mile downhill hike on Black Mountain. For hike and lodging information, call Carol Haley: 901-388-9163.

Mar 10 Wolf River trail, Lucius Burch SNA. Memphis, TN. This is an easy 3-4 mile loop hike along the Wolf River through a hardwood forest. We'll meet 9am CST at the Shelby Farms soccer field off Walnut Grove Rd. For information and/or to pre-register, call Freddie Felt: 901-685-9915.

Mar 15 **MONTHLY MEETING.** Memphis Chapter members, Norma McMinn and Kathryn Skinner, will do a slide presentation on their separate treks to Nepal. On a trek such as this you leave civilization and enter remote lands, traveling by foot over mountain ridges, crossing deep valleys, and sleeping in one village after another. Norma's trek takes us from Kathmandu west to Pokhara, and into the rural lower foothills of the Annapurnas and along the ancient trading route to Tibet passing through villages virtually unchanged since the medieval ages. Kathryn's trek leaves Kathmandu east to Lukla and into the Mt. Everest region. Highlights include, sherpa villages, isolated Buddhist monasteries, the remote Gokyo Valley, beautiful turquoise lakes, moonscape-like glaciers, and stunning mountain scenery that includes Everest, Lhotse, Makalu, and Cho Oyu - four of the eight highest peaks on earth!

## MEMPHIS CHAPTER (cont.)

Mar 31-Apr 1 Upper Buffalo Wilderness Adventure Hike, Ozark-St Francis NF. Northwest AK. Frederick Belton will lead a weekend of hikes in the UBW area. Accommodations available close by are Gordon's Motel as well as a free camping area (without facilities, on private property, with cliffs and a waterfall) 3 miles west of Jasper. Campers need to arrive before dark on Fri Mar 30 where we'll gather at 6pm CST in the front of Gordon's Motel. Motel rooms have been reserved and are on hold until Mar 17. Rooms must be pre-paid by Mar 17. Room refunds will not be made if cancellations come in after Mar 17. For additional information and to pre-register, call Frederick Belton: 901-327-3674(h) or 901-678-2377(w).

On Sat we'll meet 7:30am CST at Gordon's Motel to carpool to Boxley via Ponca and then by a steep gravel road to Kapark Cemetery wilderness access parking area. The hike to Bowers Hollow waterfall is mostly flat on an old logging road but with steep (and very short) off-trail sections near the falls. Total distance is approximately 6 miles roundtrip. This is one of the most beautiful spots on the Buffalo watershed and is not visited by many people.

On Sun we'll hike the Round Mountain trail near Jasper for cliff views and scenic vistas or King's Bluff trail near Pelsor to a spectacular waterfall and cliffs.

## MURFREESBORO CHAPTER

### CHAPTER OFFICER:

Fount Bertram 615-765-5357 fwbertram@hotmail.net

MEETS: 2nd Tues, 7pm, Wilderness Station @ Barfield-Crescent Park, 697 Barfield Rd.

Mar 6 The Tennessee Ornithological Society has invited us to their meeting to hear Mack Pritchard's presentation about "birding." Mack is well-known for his entertaining and educational presentations. The meeting starts at 7:30pm at St. Mark's Methodist Church. For additional information, call Bertha Chrietzberg: 615-896-1146, or email her: [bertha@hotmail.com](mailto:bertha@hotmail.com)

Mar 10 Cumberland River Bicentennial Trail (Rails-to-Trails). Ashland City, TN. This is an easy 8-mile hike on an old railroad bed that was converted for multi-recreation use. The trail parallels the Cumberland River where we can expect to see birds and wildflowers. We'll meet 8am CST at St. Mark's Methodist Church in Murfreesboro. Bring \$\$\$, it's lighter than carrying lunch and after the hike we'll have lunch at Stratton's, a 50's style diner, in Ashland City. For information and to pre-register, call Pete or Ann Preston: 615-895-5636.

Mar 11 North Chicamauga Creek, located just north of Chattanooga. This 7-9 mile hike can be deceiving therefore is rated moderate. (Because, I've seen Judith Rusciolli jog it while others walking it have suffered.) I've hiked this trail in Jan & May and it's been great! March won't be a disappointment. We'll meet 7am CST at the McDonald's in Murfreesboro, Highway 96 just off I-24. Boots and drinking water are required for your health and safety. For information and to pre-register, call Heloise Shilstat: 615-896-6278(h), or 615-254-5461(w), or email her: [heloisew@bellsouth.net](mailto:heloisew@bellsouth.net)

Mar 13 **MONTHLY MEETING**

Mar 31 Trail of Tears. We'll hike a portion of the historical Trail of Tears. Meet 8am CST at St. Mark's Methodist Church in Murfreesboro or, 8:30am CST at the Hardee's in Woodbury. For information and to pre-register, call Dr. Bob Hornsby: 615-895-4930.

(cont. on pg. 5)

## MURFREESBORO CHAPTER

(cont. from pg. 4)

### LOOKING AHEAD:

Apr 8 Hidden Springs trail, Cedars of Lebanon SP. Lebanon, TN. This is an easy 5-mile loop hike that passes through glade flowers and by a BIG sinkhole. With luck, we can hope to see *Nashville Breadroot*, a cousin of the Texas Bluebonnet. This park is located just south of I-40 (exit 238 Murf/Leb) on Highway 231 between Murfreesboro and Lebanon. Bring drinking water and wear boots. We'll meet 1pm CDT at the park entrance. Carpoolers can pre-arrange to meet at either the I-40/Hwy 231 Cone station or at my house in Rutherford County. For information, carpool meeting time/location and to pre-register, call Heloise Shilstat: 615-896-6278(h), or 615-254-5461(w), or email her: [heloisew@bellsouth.net](mailto:heloisew@bellsouth.net)

## NASHVILLE CHAPTER

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Dan Brennan 615-599-4713  
[osrwodan@aol.com](mailto:osrwodan@aol.com)

**MEETS:** 4<sup>th</sup> Tues, 7pm, Radnor Lake Visitor's Center,  
Granny White Pike

**HIKING HOTLINE 615-367-7045**

- Mar 3 Mossy Ridge and Warner Woods trails, Warner Park. Nashville, TN. Here's an opportunity to hike close to home in this beautiful park. Expect to see some wildflowers. The hike is 7 miles and rated moderate due to the numerous short hills. Meet at 9am CST at the stone gate at the end of Belle Meade Blvd. For information and/or to pre-register, call Dan Brennan: 615-599-4713.
- Mar 10 Beaman Park Trail Work Day. Joelton, TN. The park will be waking up from winter, and the Friends of Beaman Park will be developing more trails in the park. For information and to volunteer, call Dave Walton: 615-646-5355.
- Mar 10 Grand Gap Loop, Big South Fork NRR. Jamestown, TN. This will be a 15-mile hike starting at the Bandy Creek Campground and ending at the Leatherwood Ford parking area. We will hike the John Litton Farm Loop and connect with the Fall Branch Trail. We will then connect to the Grand Gap Loop, which offers overlooks of the Big South Fork. We will return to the Leatherwood Ford parking area via the Angel Falls Overlook Trail. Since a short car shuttle will be required, it is important to pre-register for this hike. For information, carpool meeting time/location and to pre-register, call Richard Horvath: 270-586-0178.
- Mar 10 Black Mountain area of the Grassy Cove section of the CT. Crab Orchard, TN. This hike is about 4 miles and is rated moderate because we're starting at the bottom of Black Mountain and climbing up. Expect an elevation gain of approximately 700 feet over the 4 miles. Upon arriving at the trailhead, we'll meet Kathleen Williams, Director of the Tennessee Greenways Foundation, to hike with us and provide insight on the geology of the area. This is a one-way hike and will require a short car shuttle. For information, carpool meeting time/location and to pre-register, call Alicia Gray: 615-453-5138(h), or 615-399-4226 ext. 217(w).

## NASHVILLE CHAPTER (cont.)

- Mar 11 Sewanee Bluffs, University of the South campus. Sewanee, TN. We'll hike from Memorial Cross, past Morgan's Steep, Green's View and through Shake Rag Hollow. Hopefully, we'll catch some early spring wildflowers. This hike is 6 miles and rated easy. As an indicator, if the wildflowers are abundant, we'll pay a visit to Short Springs SNA on our way back to Nashville. For information, carpool meeting time/location and to pre-register, call Jim Poteet: 615-824-7666.
- Mar 15-18 Leprechaun Leap! Backpack the North-South trail in Land Between the Lakes NRA. Hurry, if you have not already registered as you are running out of time! Here's your chance to backpack the entire 60 miles of the North-South trail in LBLNRA, over 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 cover 17 miles. Day 3 is 18 miles and on day 4 we'll finish out 16 miles. LBLNRA covers 170,000 acres with a variety of wildlife and vegetation. The terrain is relatively flat however, throw in the daily mileage and the weight of a backpack, causes this hike to be rated strenuous. For those unable to commit to the full 4 days, you have the option to 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. **PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED ON OR BEFORE FRI MAR 9.** Call Herb at 615-460-1144(h) or 615-298-4462(w), or by email: [hdk3@home.com](mailto:hdk3@home.com)
- Mar 17 Beaman Park. Joelton, TN. This is an opportunity for those who have wanted to explore the near and far reaches of this undeveloped and beautiful area. Expect to see lots of wildflowers and discover those in the areas we've not been before. The hike is rated moderate to strenuous only because the hike is off-trail and we're going to be at it all day. Plan on bringing snacks, lunch and plenty of water. Forrest Evans is our hike leaders and is extremely knowledgeable about the park, its plants and topography so you're sure to learn a lot. Although an entrance gate has been erected, Beaman Park is not officially open to the public so hiking is by permit only and space is limited. Pre-register by calling Nancy Dorman: 615-299-9586. We'll meet 9am CST at the spring on Little Marrowbone Rd. The hike will commence around 4pm.
- Mar 18 Little Swan trail at the historic Meriwether Lewis site along the Natchez Trace Parkway. After a pretty drive along the Natchez Trace Parkway we will exit the NTP at milepost 384 for this 4-mile loop-hike that is rated moderate, due to the elevation changes. We will meet 9:30am CST at the Kroger on Highway 100 near Chaffins Barn. For information and/or to pre-register, call Patti Bryant: 615-874-0340, or email her: [pdubryant@mindspring.com](mailto:pdubryant@mindspring.com)
- Mar 18 Shake Rag Hollow, University of the South. Sewanee, TN. This is a hike for anyone craving wildflowers. There is always a spectacular array of wildflowers on this trail. The hike is rated easy and approximately 4½ miles. For information, carpool meeting time/location and to pre-register, call Charlie or Jennifer Hann: 615-941-1503.

(cont. on pg. 6)

## NASHVILLE CHAPTER

(cont. from pg. 5)

- Mar 24 Mossy Ridge trail, Percy Warner Park. Nashville, TN. Come hike among the wildflowers of this beautiful park close to our homes. Park Naturalist, Heather Perry will lead us on this 4½-mile loop trail rated easy to moderate. Don't be shy, now's the time to ask a Naturalist all about the wildflowers you'll see. For information, meeting time/location, and to pre-register, call Heather Perry: 615-352-6299.
- Mar 24 Laurel Fork Loop, Big South Fork NRA. Jamestown, TN. The best kept secret and also the most beautiful trail in the BSFNRA. The hike is 11.1 miles (if necessary, a shortcut is available, decreasing the mileage to 9) and rated difficult due to the frequent creek fords, stairs, steep climbs and rocky terrain. Therefore, boots with ankle support are a must! You're rewarded with views of moss-covered boulders, hemlock trees 11 feet in circumference, creeks, waterfalls and wildlife (could see deer, turkey and wild boar). Bring snacks, lunch and water. For information, meeting time/location and to pre-register, call Keith White: 615-305-9078.
- Mar 27 **MONTHLY MEETING.** This land is my land; this land is your land. Fine, but how deep does our knowledge of this land go? Let's get deeper with some help from our guest speaker for this month, Bob Miller. Mr. Miller is a professional geologist who is retired from many years of service with the State Geological Survey; presently, he is an independent consulting geologist. In 1967, Mr. Miller founded the Tennessee Scenic Rivers Association and he is co-author of the Tennessee Scenic Rivers Act and the Tennessee Natural Areas Act. He's more than able to speak to us about the origins of the Central Basin and its landforms. Bring your curiosity about these hills we hike...and a friend.
- Mar 31 Newcomers Hike. Come on out and enjoy this urban escape just a stone's throw from downtown Nashville. We'll hike the Shelby Bottoms Greenway in Shelby Park. This hike is rated easy and quite scenic as it follows the Cumberland River. After the hike we'll take a break at the local neighborhood filling station, The Radio Café. For additional information, meeting time, location and to pre-register, call Julie Walski: 615-333-6904. Don't forget to bring \$\$\$.
- Mar 31 Rock Creek / Dry Pond Lead, Little Frog Wilderness. Ducktown, TN. We will hike the Rock Creek Trail in the Little Frog Wilderness on the north side of the Ocoee River. We will connect with the Dry Pond Lead and hike all or part of that trail, depending on its condition after this winter. This will be a 12½-mile hike that should be considered strenuous due to the less than optimum trail conditions (i.e. blowdowns). Hopefully, blooming wildflowers will make the effort worthwhile. This hike will require a short car shuttle. For information, carpool meeting time/location and to pre-register, call Richard Horvath: 270-586-0178.

## NASHVILLE CHAPTER(cont.)

### HIKE REPORT: MAMMOTH TRASH

On Feb 4, eleven hikers trekked "off-trail" on historic Flint Ridge at Mammoth Cave NP. Not only did we hike, but we also had a contest to see who could collect the most trash. At times the competition threatened to turn ugly. Hikers raced to snatch beer cans off the ground just as someone else was reaching for them. Candy wrappers and bottles were stolen from trash bags when people weren't looking. However, at the end of the hike, the undisputed winner was Richard Horvath. Richard lashed so many plastic jugs to his backpack that he looked like a walking dumpster, and he made a peculiar, but rhythmic, rattle as he hiked. All jokes aside, the real winner that day was Flint Ridge. Everyone collected and hauled off 34+ pounds of trash. We truly left this National Park in better shape than we found it. Thanks to all who helped, and we challenge other hiking trips to beat our weight.

## NORTHWEST CHAPTER

(UT at Martin / Weakley County)

### CHAPTER OFFICERS:

Jim Clark 901-587-7369 jclark@utm.edu  
Joe Seago 901-587-8405 joeseago@backpacker.com

MEETS: 2<sup>nd</sup> Thur, 7pm, UT Martin Campus, Boling University Center, Room 230

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

JAN MTG ANNOUNCEMENTS: Garbo talks! Phil Davis sings! Maybe it didn't rank up there with the famous quote about Greta Garbo's first talking picture, but the presentation Sandy Davis made at our January meeting on winter hiking in the Rockies was wonderful. Yes, it did feature a section where the Head of UTM's Chemistry Department sang a portion of "*she'll be coming around the mountain...*", (surprisingly well done to this listener's not so professional ears), but also showed us panoramic views of the Rockies as the Davis family took us on several hikes in the mountains around Breckenridge, CO. However, these hikes were on snowshoes and cross-country skis, not on foot. Sandy's commentary and video footage made for a great program.

Early events for the year that were planned at this meeting were a hike to LBL, Jan 20 (canceled due to inclement weather), a rambling through the proposed trails at UTM (Feb 10), Nathan Bedford Forrest (Feb 17) and a Ghost River canoe trip on Apr 28. The possibility of doing the compass trail at Shiloh was also proposed. Several members talked of their hikes with the Nashville chapter to Virgin Falls and extolled the virtues of that hike, if not the rigors of the return trip.

FEB MTG ANNOUNCEMENTS: Dean Jim Byford, UTM's College of Agriculture, informed us of the plans that UTM has for developing some of its land. Of particular interest to TTA members are the 2-3 miles of multi-purpose trails to be constructed on a portion of that land. Partially along a riparian zone along a creek, an old railroad bed and around proposed artificial wetlands area, this promises to be an exciting facility for not only demonstrating modern agriculture techniques, but also to provide a recreational facility to the university and the Martin community. Construction on these should begin sometime later this spring. This trail, along with proposed connections to subdivisions and downtown Martin, should provide a strong start to the local Brian Brown Memorial Greenway. Chris Fox provided us a brief description of the trails at Nathan Bedford Forrest State Park as well as a brief history lesson. Chris led the Feb 17 hike at NBF. He also told us of his adventure at Fiery Gizzard the weekend before. Anyone who has hiked those plateau trails with sections where you hop from rock-to-rock-to-rock... can appreciate his story on "oops, where's the trail?" and his having to backtrack to find it. (cont. on pg. 7)

## NORTHWEST CHAPTER

(cont. from pg. 6)

**MAR MEETING:** Details of our March meeting were not available at press time. However, our meeting program will include a presentation by Larry Smith of the Wolf River Conservancy. As soon as a meeting date is decided, we will post it, the time and location to our website.

### HIKE REPORT:

On Feb 10, an exploration of proposed trails at UTM took place. After being teased by spring-like temperatures all week, 9 folks gathered on a chilly, blustery morning for an exploration of the area where UTM is proposing to build some multi-purpose trails. Led by David Belote and Tim Johnston, we walked along the railroad bed to see the work done by UTM students to shore up an old bridge, making it safe to walk, ventured forth across fields, crossed creeks, and dreamed of the possibilities for the area. We concluded that there was a lot of work to be done, but many opportunities, too. Tim had projected it would take us about 2½ hours to take the tour, and he was right on target.

### LOOKING AHEAD:

Apr 28 Ghost River Canoe Trip

## PLATEAU CHAPTER

(Crossville)

### CHAPTER OFFICER:

Vicki Perdue 931-456-6466

### MEETS: 3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs, 7pm, Crossville Housing Authority

There is an informal, leaderless hike every Wednesday morning at 9:30am CST. Meet at the boat launch area of Cumberland Mountain State Park. The hikes are moderately paced and may average 5 or 6 miles. For additional information, call Bill Haynes: 931-707-7606. Rain cancels.

Mar 10 Upper/Lower Piney Falls, Fall Creek Falls SP. Pikeville, TN. Join us for a hike to Piney Falls! The hike is 3 miles and rated moderate. With permission, and if time allows, we may explore Devil's Step Hollow Cave after the hike. Bring lunch and water. Meet 8am CST at the Cumberland Mtn. State Park Visitor's Center in Crossville. For information or to pre-register, call Terry or Pam Brophy: 931-707-7234.

Mar 15 **MONTHLY MEETING.** Joe Matlock and Rita Senko, members of the Plateau Chapter, will present a slide program on the beautiful Galapagos Islands.

Mar 24 Jack L. Parker Millennium Trail, Edgar Evins State Park. Silver Point, TN. We'll be hiking the infamous trail that was built last summer in EESP by many devoted TTA volunteers. The hike is approximately 3½ miles and rated easy. Meet 8am CST in back of the Cracker Barrel restaurant at the I-40 exit in Crossville. For information and/or to pre-register, call Charlie or Leigh Jones: 931-277-3228.

## UPPER CUMBERLAND

## CHAPTER

(Sparta / Cookeville)

### CHAPTER OFFICERS:

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

Mar 10 Virgin Falls Pocket Wilderness, Sparta, TN. Marnell Cothran will be our able leader to this mysterious falls. She has taken this hike well over fifty times and knows practically every rock. If an 8-mile moderate to difficult hike sounds too challenging, you have the option of cutting the hike in half by turning back at Laurel Falls, thus making it a 4-mile hike. Meet 8am CST at the First Union Bank in Sparta, or 8:30am CST at the trailhead. If you need additional information, call Marnell Cothran: 931-738-5874.

Mar 24 Edgar Evins State Park, Silver Point, TN. Come hear folklore about the wildflowers and plants we walk among as Ranger Ray Eason leads us on this hike through EESP. We'll also learn of the medicinal purposes of the plants found in the area. We did this last year, and it was great! In addition, we can expect to go off-trail and bushwhack our way through a new section of trail proposed. Meet 8am CST at Penney's, or 8:45am CST at the Ranger Station in EESP. For additional questions or information, call Helen Anglemier: 931-858-5947, or email her at: [helena@cookeville.com](mailto:helena@cookeville.com)

**PLEASE NOTE:** This is a new date, and time for this hike. This information supercedes any previous announcements.

### LOOKING AHEAD:

Apr 21 Bridgestone/Firestone Centennial Wilderness Area. Sparta, TN.

Apr 28 Twin Arches, BSFNRR. Jamestown, TN.

May 5 Piney River Pocket Wilderness. Spring City, TN.

May 19 Cumberland Mountain State Park. Crossville, TN

Jun 9 Savage Gulf State Natural Area. Monteagle, TN

### HIKE REPORTS:

On Jan 13, five ladies took a 5-6 mile hike at the Bridgestone/Firestone Centennial Wilderness area. We had lunch at the Screw Cliff Overlook with a non-stop view and enjoyed seeing the nature-made 'ice sculptures' at the falls.

On Jan 27, eight ladies took the Hidden Passage Trail at Pickett SP. It turned out a little colder than forecasted, but we were very impressed with this trail which was ice and snow covered in places making it a bit treacherous. We hiked about 8 miles, and will return to experience the surroundings in the other seasons. It was awesome!

### *Thank you Jim Poteet !*

*Jim volunteered as Guest Editor for the February issue of the Tennessee Trails newsletter. Jim's help made it possible for me to hike on trails "down under." Jim did a magnificent job. His hard work is greatly appreciated! Thank you, Jim.*

*Diane Manas, Newsletter Editor*

### HIKE PRE-REGISTRATION ?

Why ? Hike leaders are volunteers. Make it easier for them to contact you in the event their hike needs to be cancelled by pre-registering! Please, be considerate and pre-register.

# 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 <sup>th</sup> Street Crossville, TN 38555
Office Hours	8 am-5 pm
Phone:	931-456-6259
Fax:	931-456-4934
Email:	<a href="mailto:cumberlandtrail@rocketmail.com">cumberlandtrail@rocketmail.com</a>
Website:	<a href="http://www.cumberlandtrail.org">www.cumberlandtrail.org</a>

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Tennessee Paddle 2K and Festival Obed Wild and Scenic River April 6-8

The Tennessee Paddle Club in Knoxville is hosting the Second Annual Tennessee Paddle 2K and Festival, April 6-8, on the Obed Wild & Scenic River, near Wartburg, TN.

The Cumberland Trail Conference has been invited back to lead hikes, on Friday and Sunday, on the Cumberland Trail as well as given booth space for us to use to promote the CT, as part of the festival. The Paddle 2K race is scheduled for Saturday so no hikes will occur on Saturday. More information on the Tennessee Paddle 2K events can be found on their website: [www.tennesseepaddle.com](http://www.tennesseepaddle.com)

We are looking for volunteers to staff the CTC booth at the festival on Saturday from 10am-5pm EST and volunteers to help lead the hikes on Friday and Sunday. To volunteer, call Arleen Scheller at the CTC office: 931-456-6259, or email her: [scheller@usit.net](mailto:scheller@usit.net)

### Here's the hike info:

Friday, April 6 - Obed Wild and Scenic River segment of the CT from Nemo Bridge to Alley Ford, and back. The hike is 4 miles and rated easy. We'll meet at 9am EDT. To obtain meeting location and to pre-register, call Arleen Scheller: 931-456-6259

Sunday, April 8 - Hike the Bird Mountain section of the CT in Frozen Head State Park. This hike is 8 miles and rated moderate. This is an outstanding wildflower hike. We'll meet at 9am EDT. To obtain meeting location and to pre-register, call Arleen Scheller: 931-456-6259

## GET YOUR PACKS READY!

CTC will be offering two BackCountry outings during the month of April. Volunteers who have been trained in basic and advanced trail-building skills as well as First-Aid/CPR will lead these outings. Support these leaders and the CT by signing up today!

April 6-8 Join CTC volunteer, Dennis Crowley, as he leads volunteers on the Smoky Mountain segment to construct new trail between the Spring and Greens Branches. Participants will backpack one-half mile into Montgomery Fork campsite to set up a base camp and then work to connect sections of the trail completed during other programs.

April 26-29 Jim Schroeder will follow in the footsteps of Dennis and his crew to lead another outing on the Smoky Mountain segment. Participants will pick up where Dennis' crew left off and continue to work toward Greens Branch.

For more information and to sign up, contact Tanya Meachen at 931-456-6259 or by email: [tmeachen@onemain.com](mailto:tmeachen@onemain.com)

2<sup>nd</sup> Annual  
 Cumberland Trail Auction  
 April 21, 2001  
 Chattanooga Choo-Choo  
 Imperial Ballroom  
 Chattanooga, TN

## Cumberland Trail Auction Itinerary

Cocktails & Silent Auction starts at 5:30pm (EDT)  
 Dinner & Live Auction starts at 6:30pm (EDT)

*A block of rooms has been reserved for CTC guests.*

*Call the Choo-Choo to make your reservations.*

800-872-2529

----- DETACH THIS REPLY CARD, ENCLOSE YOUR CHECK & MAIL TO THE CTC OFFICE -----

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Cumberland Trail Auction Reply Card

I would like to purchase:

- Day Hikers \$35.00 per person  
 Thru-Hiker Table \$500.00 (Includes tickets for 8)  
 I cannot attend, but wish to make a tax-deductible contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Please print clearly*

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Daytime Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this RSVP by April 18, 2001

Make checks payable to: Cumberland Trail Conference • 19 East 4th St • Crossville, TN • 38555



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 Jim Pascoe 615-382-4443  
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 ARE LISTED WITHIN EACH CHAPTER'S HEADER

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

## Newsletter Deadlines:

Announcements and articles received on or before March 6<sup>th</sup> will appear in our April 1<sup>st</sup> newsletter.

Please send all submissions to:

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

e-mail: dianemanas@home.com

# ADOPT-A-TRAIL NEWS

## ADOPT-A-TRAIL OFFICER:

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

Have you considered ...  
 Maintaining a particular trail or section of trail?

Through the cooperation of land managers, who periodically inform us of volunteer opportunities, TTA can put you in touch with several Adopt-A-Trail programs, or offer suggestions on how to approach local land managers in your area.

The Adopt-A-Trail program is quite simple and flexible. Volunteers or chapters select the trail they wish to adopt and at the same time determine the level of trail maintenance they wish to undertake. Their only commitment is to hike, inspect, and report on the trail's conditions and maintenance needs twice per year. Light trail maintenance (clipping, pruning, trash and minor blow-down removal) is encouraged during each inspection. Serious trail problems identified will be reported to the local land management agency for resolution.

To obtain an Adopt-A-Trail or Trail Inspection form, call Harold Draper: 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.*

## Tennessee Trails Merchandise Order Form

\_\_\_\_\_ Hiking Tennessee Trails, 5<sup>th</sup> 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 and 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!!!**

**YES, I WANT TO JOIN TENNESSEE TRAILS ASSOCIATION, I AM ...**

**A NEW MEMBER**

**RENEWING MY MEMBERSHIP**

(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**

*PLEASE, PRINT CLEARLY.*

- \_\_\_ 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 (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

email \_\_\_\_\_

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

Please list me with the following chapter:

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