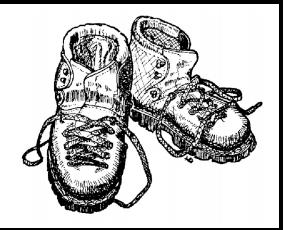
TENNESSEE TRAILS

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



Wilderness Advanced First Aid Course

Feb 27 - Mar 2

Have you ever been on a hike and witnessed a medical emergency? What did you do? (The *right* thing?) Or, were you the victim, and was proper "medical" care administered? You could be as close as one mile from the trailhead or as many as ten, when one or several of your group gets hurt and once back at the trailhead, you're still miles from the closest hospital. There are assessments and decisions to make at the onset of an emergency. Surely, you've pondered what you would do in a wilderness medical emergency setting? Right?

The Warner Parks, in Nashville, TN., is bringing the Wilderness Medical Associates' *Wilderness Advance First Aid* (WAFA) course to Nashville, Feb. 27 to Mar. 2. Wilderness Medical Associates courses are widely considered the most complete medical training for outdoor professionals. WMA courses are preferred by such organizations as Outward Bound, The National Park Service, The Chesapeake Bay Foundation, many colleges and universities, and the FBI.

The course curriculum is designed for individuals responsible for the well being of groups in the wilderness, or anyone wishing to know how to handle a wilderness emergency. In this 36-hour course, students learn to handle medical emergencies common in the outdoor environment when help is miles away. Topics include patient assessment, body systems, equipment improvisation, trauma, environmental medicine, toxins, backcountry medicine, some wilderness protocols and wilderness rescue.

The course fee is \$235, which includes course instruction, textbooks and materials, use of equipment and facility, and lunch each day. A deposit of \$150 is required to reserve your space. (There are no pre-requisites however, students must be at least 16 years old to participate, and any student under 18 must provide written proof of parental consent.) Lodging, if needed, will be available for a discount at a local hotel.

NOTICE: Only 14 spaces are available for this training and will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. (At the time this newsletter was going to press there were spaces available. If the class is filled up when you call, there is the possibility of a cancellation, ask to be placed on a waiting list.)

For additional information or to reserve your space, call Geralyn Hoey of The Warner Parks: 615-370-8051, or you can email her: Geralyn_Hoey@metro.nashville.org

T.R.A.C. Update

On Saturday, January 12, about 20 railtrail advocates from various communities around the state met in Jasper, TN, to get to work on building trails on existing and potential unused Tennessee rail corridors. After brief introductions, they discussed three corridors that appear most likely for conversion to community and state recreational resources. The first corridor, the Ashland City Trail otherwise known as the Cumberland River Bicentennial Trail (CRBT) - just received a \$250,000 grant to extend the existing trail into Ashland City. Currently, the CRBT is over 6 miles long, and this extension will make it possible for trail users to gain access to the trail from the center of town and from the neighborhoods of Ashland City.

The second corridor, from Oneida to Devonia, still has some freight service intact, but Norfolk Southern Railroad has indicated they will cease operations there in the near future. Advocates agreed to continue to help promote the benefits of this corridor as the important link between the Cumberland Trail State Park and the Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area and to help organize locally for the time when this corridor becomes available.

(cont. on pg. 3)

TTA Board of Director's Meeting Sat. Feb. 16. 1pm CST

St. Bernard Academy, Nashville, TN.

TTA's Board of Directors will be meeting at 1pm CST on February 16 in the "Nature Conservancy Conference Room" in the St. Bernard Academy building, at 2021 21st Ave South, in Nashville, TN.

All TTA members are invited and encouraged to attend. If you cannot attend, and have an issue you wish presented, forward your concerns to your local Chapter Officer or Regional Board Representative before the February 16 meeting.

The Evan Means Grant Committee is asked to arrive at 12p to finalize recommendations on the small grant awards.

The St. Bernard Academy building is ½ mile north of the I-440 & 21st Ave. intersection, and less than ½ mile south of the Hillsboro Village / Vanderbilt University area (this corner is known as Wedgewood Ave & 21st Ave South).

Anyone wishing to get some hiking in, before the meeting begins, is welcome to join Diane Manas' 8am (CST) hike in Warner Park. See Nashville's column for details.

Southeast Regional Foot Trails Conference

Making Connections in the Southern Appalachians & Beyond April 26-28

For the last two years, American Hiking Society (AHS) has been assessing the conservation and recreation needs in the southern Appalachians as a part of a Southern Appalachians Initiative (SAI). Both trail organizations and public agency representatives reported that public lands in the Smoky Mountains and along the Appalachian Trail are severely threatened by overuse as well as escalating development. The final stage of research was a Trail Conservation Retreat in November of 2000. The retreat gathered trail organizations and public land agencies who are entrusted with building and maintaining foot trails in the Southern Appalachians. As a result of the retreat, it became evident that there is an urgent need to protect wild places and create new recreation opportunities in the populous Southeast.

You are invited to the next gathering, hosted by American Hiking Society, the River, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program of the National Park Service and Georgia State Parks, over the April 26-28 weekend at Unicoi State Park in Helen, GA. Join fellow trail enthusiasts while establishing a network with staff and volunteers from hiking organizations located in the Southeast, as well as Federal, State and local agencies and conservation organizations. There will be speakers, workshops and sessions that will focus on trail and land conservation as well as pressing issues facing trail advocates in the Southeast, including educating the trail user, funding opportunities for trails, and land owner negotiations – to name a few.

Libby Francis (TTA) and Arleen Scheller (CTC) are planning to attend. If you want to go or need additional information, call or email Libby: 615-889-5718 (libbyslibbys@home.com) or Arleen: 931-456-6259 (scheller@usit.net)

TTA Gift Memberships Available Throughout the Year!

Christmas 2001 is over, but a new year is here, full of gift-giving opportunities - Birthdays, Graduation, Mother's Day, Father's Day, Groundhog Day. For the price of a regular membership, we will send the gift membership recipient a beautiful TTA logo patch enclosed in a card (customized for the occasion) announcing your gift. Gift memberships can be purchased by contacting Anne Wesley:

ttahiker@msn.com / 615-851-1052

Annual Meeting Volunteers

What has made each of our past Annual Meetings so successful? Ask the Plateau (2001), Clarksville (2000), Murfreesboro (1999) chapters, and they'll all tell you – VOLUNTEERS!

The Columbia and Nashville chapters are our Annual Meeting hosts for Nov. 8-10, 2002, at the Fall Creek Falls State Park in Spencer, TN. They are already in full swing (never too early to plan for this fun-filled weekend) and are looking for volunteers to help in the following four committees: Registration and Lodging, Food and Programs, Hikes and Auction.

Right now, volunteers are needed to help with the many planning stages and to take on any portion of the numerous jobs (many of them small) that will crop up through the year as we near the Annual Meeting weekend, Nov 8-10. Any time you can spare is a great help.

You are invited to contact the following committee chairs directly, to volunteer and help:

Registration and Lodging

Jenice Johnson 615-356-6246 jenicelj@home.com

Food and Programs
Anne Wesley

615-851-1052 <u>ttahiker@msn.com</u>

Hikes

Russell Smith 615-790-1833 <u>carving082334@cs.com</u>

<u>Auction</u>

Libby Francis 615-889-5718 <u>libbyslibbys@home.com</u>

(Volunteers are not limited to the Columbia and Nashville chapter members. If your chapter is slated to host a future Annual Meeting, this volunteer opportunity will provide an excellent training ground!)

2002 Membership Directory

The 2002 edition of the TTA Membership Directory will be mailed to all current members in June. 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 any changes or corrections that need to be made. Otherwise, what you see on your current mailing label will be the information you will see in the directory.

Mail your revisions to: Membership Director

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

Or, use the change of address form on our website:

www.tennesseetrails.org

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. TTA recognizes the following Supporting Members for 2002:

CUMBERLANDS HIKING CLUB	AT LARGE
BILL BRYAN	EAST TN
GARY CARTER	Nashville
JIM & JENICE JOHNSON	Nashville
Leigh & Charles Jones	PLATEAU
HAROLD & MARTHA McCURDY	AT LARGE
RAYMOND & JENNY MYERS	Nashville

In the past, Supporting Member donations in excess of the regular dues were allocated to TTA's general operating fund. At the November 2001 Annual Meeting, TTA's Board of Directors voted to allocate Supporting Member donations to the Evan Means Small Grants Fund. Your Supporting Member donations will now <u>directly</u> 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.

T.R.A.C. News

(cont. from pg. 1)

Most of the conversation centered around the third potential corridor along the Hiwassee River from Etowah to Ducktown, and a possible connection with trail efforts in western North Carolina. Currently, the Tennessee Overhill Heritage Association is leading the three-county effort in southeast Tennessee to help determine the best use of this community resource. Participants at the meeting agreed that a primary consideration for this corridor is to provide recreation and tourism-based jobs for the residents who live in these three counties. There was a strong feeling that converting the corridor to a multi-purpose trail would provide the most stable and long-term investment to compliment the recreational resources already there along the Ocoee River and in the Cherokee National Forest. Paul Brinson, a resident in the Ducktown area, agreed to be the trail project contact and to help organize residents to talk to local officials about their vision of the "Hiwassee River Trail" as one of the best uses of this corridor.

• TRAIL ADVOCATES WILL MEET AGAIN ON FEBRUARY 9 TO PREPARE FOR A KICK-OFF EVENT IN THE DUCKTOWN AREA ON THURSDAY NIGHT, MARCH 14.

In other business, the meeting participants voted Christie Neidich as TRAC President, Bob Rock as Communications Coordinator and three members as local trail contacts: Paul Brinson for the "Hiwassee River Trail," Penny Brooks for the Cumberland River Bicentennial Trail, and Roger Macklin for the Upper Cumberland railtrail project.

• THE NEXT STATEWIDE MEETING OF TRAC WILL BE ON SATURDAY, MAY 4, AT 10 AM, MOST LIKELY IN THE MONTEAGLE/COWAN AREA WITH A BIKE RIDE TO FOLLOW. PLEASE CONTACT BOB ROCK (rsrock1r@netscape.net) FOR MORE INFORMATION.

Beginners' Backpacking Clinic April 27-28

Are you thinking of making the transition from dayhiker to backpacker? Here's the place to start! TTA's first Beginners' Backpacking Clinic, sponsored by the Nashville Chapter and Blue Ridge Mountain Sports.

Each participant will receive:

- One classroom style session where our veteran volunteers explain the basics of backpacking techniques.
- Use of a backpack and tent (supplied by Blue Ridge Mountain Sports).
- "Packing Party," where our volunteer instructors will help participants load their packs.
- Overnight trip (April 27-28) on the Hidden Passage trail in Pickett State Park.

Cost to participate in the clinic: \$20 for TTA members and \$30 for non-members. All proceeds will be considered a donation to the Nashville Chapter. For more information, call Anne Wesley: 615-851-1052, or email her: ttahiker@msn.com

DON'T DELAY.

SPACE IS LIMITED AND FILLING RAPIDLY.

Shop <u>amazon.com</u> Through TTA's Website

You can buy your books through TTA's website and TTA benefits!

We have an arrangement with <u>amazon.com</u> where TTA receives a commission on all items (books, music, electronics) purchased when you enter their site through our link. It's very easy! Go to the TTA web site (<u>www.tennesseetrails.org</u>), navigate to the "To Buy!" page, then follow the link to the "VIRTUAL BOOKSTORE." Commissions are earned solely on sales made through the TTA website, therefore always enter <u>amazon.com</u> from the TTA website, and do not sign up for their one-click service.

From the Backpack of Model-T

A quick update to let you know J.R. Tate's "Walkin' on the Happy Side of Misery" is now on amazon.com, and the soft cover edition is nicely discounted!! (Remember, you can reach and purchase items on amazon.com through TTA's website and TTA benefits! See announcement above for details.

If you're out and about and would like to meet "Model T," he is the guest at the Columbia chapter's meeting on February 5 (announcement appears in Columbia's column), and will be at the Cumberland Reading Council's booth at Govenor Square Mall in Clarksville on Feb. 16 from 10a-12p. No telling whom you'll meet, J.R. or his irascible (and comic) alter ego "Model-T."

BIG SOUTH FORK CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER:

Eric Wilson 423-628-2817

ericavi@nxs.net

Feb 2 Hidden Passage Trail, Pickett State Park. Jamestown, TN. This popular trail is 8 miles long, but rated EASY. It is known as a "trail for all seasons because of its rugged beauty and interesting variety of botanical species visible all through the year. (Evan Means)" Meet at the Harrow Road Cafe in Rugby at 9am EST, or at the Pickett SP office at 10am EST. Bring a picnic lunch and dress for the weather. Make a day of it by taking in the Rugby "First Saturday Potluck" at 7pm EST at the Rugby Community Center. For additional information and to register, call Eric or Vi Wilson: 423-628-2817, or email them: ericavi@nxs.net

CLARKSVILLE CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER:

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

OUTINGS COORDINATOR: (call & volunteer to lead an outing)

Suva Bastin 931-645-2849

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

Feb 2 Volunteer Loop Trail, Long Hunter State Park. Hermitage, TN. We're going to hike to the backcountry campsite and back for a total of 12 miles. Along the way, we'll have several overlooks of the Percy Priest Lake from the many bluffs we hike over. The terrain has some rocky areas, no real elevation change; therefore this hike is rated easy to moderate. We'll leave from the Commuter Parking Lot at Exit 11 at 8am CST. In addition to bringing snacks, lunch and water, you will need to carry some change to help cover the \$3 per car day use fee. For additional information, call Suva Bastin: 931-645-2849.

Feb 9 Ft. Henry Trail, Land Between the Lakes. Dover, TN. Hike one or more of the historic trails in this area designated as National Recreation Trails. We'll retrace the footsteps of those who marched from Ft. Henry to Ft. Donelson in Feb 1862. The hike is 7½ miles on terrain rated easy to moderate. We'll leave from the Kroger, on Dover Rd., at 8am CST. For additional information, call J.R. Tate: 931-920-2692. (cont. on pg. 4)

CLARKSVILLE (cont. from pg. 3)

Feb 16 Land Between the Lakes Eagle Watch, Kenlake State Resort Park. Hardin, KY. We're not hiking today, we're crusin' The cruise (aboard the River Princess) will follow the banks of the Tennessee River in hopes of sighting the eagles that make this area their home. The cost for the cruise, with hot chocolate (drink up, there are even restrooms), is \$32 per person. (Sorry, this outing is not recommended for children.) Registration is required by Feb 5th. We'll leave Clarksville at 11am CST for our 12:30pm cruise departure time. For meeting location and to make your reservation, call Wanda Cumberland McCluskey: 931-906-3338.

<u>Feb 19</u> <u>MONTHLY MEETING</u> Learn hiker safety tips, hear about past and upcoming hiking trips and meet/greet members/friends. Lots in store! See you 7pm at the Crow Community Center, 211 Richview Rd.

Feb 23 Montgomery Bell Trail, Montgomery Bell State Park. Burns, TN. We will hike either the Montgomery Bell trail, all of it (11½ miles), or the Creech Hollow segment which is approximately 6 miles. The terrain on both is rated easy, however if we hike the entire Montgomery Bell trail, we'll rate the hike moderate, only for the distance. We'll leave from the Big Lots, on Riverside Dr., at 8am CST. For additional information, call Wade Winters: 931-647-9659.

COLUMBIA CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER:

Russell Smith 615-790-1833 carving082334@cs.com

OUTINGS COORDINATORS: (call & volunteer to lead an outing)

Amy Overton 931-388-6363 estheroverton@aol.com

Rick Pinkelton 931-987-2530

MEETS: 1st Tue, 7-8pm, First Presbyterian Church

West 7th St. in Columbia

The Nashville and Columbia Chapters will be co-hosting the 2002 Annual Meeting at Fall Creek Falls State Park (Spencer, TN.) on the weekend of November 8-10. Jim Poteet (Nashville) is serving as Chairperson of the Organizing Committee for the event. Volunteers from these two chapters are needed - NOW! There will be many little jobs for you to get involved with throughout the year, as well as over the meeting weekend – any time you can spare is greatly appreciated. See page 2 for a listing of the committees (and contact person) that need your help.

<u>Feb 5</u> <u>MONTHLY MEETING</u> Our leader, Russell Smith, has again arranged for another interesting program! Meeting goers will enjoy our guest speaker, three-time Appalachian Trail hiker, J.R. Tate, will share excerpts from his book and hiking adventures. See you at 7-8pm CST, First Presbyterian Church, West 7th St. in Columbia.

Feb 9 Devil's Backbone Trail, Devil's Backbone State Natural Area. (Tenn. milepost 394 of the Natchez Trace Parkway) Hohenwald, TN. The Columbia Chapter provided much of the labor in constructing this trail. This 1500-acre tract borders the "Trace" on both sides and is a good representation of the oak-hickory forests found along this highland rim area. The hike is 6 miles long and rated easy. Bring lunch and water. For more information, call Amy Overton: 931-388-6363.

HIKE REPORT:

Two of our members braved the cold and joined about 30 other TTA hikers for a New Years Day celebration and feast on Cardwell Mountain near McMinnville, sponsored by the Murfreesboro chapter. Our pair backpacked in a gallon of soup to share, joined in the cooking at the top of the mountain, and had a great time! Thank you Heloise Shilstat for organizing this fun outing.

COVE LAKE CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER:

Siler McCarty

423-566-1291 webmaster@tnrlca.org

MEETS: 3rd Thur, 6pm, First Presbyterian Church, LaFollette

Feb 16 We will be taking a series of short hikes on the Lawson Farm in LaFollette, TN. Destinations will include two caves, a pre-civil war log cabin and a waterfall. The terrain is rated easy to moderate and the hike will total about four or five miles. Bring warm clothes, water and a snack. We will meet at the Grantsboro Church parking lot at 10am EST (NOTE: THIS IS A CHANGE FROM A PREVIOUSLY SET TIME). For directions or more information, call Vance Lawson: 423-562-6856.

Feb 21 MONTHLY MEETING Learn hiker safety tips, hear about past and upcoming hiking trips and meet/greet members/friends. Lots in store! See you at 6pm EST at the First Presbyterian Church in LaFollette

PLANNING AHEAD:

Mar 23 River Bluff Trail at Norris Dam. Leader: Bill Grieve 423-562-4181.

<u>Apr 14</u> Smoky Mt. Segment of CT, from top of Cross Mt. to Montgomery Fork. Leader: Richard Helm 865-426-4472.

<u>May 18</u> Big South Fork NRRA. Trail TBA. Leaders: Nancy Grieve & Laurie Salveson 423-907-0951.

<u>Jun 21-22</u> Camping & Hiking in the Big Creek area of the GSMNP. Leader: Richard Helm 865-426-4472. **HIKE REPORT:**

On January 12, we (2) joined a huge group (40) from the Smoky Mountain Hiking Club on a hike of the Cumberland Mtn. segment of the Cumberland Trail. After arranging the car shuttles, we started our hike from the Tank Springs trailhead in LaFollette. After a steep climb to the top of the ridge, we followed the trail, which afforded vistas of the Powell Valley and the Norris Lake area. For January, we were blessed with warm temps and sunny skies. At the "clambering" rock, just before reaching the new shelter, a couple turned back, which was according to plan. We ate lunch at Eagle Bluff and took in the spectacular views of the valley below. From here, another two headed back (as planned). We continued to the end of the ridge, which provided overlooks of the top of the Devil's Racetrack. Our descent brought us to a segment of trail recently built by the AmeriCorps team. There was also a segment of trail, down to Bruce Gap Creek, below the "racetrack" that required a little bushwacking because all we had to follow were orange flags. After rockhopping the creek, we came upon a series of manmade waterfalls, which were blasted out of the side of the mountain when the creek was re-routed to make way for Interstate 75. We crossed over a new footbridge, over a gorge, that was built by an Eagle Scout this past summer. Upon reaching the Volunteer Loop Trail in Cove Lake State Park, we took the lower trail passing by Beaver Pond. By now, the 10 miles were beginning to take their toll, even on the experienced hikers. It was a great day and hike. Thanks to the SMHC for inviting us to join them, we hope we can do this again.

EAST TN CHAPTER

(Oak Ridge / Knoxville)

CHAPTER OFFICER:

Beverly Neurock 865-220-9679 bneurock@bellsouth.net Feb 2 Hike from Elkmont to Metcalf Bottoms in GSMNP. Townsend, TN. We will hike the Curry Mtn. and Meigs Mtn. Trails, which connect Elkmont and Metcalf Bottoms. This is a one-way hike of 7.4 miles and will require a car shuttle. If the weather is good, you can expect to see mountain views the entire way. Plus, we'll hear the ever-present roaring creeks of the Smokies. Our highest elevation will be 2800' feet. Most of our hike will be undulating, with short ups and downs, but there will be a steep 2-mile, 1000' foot descent on the Curry Mtn. Trail. Meet at Metcalf Bottoms, east side, at 9:00am EST, equipped with lunch and water and dressed for the weather. Be aware that even if there is no snow on the ground in Knoxville, there is sometimes snow in the Smokies. And, if the gate is closed, meet at the central bathroom facility at the junction of Little River Road and the entrance to Metcalf Bottoms Picnic Area. For additional information, call Harold Draper: 865-689-7757.

Feb 2 & 3 TTA members will be present (but largely unidentifiable in the expected crowd) at the Cherokee Heritage and Sandhill Crane festival taking place on Feb 2 and 3. The birds themselves, together perhaps with an infusion of whooping cranes, led by an ultralight plane, will be at the Hiwassee Refuge, just east of the Tennessee River off of Route 60. This route goes south from Dayton and crosses the river on a modern bridge costing enough to keep all state parks open indefinitely. Volunteers with telescopes will be present throughout both days to assist in identifying the various species and color morphs (of birds, not people) expected to be present. Visitors may also wish to partake of the festivities (Saturday only) at the Birchwood School, about three miles further south. While there will be no hike leader for this event, more information may be obtained from cemeklots@msn.com

<u>Feb 16</u> Virgin Falls Pocket Wilderness Area. Sparta, TN. See disappearing waterfalls and a lovely view of the plateau and the Caney Fork gorge from Martha's Pretty Point. Climb the famous caged ladders and some steep and rocky slopes. This hike is 8 miles long and rated moderately difficult because of the rocks and climbs. The car ride is 125 miles roundtrip from Kingston. We will meet in the parking area across from Roane County High School, and leave at 8:30am EST. For additional information, call Don Coffman: 865-376-5842

HIKE REPORT:

Under beautiful blue skies and cold temperatures, 25 people (8 members and 17 visitors) hiked the Little River, Huskey Gap, and Sugarland Mtn. Trails in the Smokies on January 5, to inaugurate the new hiking year. Seven deer and 4 grouse plus a cross-country skier, headed for the top in anticipation of snow, were spotted. A great day for hiking! Submitted by Keith Mertz.

HIKE REGISTRATION? WHY ???????

Our hike coordinators <u>are</u> volunteers. Make it easier for them to contact you in the event their hike needs to be cancelled by registering!

BE CONSIDERATE AND REGISTER

MEMPHIS CHAPTER

OFFICER:

Betty Porter 901-755-4740

CO-CHAIR:

Norma McMinn 901-785-1479

ELECTED BOARD REPRESENTATIVE:

Gloria Lenski 901-213-0604 glorialenski@yahoo.com <u>MEETS</u>: 3rd Thur, 7pm, Germantown Library (Sept-May)

Feb 2 Memphis Historical Trail - Part II. Join us for an interesting and educational 6-mile hike through the oldest and most historic part of our great city of Memphis. During the years since Memphis was founded in 1819, our city has grown from a small Indian trading post overlooking the Mississippi River to one of the nation's outstanding metropolitan centers boasting a population of over one million people in the city and its suburban area. The hike starts at 9am CST at the Memphis I-40 Welcome Center parking lot, on the northwest corner of Riverside Drive and Jefferson. For information, call Jerry Lenski: 901-213-0604.

<u>Feb 9</u> Nathan Bedford Forrest State Park. Eva, TN. Meet at the visitor center at 9:30am CST. Carpoolers meet at 7am CST at Borders Bookstore at Kirby Pkwy & Poplar Ave. For information, call Carolyn Pierce: at 901-755-5635.

Feb 21 MONTHLY MEETING. Dr. Nancy Warren, Director of Nursing at UT Martin, will present a slide program on an extreme, high altitude climb up Mount Kilimanjaro (19,340 ft) along with her African safari adventure. Come and experience the adventure and find out why Nancy will never go back! We meet 7pm CST at the Germantown Library.

Mar 1-3 (Fri-Sun) Ouachita Flatside Pinnacle. Join us to hike with the Little Rock Happy Hiker group. We will meet at 7am CST at Markham/Shackleford Comfort Inn at Exit 6 off I-430. We will do an 8-mile hike in the Flatside Wilderness located in the Ouachita National Forest northwest of Little Rock. On Sunday, we will climb the rugged East Summit Trail of Pinnacle Mountain and descend the rocky West Summit Trail. This is a 2½-mile round trip hike. Hike registration required. For more information, call Betty Porter: 901-755-4740.

MURFREESBORO CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER:

Mark Stanfill 615-867-0847 athike718@netzero.net

OUTINGS COORDINATOR: (call & volunteer to lead an outing)

Brent Morris 931-728-8191 bmorris@edge.net

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

Feb 12 MONTHLY MEETING Bill McKay, our guest this evening, will provide expert advice on both practical and technical aspects of canoeing. See you 7pm CST at the Barfield-Crescent Park Wilderness Station.

Feb 23-24 (Sat-Sun) Backpacking in the Savage Gulf State Natural Area. Monteagle, TN. We will hike on both the North Rim and North Plateau Trails over the course of our two-day trip. The total mileage for both days is approx. 16 miles. On Saturday night we'll hike to the Hobbs Cabin (please bring your tent, the cabin fills up early and there are no guarantees that cabin space will be available when we arrive). In the event of inclement weather, this outing may be rescheduled. For additional information and to register, call Brent Morris: 931-454-1718, or email him: bmorris@edge.net

NASHVILLE CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER:

Dan Brennan 615-837-4324 osrwodan@aol.com

OUTINGS COORDINATOR: (call & volunteer to lead an outing)

Elizabeth Gerlock 615-356-6260 eygerlock@aol.com

MEETS: 4th Tues, 7pm. St. Bernard Academy, 2021 21st Ave South

HIKING HOTLINE

615-367-7045

The Nashville and Columbia Chapters will be cohosting the 2002 Annual Meeting at Fall Creek Falls State Park (Spencer, TN.) on the weekend of November 8-10. Jim Poteet (Nashville) is serving as Chairperson of the Organizing Committee for the event. Volunteers from these two chapters are needed - <u>NOW!</u> There will be many little jobs for you to get involved with throughout the year, as well as over the meeting weekend – any time you can spare is greatly appreciated. See page 2 for a listing of the committees (and contact person) that need your help.

Feb 2-3 (Sat-Sun) Winter Backpacking to Hobbs Cabin, Savage Gulf State Natural Area. Monteagle, TN. We will hike in on the North Rim Trail, spend the night at the Hobbs Cabin campsite, and hike out on the North Plateau Trail. Tents are required, since Hobbs Cabin may be filled by the time we arrive. Over the 2 days we'll cover approximately 16 miles. There is a possibility that someone from Blue Ridge Mountain Sports will accompany us on this hike with gear to demonstrate. For information and to register, call Katherine Pendleton: 615-943-6877, or email her: Adelicia1@aol.com

Feb 2 Montgomery Bell Trail, Montgomery Bell State Park. Burns, TN. We will hike the entire 11½ miles of this trail, also known as the "Perimeter Trail." The hike is rated easy for the terrain and moderate for the length. The leaves are off the trees, and we may spot wildlife such as turkey or deer. Hiking boots are a must. Bring snacks, lunch and water. We will meet in the Kroger parking lot on Charlotte Pike, one block west of White Bridge Rd (Exit 204 off of I-40). For additional information, meeting time and to register, call Theresa McKay: 615-595-9659.

Pre-Super Bowl Sunday Hike on Shelby Feb 3 Bottoms Greenway, Shelby Park. East Nashville, TN. Before we sip sit the afternoon away in front of the TV for the Super Bowl, let's get together and stretch our legs on a short hike on Nashville's first greenway. The terrain is flat, paved and E-A-S-Y!!! Along the way we'll enjoy scenic overlooks, interpretive stations and several rustic bridges. The area is well known as a haven for migrating birds and other wildlife. Bring water and snacks. We'll meet at 9am CST in the parking area near the train trestles. (DIRECTIONS from I-65/I-24: Exit onto Shelby Avenue going east - away from town. Turn right onto South 5th Street, left on Davidson Street. Follow Davidson until you come to the park entrance, then follow the signs to Shelby Bottoms. The main entrance is under the train trestles.) For additional information, call Jim or Marietta Poteet: 615-824-7666. Carpooling from Sumner County is available, call Anne Wesley meeting information: 615-851-1052. (cont.)

Feb 9 Mammoth Cave Off Trail Hike. Mammoth Cave National Park, KY. In observance of the 77th anniversary of the attempted rescue of Floyd Collins, we are hiking off-trail at Mammoth Cave National Park. We will start at Sand Cave (the site of Floyd Collins' entrapment which started a national media frenzy) and ramble along historic Flint Ridge. Along the way, we plan to visit the entrances of several old show caves, which were once fierce competitors in the regional "Cave Wars." Our hike will end at the Mammoth Cave Baptist Church where Floyd Collins was buried for the fifth (and final?) time. This hike is approximately 7 miles long and rated difficult for the rough terrain. Compasses are welcome. Hikers who know how to use a compass are extremely welcome. Participation is limited to 8 people. Call Anne Wesley (615-851-1052) or Richard Horvath (270-586-0178) to RSVP.

Feb 9 Beaman Park ½-Day Trail Maintenance. Joelton, TN. Each month, on the second Saturday, volunteers gather for trail maintenance and building at Beaman Park. No prior training or experience is required (though it doesn't hurt), and the work will leave you invigorated, not incapacitated. Plan to spend just ½ day with us as we continue to make ready one of Nashville's newest parks, in anticipation of its opening day. Register by calling Dave Walton: 615-646-5355.

Feb 10 Laurel-Snow Pocket Wilderness. Dayton, TN. The plan is to hike to both Laurel (70ft.high) and Snow Falls; therefore the total round-trip hiking distance is 10½ miles. The hike is rated moderate due to one creek ford and two 900-foot ascents. There are several bridged creek crossings and two overlooks along the way. If the weather stays cold, we may see the falls frozen which is always a spectacular sight. Wear hiking boots that provide ankle support, and bring snacks, lunch and water. We will meet at 6:30am at the Kinko's, in the K-mart parking lot, on Donelson Pike (exit 216C off of I-40). For additional information and to register, call Keith White: 615-305-9078.

Feb 10 Afternoon Hike at Radnor Lake State Natural Area. Nashville, TN. Meet at 2pm CST in the Visitor Center parking lot on Otter Creek Road for a three to four mile hike, rated moderate, through the South Cove. There is a \$3 parking fee for each car. To register, call Dave Walton: 615-646-5355.

Pre-Board of Director's Meeting Hike on the Mossy Feb 16 Ridge Trail, Edwin Warner Park. Nashville, TN. If you have plans to attend the Board of Director's meeting (all TTA members welcome) this afternoon, you will have ample time to hike this trail and have lunch before the 1pm CST start time. This is a 41/2-mile hike and rated moderate for the several hills we ascend and descend along the way. Plan on hiking at a 2 to 21/2 mile/hour pace. Hiking boots with ankle support are advisable. Bring water and snacks. This is a popular trail for dogs (many off-leash) and their owners. For our enjoyment and to eliminate confrontations, please leave your dog at home. We'll meet at 8am CST at the "Deep Well" trailhead. (DIRECTIONS: From Nashville, travel west on Hwy 70. At the split in Belle Meade, go left onto Hwy 100. Go approx. 2 miles and turn left at the gray stone arches. Follow the road approx. 1 mile to the parking area at the t-intersection.) For additional information, call Diane Manas: 615-352-7777.

(cont. on pq. 7)

NASHVILLE (cont. from pg. 6)

Feb 17 "Connect-the-Gulfs" Dayhike! Savage Gulf State Natural Area. Bersheeba Springs, TN. Starting at the Stone Door Ranger Station, we will "thru-hike" the Connector trail to traverse Big Creek, Collins and Savage Gulfs to end our trek across the plateau at the Savage Gulf Ranger Station. The gulf views are outstanding, <u>but</u> this dayhike is 17 miles in length over terrain that varies from easy roadbed walking to strenuous rock hopping. The overall trip is rated difficult due to its length, a challenging creek crossing, and the 3+ mile per hour pace we must maintain to complete the trip before nightfall. Due to the long car shuttle, this hike is limited to 8 people. Therefore, you must register! Icy trail conditions or heavy rainfall prior to the trip (which floods the normally dry crossings of Big Creek and the Collins River) will force us to reschedule. Call in your reservation, before Feb 10, to Anne Wesley: 615-851-1052.

<u>Feb 18</u> (Mon) Sumner County "Restaurant Hike." Sometimes the endless construction on I-65 is a barrier to "northern" Nashville Chapter members who would like to join in the Nashville area fun but just can't handle another snail's pace commute across town. So thumb your nose at the I-65 traffic, and let's meet for dinner at Chef's Market in Goodlettsville, off Conference Drive. Chef's Market offers delicious, gourmet, a la carte dining in a casual atmosphere. Come meet local TTA members and exchange hiking stories and trail tips. We'll start gathering at 6:30pm (CST), but you can drop in anytime before 7:30. Everyone is responsible for his/her own check. There's no requirement to "pre-register," but if you let Anne Wesley know you are coming, she can ask Chef's to reserve tables for the group. Call 615-851-1052 to RSVP or for directions. All TTA members, their families and potential members are welcome.

Feb 22-24 (Fri-Sun) Three days of hiking on the Townsend side of the Great Smoky Mountains NP. Townsend, TN. If the weather was cooperative on Diane Manas' Jan 18-20 hikes then we'll follow the new schedule below. However, if the Jan 18-20 hikes had to be cancelled, we'll follow the Jan 18-20 schedule - refer to the Jan newsletter for the hike schedule. Two hotel rooms have been reserved in Townsend for Fri & Sat night (4 persons/room, females in one, males in the other). If needed, additional rooms will be reserved. The room cost of \$46/nights (includes breakfast) will be divided among those staving/room. If you prefer to camp. Cades Cove Camparound is open and has plenty of spaces available (you self-register upon arrival). Dinner each evening will be at a local restaurant - bring \$\$\$. Please refer to your topo maps and *Hiking Trails of the* Smokies guidebook for elevation changes and trail descriptions. Throughout each day you can EXPECT ROOTS, ROCKS, RUTS, MUD AND HILLS. Therefore, these hikes are rated moderated. Sturdy hiking boots are required, along with the "10 essentials," and water, rain gear, extra clothing, snacks and lunch. Space is limited to 10 and registration closes Tue evening Feb 19. For additional information, call Diane Manas:

<u>On Fri</u>, we'll leave Nashville at 6am CST. We'll hike a loop by combining the following trails in the Cades Cove area: Lead Cove, Bote Mtn. and Finley Cane Trails. <u>Distance</u>: <u>7 miles</u>. We'll have the option of picking up an additional 3-mile segment, by adding the Bote Mtn Trail to West Prong Trail and ending at Tremont, by dropping a car there before we drive to our "Loop" hike. (Or, <u>Total Distance</u> = <u>10 miles</u>.)

On Sat, we'll hike a loop out of the Abrams Creek Ranger Station area by combining these trails: Cooper Road, Little Bottoms, Hatcher Mtn, (Cane Creek ONLY if the weather has been dry, 2.1 miles up then return 2.1 miles) and finishing on Cooper Road to Abrams Creek Ranger Station. Distance: 15.4 miles.

On Sun, we'll need to get a car shuttle in place for this one-way hike. We'll hike from Elkmont to Newfound Gap Road over the Cucumber Gap, Little River and Huskey Gap Trails. <u>Distance</u>: 6.8 miles. (cont.)

Feb 22 (Fri) Hike 'n' Dine. Over the past few months (and in previous years) Paul Smith has coordinated these outings. Each time it's been fun, and the numbers attending continue to grow. This month, we're going to Noshville Delicatessen located around the Music Square / Vanderbilt area. Noshville is at 1918 Broadway. (DIRECTIONS: From downtown Nashville, go left at the Broadway/West End split. Noshville is about 2 blocks on the right.) We'll meet at 7pm CST. BRING \$\$\$ to pay for your meal. You do not need to register; however, if you have questions, call Paul Smith: 615-832-9388, or email him: paolov@bellsouth.net

*Are you new to Nashville? Hiking? Interested in checking out a hiking club? Or, just want a gentler hike? Then, the following hike is just for you. Meet new, as well as seasoned hikers who also share your desire to be outdoors. You are encouraged to use this time to learn about hiking and TTA while enjoying the great outdoors with friendly people.

Feb 23 Newcomers Hike at Montgomery Bell State Park. Burns, TN. We will hike the 6.2-mile eastern section of the Montgomery Bell Trail, which passes through lovely Wildcat Hollow and along Creech Hollow Lake. The hike is rated easy. Bring water and snacks, and wear (highly recommended) boots with ankle support. If we've had several days of rain before the hike, we may have a creek crossing or two, so carry an extra pair of socks. After the hike, we will gather for lunch at either the Park's restaurant, or find one in nearby Dickson. (Bring \$\$\$ to pay for your meal.) We will meet at 9am CST at the Montgomery Bell Visitors Center parking lot just off U.S. 70. For additional information and to register, call Elizabeth Gerlock: 615-356-6260.

Feb 23 Day Loop Trail, Long Hunter State Park. Hermitage, TN. This 4 mile day loop trail follows the Percy Priest Lake shoreline while winding through hardwood forests. We'll have many opportunities to look out over the lake from the limestone bluffs we pass along the way. The trail has some uneven terrain, no real elevation changes; therefore the rating is easy to moderate. For information and to register, call Katherine Pendleton: 615-943-6877, or email her: Adelicia1@aol.com

Feb 24 Virgin Falls Pocket Wilderness. Sparta, TN. This 8-mile (round-trip) hike is one of the most beautiful in Middle TN with its interesting rock formations, waterfalls, caves, and overlooks. It is an all day, rugged hike, and hiking boots are required. Bring lunch, water, and snacks. For additional information, meeting time and location, and to register, call Jim or Marietta Poteet: 615-824-7666.

(cont. on pg. 8)

NASHVILLE (cont. from pg. 7)

Feb 26 PRE-MONTHLY MTG DINNER at BOSCO'S. Hillsboro Village, 1805 21st Ave South. Paul Smith is at it again and wants us to gather for a pre-meeting dinner (and opportunity to socialize while enjoying a good restaurant!) at Bosco's in Hillsboro Village. Bosco's is about 4 blocks from our monthly meeting location, and with parking very limited in the "Village," you are advised to park at St. Bernard's and walk to Bosco's. We'll start gathering at 5:30pm CST and depart for the meeting at 6:45pm. BRING \$\$\$ to pay for your meal. You do not need to register; however, if you have questions, call Paul Smith: 615-832-9388.

Feb 26 MONTHLY MEETING. At one time or another, most of us have had the feeling out on the trail that "you can't get there from here." When the maps and gadgets and intuition fail us, what's there to fall back on? The Nashville chapter's own Jim Johnson comes to the rescue with the first of two presentations on Orienteering. Find your way to the meeting room at 7pm. Jim will take it from there.

PLANNING AHEAD:

Mar 2 Angel Falls and Grand Gap Loop, Big South Fork NRRA. Jamestown, TN. (This hike was originally planned for Jan 6 and was cancelled due to the 8 inches of snow that fell.) This hike is 12.8 miles and rated moderate. We will begin at Leatherwood Ford and hike the Angel Falls Overlook trail to the overlook, which provides a beautiful view of the South Fork of the Cumberland River. The falls are actually a series of rapids. We will then hike the 6.8-mile Grand Gap Loop trail with more views of the river and return via the Angel Falls Overlook trail to our cars. To register, and obtain meeting time and location, call Marietta or Jim Poteet: 615-824-7666. (cont.)

Mar 9-10 (Sat-Sun) Backpacking in the Montgomery Bell State Park. Burns, TN. Backpack This is another opportunity for beginning backpackers to learn the basics. We will hike the Montgomery Bell Trail, (aka Overnight Trail) which is an 11½-mile loop and is rated moderate. Tents are required, as well as water treatment gear. We will camp at the Woodland Campsite. For additional information and to register, contact Katherine Pendleton at 615-943-6877, or email her: Adelicia1@aol.com

Mar 15-17

Second Annual Leprechaun Leap. This year's trek is a 3-day, 34-mile backpack on the Tennessee River Gorge segment of the Cumberland Trail. This is one of the most beautiful segments of the CT, following bluff tops and ridges - 1,800 ft. to 2,000 ft. above sea level. There are several spectacular overlooks into the "Grand Canyon of Tennessee" and Mullens Cove. We will also see several natural rock formations such as the Indian Rock House and the Natural Bridge. This trek will be rated strenuous due to the total overall mileage and the 16 miles we will hike on Sat. The trail is reasonably level with no major elevation changes. For anyone unable to make the 3 days, there will be a 2-day option. Space is limited to 12; therefore, reserve your space ASAP. For additional information, call Herb Kneeland: 615-460-1144(h), 615-298-4462(w), or email him: hdk3@home.com

Mar 23-24 (Sat-Sun) Backpacking in the South Cumberland State Park. Tracy City, TN. We will start at the Foster Falls trailhead and hike 2 miles to the Small Wilds Campsite. After setting up camp, we can relax or explore some of the Fiery Gizzard Trail. This trail is on the south end of the Fiery Gizzard Trail and winds along the rim of a gorge. Rated easy to moderate, and suitable for beginners as well as seasoned hikers. For additional information and to register, contact Katherine Pendleton at 615-943-6877, or email her: Adelicia1@aol.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

NORTHWEST CHAPTER

(UT at Martin / Weakley County)

CHAPTER OFFICERS:

Jim Clark731-587-7369 / 2225jclark@utm.eduJoe Seago731-588-5836joeseago@backpacker.com

MEETS: 3rd Thur, 7pm, UT Martin Campus, Boling University Center, Room 231 ONLY when college is in session website: www.utm.edu/~jclark/trails/

Feb 21 MONTHLY MEETING. Jim Clark will take us on a 175-mile journey, compiled through photos from over 5 years of spring vacation trips, in the Grand Canyon. The presentation will focus on the 6 major trail systems of the South Rim.

<u>Feb 23</u> Canal Loop at Land Between the Lakes NRA. Northwest TN. Rolling hills, easy grades - a favorite among hikers. Meet 10am CST at the "North" visitors center or, 8am to carpool from the UT Martin University Center. For additional information, call Joe Seago: 731-588-5836.

PLANNING AHEAD:

Mar 12-17 (Tue-Sun) North-South Trail Backpack, Land Between the Lakes NRA. Northwest TN. We'll have 5 days to hike the 60 miles of rolling hills in this historic area in Kentucky and Tennessee. For additional information, call Joe Seago: 731-588-5836.

(cont. on pg. 9)

NORTHWEST (cont. from pg 8)

Mar 13-17 (Wed-Sun "Plan A") A.T. section hike from Hogpen Gap to Dicks Creek Gap. North Georgia. This is a 30-mile backpack on the Appalachian Trail through some of Georgia's most beautiful areas. If you can not get away for the 5 days, there's a "Plan B" for Mar 15-17 (Fri-Sun), from Unicoi Gap to Dicks Creek Gap. This 3-day segment covers 18.3 miles. For information, call Chris Fox: 731-586-4744, or email him: towndawg@hotmail.com

Mar 21 MONTHLY MEETING Joe Seago will teach us how to use a compass in preparation for an upcoming compass course at Shiloh National Military Park – see Mar 23 below. See you at 7pm, Boling University Center (Room UC 231) on the UT Martin campus.

Mar 23 Shiloh National Military Park. Shiloh, TN. We will be using the compass skills we've recently learned to plot and maintain our course (over rolling hills), which will be necessary for staying on the correct route, and for reaching our final destination. We'll meet at 7:30am CST at the UC parking area. For additional information, call Joe Seago: 731-588-5836.

Apr 11 MONTHLY MEETING.

Apr 20 Shawnee National Forest. Destination to be determined but expect a route as interesting as the Jackson Hollow hike of last October. Lusk Creek Canyon and Saltpeter Cave is a possibility for a "wet foot" trail. For more information, call Jim Clark: 731-587-2225.

May 4 Cache River Canoe Trail. A scant 80 miles from Martin is one of the premiere canoe trails in the U.S. Through a tupelo and cypress swamp, the trail is reminiscent of the Ghost River section of the Wolf River. In the spring, the chorus of tree frogs is deafening. The course is approximately 6 miles of still water. For more information, call Jim Clark: 731-587-2225.

PLATEAU CHAPTER

(Crossville)

CHAPTER OFFICER:

Bill Haynes 931-707-7606 billhaynes@citlink.net

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

There is an informal, leaderless hike every Wednesday morning at 8:30am CST. Meet at the boat launch area of the Cumberland Mtn. State Park. The hikes are moderately paced and may average 5 to 6 miles. For additional information, call Bill Haynes: 931-707-7606. Rain cancels.

<u>Feb 9</u> Cow Pens Trail, Cumberland Cove. Monterey, TN. This hike is 2.3 miles total and rated moderate. Bring lunch, water, and waterproof hiking boots – there will be streams to cross! Meet 9am CST at the store across from the Cumberland Cove entrance on Hwy. 70. For additional information, call Jim Lifsey: 931-839-3939.

Feb 21 MONTHLY MEETING. Our own Gordon Kokes will talk about the caves of Cumberland County. Gordon locates and explores caves locally, and has many adventures to recount. Don't miss it! See you 7pm at the Crossville Housing Authority.

<u>Feb 23</u> Laurel Falls Trail, Bowater Pocket Wilderness Area. Dayton, TN. The hike is 5 miles and rated moderate for the uneven terrain. Bring lunch and water. Meet 8am CST at Cumberland Mtn. State Park Visitor Center. For additional information, call Jim Kraus: 931-707-5170.

UPPER CUMBERLAND CHAPTER

(Sparta / Cookeville)

CHAPTER OFFICERS:

Helen Angelmier 931-858-5947 helena@cookeville.com OUTINGS COORDINATOR:

Sue Bass 931-528-1386 take-a-hike@onemain.com

Please Note: TTA's Jan 2002 newsletter showed the Virgin Falls Pocket Wilderness hike for Feb 2. We changed the hike date to Feb 9 after the Jan 2002 newsletter had been printed. See below for the revised information.

Feb 9 Virgin Falls Pocket Wilderness. Sparta, TN. This is one of our favorite hikes and is eight miles in length. Due to the rough terrain and the long climb out, we've rated the hike as difficult. Dress appropriately for the weather, wearing layers, in preparation for any unpredictable weather we may encounter. Wear sturdy hiking boots, and bring lunch, snacks, and plenty of water. If eight miles is too long, you can turn back at Laurel Falls making this a four-mile hike. Meet at Jefferson side of Penney's in Cookeville at 8am CST, or Firstar Bank on Highway 111, across from McDonalds, in Sparta at 8:30am. Marnell Cothran, our chapter expert on this area, will be our very competent leader. Please call Marnell to register for this hike: 931-738-5874.

Hike and Cookout/Potluck at High Rock near Feb 16 Sparta, TN. The hike will be 5-6 miles long and considered strenuous for the straight climb up the mountain. Be prepared for cold weather, rain or snow - a water and windproof outer garment is a necessity. Wear sturdy hiking boots and laver your clothing accordingly. Bring snacks and water for the hike. plus a beverage (water, hot chocolate, etc.) to accompany your meal. After the hike, we will cook a meal in a cabin near by, so plan to bring something to cook or already prepared for sharing. We'll drop the food off at the cabin before we begin hiking. The cabin has a wood stove to provide warmth, a wood stove to cook, and a gas grill. We will build a fire before leaving, so the cabin will be warm and toasty when we return. If you want to come for the fellowship but do not want to hike, you are welcome to bring a book and hang out by the wood stove until we return. There is a good rock-based road, so most vehicles can make the trip. But if we have SNOW and you have an SUV, pickup, or car with 4-wheel drive, please bring them, and we will carpool. In case of extreme weather, we will just go to the cabin and eat. Meet at the Jefferson side of Penney's in Cookeville at 9am CST, or Firstar Bank on Highway 111, across from McDonalds, in Sparta at 9:30am. Ross Cardwell is our leader and host for this fun-filled adventure. You are required to register for this outing. Contact Ross Cardwell: 931-738-2760, or riverwood@blomand.net

HIKE REPORTS:

Fifteen people attended our Holiday party. We enjoyed a wonderful pot luck dinner and enthusiastically planned hikes through June. Thanks to Barbara Phifer for her great hospitality.

Nineteen hikers, including five visitors from the Nashville area, hiked to Big Springs in the Bridgestone/Firestone Centennial Wilderness Area on New Year's Day morning. We had lunch by the springs, and beautiful fast-flowing stream. This was a wonderful way to start 2002.

CUMBERLAND TRAIL CONFERENCE

CUMBERLAND TRAIL CONFERENCE CONTACTS:

Crossville, TN 38555
Office Hours 8am-5pm
Phone: 931-456-6259
Fax: 931-456-4934
Email: cumberlandtrail@rocketmail.com
Website: www.cumberlandtrail.org

19 East 4th Street

It's official! The Cumberland Trail Conference has completed its first major acquisition for the Cumberland Trail State Park: papers were signed on December 21, 2001 to purchase the Rock, Possum and Soddy Creek Gorges, 5,000 acres, from Bowater, Inc. in Hamilton County.

The Bowater Phase I acquisition sets a benchmark for the Cumberland Trail State Park, establishing our vision for a major landscape conservation effort and success in forging statewide and national partnerships on this project with The Conservation Fund, the State of Tennessee, and Bowater, Inc. It is critical that we demonstrate success in funding our portion of this purchase in order to proceed with additional acquisitions for the Cumberland Trail State Park.

CTC made a down payment of \$375,000 on its share of the purchase, and now we must raise the additional \$900,000 by June 30, 2002! This acquisition sets a benchmark for the Cumberland Trail State Park. We must successfully complete our obligation for Bowater Phase I in order to proceed with Bowater Phase II and other acquisitions currently in the pipeline.

As of January 11, 2002, the *Pathways for People...People for Nature* campaign has \$734,178 towards our goal of \$3 million. Several grants totaling \$510,000 are being considered in January and February, 2002.

As you know, we have challenged the TTA membership for 100% participation to help make the Cumberland Trail Dream come true. Ten percent of the membership has responded to date. Following is a status report on where we stand as of January 11, 2002:

Office Location

TTA/CTC Board Member Gifting:

Received 100% support \$114,209.00

TTA Membership Gifting (by chapter):

Unaffiliated Total Membership Gifting	2 members 74 members	\$50.00 \$27,040.00
Upper Cumberland	1 member	\$100.00
Plateau	10 members	\$6,550.00
Nashville	36 members	\$16,500.00
Murfreesboro	3 members	\$125.00
Memphis	5 members	\$1,200.00
East Tennessee	4 members	\$725.00
Cove Lake	3 members	\$105.00
Columbia	3 members	\$785.00
Clarksville	5 members	\$375.00
Big South Fork	2 members	\$525.00

We still have a way to go! Remember that **EVERY** gift is important. Just think how powerful it will be when we can tell foundations, prospective donors, and corporations that 100% of TTA's 800+ members are supporting this effort!!

Haven't pledged yet? Lost your pledge card? Feel free to use the one provided below.

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\$10,000+	One Mile Club	 \$500+	Day Hiker	3yr pledge of \$	Total
\$5,000+	Half Mile Club	\$100+	Sunday Stroller	2yr pledge of \$	Total
\$2,500+	Quarter Mile Club	Other			
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Corporate Name Address City, State, Zip C	ode		Credit Card Number Signature Send to:	MasterCard Visa	e /

. . . CTC Announcements . . . (cont. on pg. 11)

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cejones@crossville.com

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

Newsletter Editor

Diane Manas 615-352-7777

dmanashikes@yahoo.com &

dianemanas@home.com

Newsletter Deadlines:

Announcements and articles received on/before February 10th will appear in our March 1st newsletter

Articles submitted are subject to editing and will be included as space permits.

Please send all submissions to:

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

When sending by email, use both: dianemanas@home.com dmanashikes@yahoo.com

TENNESSEE RAILS-TRAILS ADVISORY COUNCIL (TRAC)

BOARD REPRESENTATIVE:

615-354-9767 Jim Deming jdeming49@aol.com http://members.aol.com/trac2trail/depot.htm website:

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 th Edition\$12.95				
Round embroidered patch, sew it on anything. TTA Window Decal3.00 A must for each car.				
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City:State:Zip:				
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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.				

CTC (cont. from pg. 10)

Spring BreakAway 2002

Spring is just around the bend . . . and with spring comes BreakAway! Join CTC and its volunteers as we host students from around the country. We will be at Norris Dam State Park March 3-9 with Michigan State University, Lehigh University, and West Virginia Wesleyan College; and March 10-16 with Emory University, Florida State University, and St. Norbert College. March 17-23, we will be moving to the Signal Mountain Church of God Camp, hosting the University of Vermont, Hamilton College, and Allegheny College. There will be three weeks of friends, food, and fun as we build new trail and bridges on the Smoky and Cumberland Mountain segments in the north. and Rock/Possum/Soddy segments in the south. To sign up as a volunteer, see the CTC Winter 2002 Newsletter for a registration form. If you don't have a copy of the CTC's Winter 2002 Newsletter, and want to register or need additional information, call Andy Wright: 931-456-6259, or email him: cumberlandtrail@rocketmail.com

Welcome Andy Wright

CTC's New Program Coordinator!

Andy is looking forward to working on the Cumberland Trail and meeting our wonderful volunteers! Andy has a Bachelor of Science degree in Natural Resource Management, with a concentration in Parks and Recreation Administration from the University of Tennessee at Martin. He was a Seasonal Interpretive Ranger at Cumberland Mountain State Park this past summer. CTC feels very fortunate to have Andy on board to assist with our numerous program outings this year!!

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

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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 TO A NEW MEMBER RENEWING MY MEM (Memberships are for one year, unless you have a	BERSHIP	Please Mail This Form To: Membership Director P.O. Box 41446 Nashville, TN 37204-1446
Individual \$25.00	PLEASE, PRINT CLEA Name	
Family \$35.00		
Student \$15.00	AddressCity	
Life Member \$500.00	Home Phone ()	
Supporting (\$200.00, \$100.00,	Work Phone ()	·
\$50.00 or other)	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	Gift Memberships
Clarksville	_ Nashville	Are Available !!!
Columbia	Northwest(UT at Martin/Weakley)	Contact our Membership Director
Cove Lake	Plateau(Crossville)	Anne Wesley (615) 851-1052 ttahiker@msn.com
East TN(Oak Ridge/Knoxville) Memphis	_ Upper Cumberland(Sparta/Cookeville) At Large	t
When you become a TTA member, you will receive: hiker responsibilities, etc. (2.) TTA's monthly new opportunities, chapter meeting announcements, as w Membership Drectory, listing members by chapter a where you will enjoy diverse programs, socializing an a weekend of hiking, camaraderie and where the boar	(1.) TTA's Hiking Handbook, a reference book of sletter, containing information on hiker safety, well as events occurring within TTA's Associate on the new to reach them. You are invited to attend to refreshments. In addition, in the spring and fall	upcoming hikes / overnight trips, volunteer Organizations: C.T.C. and T.R.A.C. (3.) Annual d any number of monthly meetings scheduled, we meet at one of Tennessee's many parks for

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