

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



Don't Miss It!!!! Space is Limited!!! 2nd Southeastern Foot Trails Coalition Conference

*Connecting People & Places Along
Southeastern Foot Trails*

October 17 – 19

Join us October 17-19 for the 2nd Southeast Regional Foot Trails Coalition (SRFTC) conference at the DuBose Conference Center in Monteagle, TN. Notable speakers, hikes and educational opportunities will abound as well as the chance to form friendships while networking with people who are dedicated to preserving our wilderness areas and developing a system of hiking trails throughout the Southeast.

Still undecided about participating? For a complete schedule of activities, educational sessions, entertainment and a registration form, visit American Hiking Society's website www.americanhiking.org/alliance/registration.htm

In the interim, to whet your appetite:

- ❖ Entertainment: Walkin' Jim Stoltz (avid hiker, photographer, song and poetry writer), Piney Ridge Bluegrass Band (yeehaa), Bob Hornsby (beloved TTA member and story teller).
- ❖ Speakers: Mary Margaret Sloan (President, American Hiking Society), Bob Gray (National Park Service), Mountain Marching Mamas (A.T. volunteers).
- ❖ Educational topics: Leave No Trace, Land Acquisition and Conservation Easements, Trail Design & Maintenance, Hammock Camping, Creating Great Trail Maps and the list goes on...

TTA is co-sponsoring this event with American Hiking Society (AHS) and the National Park Service's Rivers, Trails & Conservation Assistance Program, and we will be leading a number of hikes for all fitness levels, from easy to moderate, in the Plateau area.

This is a very important meeting for the future of foot trails in the Southeast.

To register, visit AHS's website at:

www.americanhiking.org/alliance/registration.html

Evan Means Small Grants Program Request Deadline is Dec 31, 2003

In February 2004, TTA's Board of Directors will award small grants memorializing Evan Means. The grants support special volunteer projects that are compatible with the chartered objectives of TTA: *promoting and developing a system of hiking trails in Tennessee as well as working for the conservation of natural resources*. Project proposals are due no later than December 31, 2003.

All chapters are encouraged to look within their local area, identify a special trail or park project, request and submit a formal grant application for the February 2004 Evan Means Small Grant Program Award.

Grant requests in the range of \$300-\$600 are encouraged. However, if a project requires additional grant money, considerations will be made.

For additional information and an application, please write to:

TTA Grants Administrator
P. O. Box 41446
Nashville, TN 37204

The small grants program was established in February 1999 to honor Evan Means - journalist, author, conservationist, hiker, trail builder, originator of the Cumberland Trail, and co-founder of the Tennessee Trails Association. Mr. Means won countless awards for his work over the years to protect Tennessee's natural resources and beauty, as well as for his dedication to projects that allow hikers to enjoy this natural beauty.

Nominations Sought for TTA's Board

Nominations are now in order for the 2004 slate of officers and Board members of the Tennessee Trails Association (TTA). TTA is administered by volunteers elected by **YOU** - our members. As a member, you have the opportunity to serve on TTA's Board. Be it, as a chapter officer, or the Board's President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Membership Director, or one of three At-large Directors. The Newsletter Editor is not an elected position; however, is in need of a co-editor to "job-share" for a brief period of time before moving into the Newsletter Editor's post.

(cont. on pg. 3)

TTA's Annual Meeting November 14-16 Townsend, TN

Hope you've cleared your calendar and have plans to join the rest of Tennessee Trails Association members (and friends) in Townsend, TN, for the upcoming Annual Meeting, Nov 14-16. Townsend, known as "the peaceful side of the Smokies," is on the northwestern edge of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and within 7 miles of Cades Cove. With the Smokies providing the backdrop to our fun-filled weekend of activities, you can sure bet there will be lots of great hiking choices. And if you've not attended before, you can expect a weekend of hiking, socializing, entertainment and TTA business.

(cont. on pg. 4)

CUMBERLAND TRAIL CONFERENCE

CUMBERLAND TRAIL CONFERENCE STAFF:

Executive DirectorRob Weber robweber@usit.net
Resource ManagerArleen Scheller scheller@usit.net
Program Coordinator.....Mark Stanfill..... mstanfill@onemain.com
Office Manager.....Susan Weber..... sweber1@usit.net

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

Pathways for People, People for Nature Campaign Phase II Being Launched

The Cumberland Trail Conference Board of Directors voted at its July meeting to make a commitment to raise \$550,000 in private funds as part of the *Pathways for People, People for Nature* campaign to assist in the purchase of 6,000 acres encompassing four river gorges (North Chickamauga, Laurel-Snow, Piney River, and Stinging Fork) to become part of the Cumberland Trail State Park. This will add another 45 miles to the Cumberland Trail and will ensure that these favorite hiking destinations are available for future generations to enjoy.

TTA members contributed \$44,478 for The Gorgeous Gorges Phase I, a truly outstanding commitment. Now we need your help to move on to the Gorgeous Gorges Phase II. You can make a one-time gift or a pledge over three years. If you've ever hiked the Piney River Trail, North Chickamauga Gorge, Laurel-Snow Pocket Wilderness, or Stinging Fork, you know how extraordinarily beautiful these pocket wilderness areas are, and you can have a part in protecting them and making them part of our Cumberland Trail. Checks may be made payable to "Cumberland Trail Conference" and earmark them for "Phase II."

Walkin' Jim Stoltz Fundraising Concert Oct. 16

Walkin' Jim is coming back to Tennessee this Fall and is doing another fundraising concert to benefit the Cumberland Trail land acquisition campaign on Thursday, October 16 at 7:00 pm at the Historic Palace Theatre in Crossville. Tickets are \$15 individual, \$40 family, \$10 student, and can be reserved by calling the CTC office at 931-456-6259. Walkin' Jim has hiked over 25,000 miles in North America, including his latest Yellowstone to Yukon trek, and has a wonderful multimedia presentation in photography, original songs, and poetry.

Cumberland Trail Ultra-Marathon Trail Run Oct. 11

Rock Creek Outfitters is hosting the 2nd Annual Cumberland Trail Ultra-Marathon to benefit the Cumberland Trail on Saturday, October 11. We will again offer a 50K, and an 11-mile run in Prentice Cooper Wildlife Management Area (Chattanooga area). For additional information and to register, visit Rock Creek Outfitter's website at www.rockcreekoutfitters.com.

Cumberland Trail Programs & Outings

Oct 3-5 (Fri-Sun) Volunteer Weekend - Cumberland Mtn. State Park. Crossville, TN. Join us for a full weekend of fun, fellowship and trail creation. We have reserved cabins at CMSP for volunteers who need housing while helping to build and extend the CT trail in the Frozen Head segment along the Emory River. This is also a great time to meet other volunteers and to informally discuss what's in store for the CT in the coming year. Feel free to bring pictures, stories to share and musical instruments because the volunteers are the program. Dinner is being provided by the Cumberland Trail Conference on Saturday night as a "THANK YOU" to all of our volunteers! **RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED BY OCT 2nd** by contacting the CTC office, 931-456-6259.

Oct 10-12 (Fri-Sun) Possum Creek Gorge Backcountry* Outing. We will be backpacking in about 2 miles to set up our base camp, which is in the area we will be doing trail work. The leaves on the trees should be at or near peak fall color and will make for a memorable weekend. Warren Devine will lead this outing. For information and to volunteer, contact either Warren Devine at 865-483-7894 or the CTC office, 931-456-6259.

Oct 22-26 (Wed-Sun) Fall BreakAway on the Obed River segment. Volunteer for one, several or all of these 5 days that make up CTC's Fall BreakAway program. Students from local area schools will arrive on Wednesday evening and stay through Sunday. We need help developing vital trail building skills, leadership and education to tomorrow's trail stewards – who are local and likely to protect and/or adopt the trails in this area. Camping (with hot showers!) is available at Frozen Head State Park. Contact the CTC office to get involved, 931-456-6259.

Oct 30-Nov 1 (Thu-Sat) Rock Creek Gorge Backcountry* Outing. Join Bill Leiper and Monty Matney for some finishing work and construction where the Big Dig left off. The backcountry campsite boasts a great swimming hole if the water hasn't gotten too cold, yet. For information and to volunteer, contact Bill Leiper at 423-332-6671 or the CTC office, 931-456-6259.

Nov 7-9 Green's Branch Backcountry* Outing. Calling all 4x4s! We will head north to the Smoky Mtn. segment to finish building the bridge over Greens Branch which is vital for completing and connecting the trail in this area. We will have a short walk in and a water crossing. For information and to volunteer, contact Barry Spearman at 931-839-2320 or the CTC office, 931-456-6259.

**A BackCountry Outing combines the enjoyment of backpacking with that of trail building. Basically, we will backpack in and set up a base camp in the area we will be doing trail work.*

Tennessee Trails Association Turns 35 in December 2003

To mark this special year, a commemorative patch and t-shirt have been designed. To order yours, see the *Merchandise Order Form* on page 11.

Watch upcoming newsletters for a schedule of events planned.

Nominations Sought (cont. from pg. 1)

The current board, like those in recent decades, contains a mix of occupational and educational backgrounds; plus, represents a cross section of members because they come from all over Tennessee. Each has a strong desire to cultivate and grow hiking and trails throughout the state. We would like to see this mix continue, and need you to seriously consider getting involved.

All positions are for one-year terms, except for the At-large Director position, which is for three years and the Newsletter Editor position, which is for two/three (your choice) years. The Board meets quarterly. Three of the meetings are held within the Middle Tennessee area, and the fourth takes place during the Annual Meeting each November. Communication between the quarterly meetings is made simpler through the use of e-mail.

Any member who wishes to obtain a description of responsibilities, to volunteer or to submit names for consideration may contact:

Jerry Lenski	901-255-6574	jlenski@yahoo.com
Diane Manas	615-352-7777	dmanashikes@comcast.net
Jim Poteet	615-824-7666	jpoteet@genesco.com

Joining TTA as a New Member? Membership Up For Renewal? Your Generosity Benefits All

When you join or renew your Tennessee Trails membership, you have the opportunity to become a Supporting Member by donating a little (or a lot) above the regular dues. TTA recognizes the following Supporting Members for October 2003:

Ed & Mari Haslam - Cove Lake

Arleen Scheller - East TN

Dale Hardy - Nashville

Steve & Marcia Hiltabidle - Plateau

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 tax-deductible Supporting Member donations will now directly benefit trail projects throughout the state of Tennessee. We thank you all for your support of TTA at any membership level, but we hope you will enrich Tennessee's trail system by joining or renewing as a Supporting Member.

TTA's Calendar

The following dates in 2003 refer to statewide activities involving TTA as a whole. Please refer to this calendar often to prevent scheduling conflicts or to volunteer to get involved with major activities planned (i.e., TTA's Annual Meeting, etc.).

Oct 17-20 Southeast Foot Trails Mtg (Monteagle)

Nov 14-16 TTA Annual Meeting - Great Smoky
Mtns. National Park (Townsend, TN)

**Calendar will be revised as needed.*

Hey, Middle TN Members: Clarksville, Columbia/Franklin, Highland Rim, Murfreesboro & Nashville Push, Pull, Drag & Remove!

Death to the evil Bush Honeysuckle!

On Saturday, October 25 from 8:30am to 12:30pm CT, you are invited to join the staff of REI and **Friends of Warner Park** "push, pull, drag and remove" the evil Bush Honeysuckle and other invasive exotics from the Tornado Ridge segment of the Mossy Ridge Trail in Percy Warner Park (Nashville, TN.).

NO experience required. Tools and work gloves will be provided; however, if you have loppers, pruners or work gloves, feel free to bring 'em. Plus, for all of the volunteers, REI will be providing lunches, beverages and t-shirts! Volunteers are asked to wear clothes (long pants) they don't mind getting dirty and sturdy shoes/boots, and to bring water.

Warner Park is so near to our homes and one of our most visited hiking destinations that your help during this one-half day project is immeasurable to the many hours of enjoyment we have received from this park.

For food catering purposes and to obtain an accurate headcount, **YOU MUST PRE-REGISTER** by Tuesday, Oct. 21! To obtain meeting place with directions, visit www.REI.com (following the links: Stores & Events; Tennessee; Brentwood) or come into the store and pick up a flyer. For additional information and to **PRE-REGISTER**, call Tristen Maginn of REI at 615-376-4248.

Thinking About Your Next Hiking Vacation?

In an upcoming newsletter, an article will appear that will be listing hiking vacations our members have taken recently - be it here in Tennessee, the U.S., or abroad. Through this article, members can network with each other to obtain useful information for planning their next hiking trip or destination.

Each listing will contain the member's name, phone number and/or e-mail address, hike/trip name, locality, organized by (self? If applicable, tour operator and the company's name), and a brief description of the trip (30 words or less). For example; Joe Hiker; JoeHiker@yahoo.com; Wainwright's Coast To Coast; England; self-planned; Day hiked this 190-mile footpath across England's northern region while staying at B&B's nightly and using a sherpa service to carry the luggage each day.

To be included, please send the following information to editor@tennesseetrails.org before November 30, 2003:

- ◆ your name.
- ◆ phone number and/or e-mail address.
- ◆ hike/trip name.
- ◆ locality.
- ◆ organized by (Self or tour operator? If tour operator, provide the name of the company.
- ◆ brief description of the trip (30 words or less).

TTA's Annual Meeting (cont. from pg. 1)

Several FUN fund-raising* activities will occur over the course of the weekend (bring your coins, cash and checkbook), such as:

- ❖ Bake Sale – Hikers need calories, there will be yummy baked goods throughout the weekend.
- ❖ Silent Auction – You'll have Saturday to place your silent bid on items.
- ❖ Live Auction – Expect a wide variety of top-quality items, from outdoor gear and clothes, handmade quilts and art, to vacation packages. This year a representative of Bear Stephenson's *Stephenson Realty and Auction* will be the auctioneer (i.e., professional, as well as very lively and entertaining).

If you haven't registered for the Annual Meeting and wish to attend, use the Registration Form inserted in this newsletter and mail it along with your check (to cover the Registration Fee and meals desired) prior to October 15.

Please note, the deadline for reserving accommodations at the Best Western and Lazy Daze Campground is October 1st and must be made by YOU, DIRECTLY to Best Western and/or Lazy Daze Campground. After October 1st, all unreserved spaces will be released to the general public. Space is available on a first-come, first-served basis.

*The TTA Board of Directors voted in August to dedicate the fund-raising proceeds to the Cumberland Trail BreakAway programs. Twice per year, college students from all over the nation come to TN to spend 1-4 weeks lovingly building Tennessee's Millennium Legacy Trail and first linear state park - the Cumberland Trail State Park. Funds are used to feed and house our TTA and CTC volunteers, who also give of their time and energy to work along with these students, and to purchase trail materials such as bridge supplies.

Annual Meeting Auction You Can Help!

Each year, during TTA's Annual Meeting weekend, we have an Auction (Silent and Live), which allows us the opportunity to raise FUNds (in a F-U-N way) to be used for subsidizing trail projects throughout the state. This year, TTA's Annual Auction will be held on Saturday evening, November 15, during the Annual Meeting at the Best Western Valley View Lodge & Conference Center, Townsend, TN. In order for the auction to be successful, we rely on the help of our members (and chapters) to gather items.

... please, won't you help ...
... gather treasures for ...
... TTA's Annual Auction ...

We are requesting the help of each chapter to obtain 6-8 top-quality items (merchandise, services, and/or handcrafted-crafted goods) for the silent and live auctions. So, please ask local businesses to donate merchandise and/or services (be sure to contact your chapter chairperson for solicitation materials to take with you when soliciting your local businesses); share your talents for woodworking and crafts; or make a cash donation to your local chapter to purchase items for the auction.

Outdoors gear and clothing are always popular, as well as handcrafted items. If you have a favorite photograph from a TTA hike, consider having it enlarged and framed to put in the auction.

When making your donation, or soliciting a local business for items, please note that TTA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and donations received are tax deductible. In addition, a special "Thank You" column will appear in an upcoming *Tennessee Trails* newsletter recognizing each person/business who has helped in making this event successful.

So, if you have a special top-quality item you'd like to donate, bring it.

Or, have a merchant in mind that we can solicit their support through a donation of goods/services, please work on this through your chapter officer.

Or, would like to volunteer and help with the Auction set-up (a vital function and a few hours of your time is GREATLY appreciated), please contact Rosemary Marshall at 865-687-0670 or Rosemary_Marshall@hotmail.com.

Yum Yum ...Calling All Bakers ...

We also need baked goods. Hikers need lots of calories to replace what they've burned on the trails. We welcome cookies, cakes, breads, pies, brownies, candies, etc. Individually wrapped portions are handy for tucking into daypacks.

BIG SOUTH FORK CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER: Julian Bankston

423-628-2845 jrbankston@nxs.net

BOARD REPRESENTATIVE: Bob Hemminger

423-628-5145 hemmir1@math.vanderbilt.edu

OUTINGS COORDINATOR:

(Call & volunteer to lead an outing.)

Kathy Hicks 865-938-6846 khudson3@utk.edu

Oct 18 Rice Hollow. Wayne Co., KY. We will join Charles and Lavonne Gibbs on their Rice Hollow property for an easy 2½-mile hike that will take us first to a sandstone rock shelter cave, then down an old logging road past some large, old hickories to the Gibbs farm, and up another hill to the large Jerusalem Cave sink hole. We'll stop for lunch near the farm's spring and explore the old hewed beam farmhouse. After lunch, those who wish, can add another 2½-mile hike along the cliff top to see the farm below in fall color, returning along a bench road in deep woods. We'll meet to carpool from Harrow Road Café in Rugby at 9:00am ET. For information and to register, contact Charles or Lavonne Gibbs at 423-628-5678 or cgibbs@nxs.net.

TRIP REPORT:

On September 4 & 5, nine hikers led by Barbara Stagg and John Gilliat enjoyed an overnight outing at Max Patch Bald in the Pisgah National Forest near Hot Springs, NC. We didn't rough it on the Bald overnight, but slept cozily in the group bunk quarters of Sterchi Lodge deep in the forest at the edge of a cliff with non-stop views.

Coming from TN along I-40 into NC, we exited at Harmon Den and turned north into the forest on a well-maintained gravel road which rose continually and sometimes steeply for a gain of nearly 3,000 feet over 9 miles. The lodge was a veritable Shangri-La, one of those modern architectural beauties with high-ceilinged airy rooms, big decks with picnic tables and great rockers, very modern dormitory style sleeping quarters, a great people-friendly hall with a ping-pong table, a huge fireplace, easy chairs and sofas abounding, and the kitchen, which had everything anyone could think of needing. An evening hike to the bald to view the sunset was followed by a great potluck dinner, reading, talking, ping-pong, and a hot game of dominoes, before everyone turned in for the night. The next day, we had our big hike after breakfast, where we followed the Appalachian Trail for a ways and thought about "Model T" (aka J.R. Tate) and his thru-hikes. We met a long distance hiker doing a 500-mile stretch who was from SW England! All of this cost, our group of nine, the modest sum of only \$8/person/night!! We did our own clean up and trash removal, but should you not want to bother, an additional sum of \$40 for the group would have covered their doing it for us. We're already planning our next trip back, and if you're interested, contact Julian Bankston (423-628-2845, jrbankston@nxs.net) or Kathy Hicks (865-938-6846). *Reported by Vi Biehl.*

CLARKSVILLE CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER: Bill Hamilton 931-920-2760

billhamilton@charter.net

OUTINGS COORDINATORS: (*Call & volunteer to lead an outing.*)

Faye Balbac 931-553-6826

Sandi Hamilton 931-920-2760 *billhamilton@charter.net*

Sandra Koenig 931-645-2048

MEETS MONTHLY - 3rd Tuesday at 7pm CT

Crow Community Center, 211 Richview Rd

Oct 4-5 (Sat-Sun) 12th Annual Great Pumpkin Festival & Weigh-off. Allardt, TN. This event is new for us and we'll be joining members of the Murfreesboro chapter to help decorate a float (hiker themed) and hike alongside of it during the parade (in hiker garb). Bring a bucket of candy to toss to the children who line the parade route. We'll camp at Pickett State Park, which provides us several options for hiking. We'll go to Colditz Cove and hike the loop trail around and behind a beautiful waterfall. Come join in the fun! For information and to register, call Suva Bastin at 931-645-2849.

Oct 11 Garden of the Gods. Illinois. No, this is not the one in Colorado, it's in Southern Illinois. We'll take a ferry across the Ohio River and stop at Cave-in-Rock State Park and Rim Rock for a short hike to observe some interesting rock formations. Then, we'll visit Garden of the Gods for a moderate 5-mile hike to view some unique rocks with names like, Anvil Rock, Camel Rock, and Noah's Ark. For information and to register, call Sandi Hamilton at 931-920-2760.

Oct 25 **MONTHLY MEETING & Annual Bonfire** at Rotary Park. Clarksville, TN. We will have our monthly meeting at the same time as our Annual Bonfire. Bring a potluck dish to share, and enjoy great food, wonderful company and hear about past and upcoming hikes. Before the meal and bonfire, we'll hike a few miles in the area. For information, call Wanda McCluskey at 931-906-3338.

OTHER ACTIVITIES:

Oct 18 Canoe the Red River. We will be arranging canoe rentals (for those that don't own one); therefore, everyone must pre-register by Wed., Oct. 18, with John Sneed at 931-648-1134.

PLANNING AHEAD:

Nov 1 Signal Mountain. Chattanooga, TN. We will hike a segment of the Cumberland Trail from Signal Mountain to Edwards Point. This hike is rated moderate for the uneven and rocky terrain, plus the steep descent and ascent into the river gorge. Because this is a one-way hike (not a loop), it is necessary to park cars at each end of the trail. For information and to register, call Suva Bastin at 931 645-2849.

COVE LAKE CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER: Richard Helm 865-426-4472

RHelm@ahss.org

CO-CHAIR: Mari Haslam 423-562-3227

pittsteelersfan@earthlink.net

MEETS MONTHLY - 2nd Monday at 6pm ET

LaFollette Recreation Center's Craft Room
201 S. 9th St.

Oct 13 **MONTHLY MEETING.** Learn hiker safety tips; hear about past and upcoming hiking trips, and meet/greet members and friends. New hikers are always welcome! Lots in store! See you at 6:00pm ET at LaFollette Recreation Center's Craft Room 201 S. 9th St.

Oct 18 Fall Creek Falls State Park. Pikeville, TN. FCFSP is one of the most scenic and spectacular recreation areas in America. Its waterfalls, cascades, sparkling streams, gorges, timberland and abundance of hiking trails will take us past many of these special features. 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, and a must see. For information and to register, call with Ed or Mari Haslam at 423-562-3227.

PLANNING AHEAD:

Nov 2 House Mountain with Vance Lawson, 423-562-6856.

Nov 10 Planning session for 2004 hikes (monthly meeting).

Nov 14-16 (Fri-Sun) TTA's Annual Meeting. Townsend, TN.

Nov 23 Cumberland Trail Smoky Mtn. segment with Richard Helm, 865-426-4472.

CUMBERLAND GAP CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER: Rosemary Register

423-869-2251 *cugatrails@yahoo.com*

CHAPTER NEWS: Due to busy schedules and prior commitments, we did not plan any meetings/outings for the month of October. Watch upcoming newsletters for future announcements and outings. Until then, you are always welcome to participate in any of our other chapter's (13 to choose from) outings, events and meetings.

COLUMBIA / FRANKLIN CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER: Russell Smith 615-790-1833 *carving082334@aol.com*

OUTINGS COORDINATORS: (*Call & volunteer to lead an outing.*)

Tanya Juday 931-490-0856 & Rick Lausten 615-373-0029 *saturncar1@aol.com*

MEETS MONTHLY - 1st Tuesday at 6:30 CT, Grand Buffet (North of Spring Hill)

CHAPTER NEWS: The Columbia/Franklin Chapter resumed its monthly meetings after the summer break. Members and guests enjoyed visiting over dinner and sharing summer hiking adventures. The meeting was then convened to plan fall hikes and programs for upcoming monthly meetings (which will continue to meet on the 1st Tuesday of each month).

Oct 7 **MONTHLY MEETING.** We will meet to elect our chapter's officers whose terms will begin in November: Chairman, Reporter, Hiking Coordinator(s) and Treasurer. This is a very important meeting and we need everyone to attend. As always, newcomers to hiking and guests are welcome – even for this meeting. We'll see you at 6:30pm CT at Grand Buffet, Hwy. 31, just north of Spring Hill.

Oct 18 Sewanee Perimeter Trail, University of the South. Sewanee, TN. The first part of this hike passes through Shakerag Hollow, known for its interesting rock formations. Throughout the hike, we'll have wonderful bluff views and see several waterfalls. We will be hiking only 9 miles of this 20-mile loop trail that weaves its way around the University of the South campus. The trail is rated moderate for some climbs and rock scrambling. Wear sturdy hiking boots, and bring water, lunch and snacks. Because this is a one-way hike (not a loop), we will need to park cars at each end of the trail. Afterwards, we will eat at Shenanigans, a local restaurant in Sewanee (bring \$\$\$). For information and to register, call Marvin Cain at 931-486-1632.

EAST TN CHAPTER (Oak Ridge / Knoxville)

CHAPTER OFFICER

Beverly Neurock 865-220-9679 bneurock@bellsouth.net

Oct 4 Big Valley Trail and Sharp's Station Loop, Big Ridge State Park. Maynardville, TN. This is an 8-mile hike where 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 rating is moderate. Bring lunch, water and dress appropriately for the weather. We'll meet at 9:00am ET at the Bid Ridge State Park's Visitor's/Ranger's Station located just off State Hwy. 61 in Union County. For information and to register, contact Beverly Neurock at 865-220-9679 or bneurock@bellsouth.net.

Oct 18 Honey Creek Trail, Big South Fork Nat'l River & Recreation Area. Jamestown, TN. Big South Fork River Gorge is one of the most interesting and challenging hikes in East Tennessee. At 5.63 miles, this outing is rated difficult due to uneven, rocky terrain, boulder scrambling, caged ladders and creek crossings. Our rewards along the way are Indian rock houses, water falls and a spectacular overlook. Bring water and snacks, and dress appropriately for the weather. After the hike, we will stop on our way home for a meal at the Harrow Road Café in historic Rugby. We will meet to carpool from the Food City on Illinois Avenue (Hwy. 62) in Oak Ridge at 8:00am ET. For information and to register, call Robert Paul at 865-983-1985.

HIGHLAND RIM CHAPTER (Tullahoma Area)

CHAPTER OFFICER: Doug Ratliff 931-455-0249

dougratliff@hotmail.com

MEETS MONTHLY - 3rd Tuesday at 7pm CT

D.W. Wilson Center, 501 N. Collins St., Tullahoma

Oct 11 Lookout Mountain. Chattanooga TN. This is a joint outing with members of the Soddy Daisy chapter. We will hike from Cravens House and follow the Bluff and Upper Truck Trails. This 8-mile outing is rated moderate. Bring water, snacks and lunch. For information and to register, contact Brent Morris at 931-454-1718 or bmorris@edge.net.

Oct 19-21 (Fri-Sun) Southeast Foot Trails Coalition Conference. Monteagle, TN. This is a very important meeting for the future of foot trails in the Southeast and will be a very informative, educational and fun event! For complete details, see the article on page 1 of this newsletter.

Oct 21 **MONTHLY MEETING**. Join us as Milt Davis discusses winter backpacking. New hikers and guests are always welcome. See you at 7:00pm CT at the D.W. Wilson Community Center, 501 North Collins Street, Tullahoma.

Oct 26 Short Springs State Natural Area. Tullahoma, TN. We will join the Friends of Short Springs on this Annual Fall Color Walk. The terrain in this area is somewhat rocky with a few short hills and rated easy to moderate. Because the length is just about 3 miles, this outing is well-suited for new hikers. The hike starts at 2:00pm CT. For information and to register, contact Doug Ratliff at 931-455-0249 or dougratliff@hotmail.com.

MEMPHIS CHAPTER

OFFICER: Carolyn Pierce 901-901-155-5635

cedpierce2000@yahoo.com

BOARD REPRESENTATIVE:

Gloria Lenski 901-213-0604 glorialenski@yahoo.com

MEETS MONTHLY - (Sept-May) 3rd Thursday at 7pm CT
Germantown Library

Oct 4 Mousetail Landing State Park. Parson, TN. This is a joint outing with members from the Jackson area. This 8-mile hike meanders through a scenic hardwood forest. For lunch, we will relax on a limestone bluff overlooking the TN River. The trail is rated moderate due to some steep and rugged hills. You can meet us to carpool from the Borders Bookstore on Poplar at 7:00am CT, or the Park's Visitor's Center at 9:30am. For information and to register, call Carol Haley at 901-388-9163.

Oct 11-12 (Sat-Sun) Fall Hiking in the Ozark Mountains, Upper Buffalo River. Jasper, AR. Come along as we visit "Big Bluff" via the Goat Trail, and view the river from a ledge positioned 300 feet above the river. The trail is approximately 6 miles roundtrip with an elevation change of 1,000 feet. The Lost Valley Trail, short but very popular, will lead to Eden Falls and Eden Falls Cave. Bring a flashlight if you wish to explore the cave. Hawksbill Crag, a major and special scenic spot is 3 miles roundtrip and the most photographed place in Arkansas will be a wonderful lunch destination because it overlooks the Upper Buffalo Wilderness area and Whitaker Creek. REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED! All participants will meet in front of the Courthouse in Jasper at 8:00am CT on both mornings. Lodging may be reserved at Little Switzerland (800-510-0691), Cliff House (870-446-2292), or Crawford's (870-446-2478). For other sources of lodging, camping, etc., please visit www.nationalparks.com/buffalo_national_river.htm. For information and to register, call Carolyn Pierce at 901-755-5635.

Oct 16 **MONTHLY MEETING**. David Motherwell, a civil engineer from St. Louis and a worldwide traveler, will show slides of Costa Rica with an emphasis on wildlife at the Monteverde Cloud Forest. Many species of hummingbirds in North America migrate to this 26,000-acre preserve after flying 500 miles across the Gulf of Mexico. Monteverde is known for its wildlife, which is rapidly becoming endangered. David is currently scheduling the construction work on the Premcor refinery. He has been president of the St. Louis Writers Guild for the past three years and has published a memoir about growing up in the Ozark Mountains. You won't want to miss this! See you at 7:00pm CT at the Germantown Library.

Oct 26 River Walk, Downtown Memphis Social Walk. Join us for this 3-4 mile, easy walk along the River Bluff. Wear comfortable shoes. We will meet at 2:00pm CT at the I-40 Information Center, off of Riverside Drive. For information, call John Martin at 901-386-3722.

DATE CHANGE: Nov 8 Meeman-Shelby Forest Trail Maintenance. Look for details next month.

ATTENTION JACKSON HIKERS:

Oct 4 Mousetail Landing State Park. Parson, TN. This is a joint outing with members of the Memphis chapter. This 8-mile hike meanders through a scenic hardwood forest. For lunch, we will relax on a limestone bluff overlooking the TN River. The trail is rated moderate due to some steep and rugged hills. We will meet at the Park's Visitor's Center at 9:30am CT. For information and to register (or arrange carpooling), call Ellen Volet at 731-427-3666.

Oct 18 Big Hill Pond State Park. Pochahontas, TN. This 8-mile loop trail is a unique area with an abundance of wildlife. A 0.8-mile boardwalk crosses Dismal Swamp. This hike is rated moderate for the uneven terrain and distance hiked. Hiking boots are strongly recommended. Bring lunch and water. We will meet at the boat dock in the park at 9:00am CT. For information and to register (or arrange carpooling), call Ellen Volet at 731-427-3666.

MURFREESBORO CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER: Martin McCulloch 615-896-1043

mam1932@earthlink.net

OUTINGS COORDINATOR

(Call & volunteer to lead an outing.)

Ray & Linda Eckerson 615-847-0322

reckerson@comcast.net

MEETS MONTHLY - 2nd Tuesday at 7pm CT

Barfield-Crescent Park's Wilderness Station

697 Barfield Rd., Murfreesboro

Oct 3-5 (Fri-Sun) 12th Annual Great Pumpkin Festival & Weigh-off. Allardt, TN. We've had so much fun doing this in the past, we're doing it again. We'll camp Fri. & Sat. night at Pickett State Park, which provides us several options for hiking. We'll spend most of Sat. at the Pumpkin Festival and we will have a float (again!) in the parade - you're invited to help decorate it (hiking themed) and march in the parade (in hiker garb). Bring a bucket of candy to toss to the children who line the parade route. We'll take a short hike in the area after the parade. For information, contact Fount Bertram at 615-765-5357 or *fwbertram@heartoftn.net*.

Oct 11 Montgomery Bell Trail, Montgomery Bell State Park. Burns, TN. We will be hiking the 6.2-mile section of this park that is rich in beauty and Tennessee history. The hike is rated easy but does involve stream crossings (they are usually shallow; however, depth will be determined by any recent rainfall we've had). Bring water and snacks, and wear proper hiking footwear. On our way home, we'll stop in White Bluff and have lunch at Hog Heaven (bring \$\$). For information and to register (and arrange carpooling), contact Ron Dunn at 615-867-3301 or *rdunn@genesco.com*.

Oct 14 MONTHLY MEETING.

Oct 19-21 (Fri-Sun) Southeast Foot Trails Coalition Conference. Monteagle, TN. This is a very important meeting for the future of foot trails in the Southeast and will be a very informative, educational and fun event! For complete details, see the article on page 1 of this newsletter.

Oct 19 Stevenson Trail, North Chickamauga Pocket Wilderness. Chattanooga, TN. This 1100-acre Bowater Pocket Wilderness Area is named for the North Chickamauga Creek. You'll see breathtaking overlooks, scenic trails and waterfalls. The trail, which is approximately 4 miles, one way, runs along the north slope of Chickamauga Creek. Fall colors should be good and the creek will be sparkling. This 8-mile hike is a challenging (as opposed to strenuous) hike. Archery hunting is permitted on Saturdays, which explains why this is a Sunday hike. However, to be on the safe side, wearing bright colors might be a good idea in case a poacher is in the area. In addition, everyone is required to wear sturdy hiking boots, and bring snacks, lunch and water. For information and to register, contact Heloise Shilstat at 615-896-6278 or *stillwild@bellsouth.net*.

PLANNING AHEAD:

Nov 8 South Old Mac and Panther Branch Trails, Frozen Head State Park. Wartburg, TN. This hike climbs up to Tubbs Springs and is approximately 7 miles long. Parts of this hike will be strenuous (1500 ft climb) but overall it will be moderate. It is generally chillier at Tubbs Springs, due to the elevation change, so dress accordingly. The plan is to use the South Old Mac and Panther Branch Trails, so we'll need to run a short, one-mile shuttle to avoid walking the last mile on a jeep road. Hiking sticks are advisable, and everyone is required to wear sturdy hiking boots, and bring snacks, lunch and water. For information and to register, contact Heloise Shilstat at 615-896-6278 or *stillwild@bellsouth.net*.

NASHVILLE CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER: David Furse

615-353-6435 *dfurse@comcast.net*

OUTINGS COORDINATOR *(Call & volunteer to lead an outing.)*

Elizabeth Gerlock 615-356-6260

eygerlock@aol.com

MEETS MONTHLY - 4th Tuesday at 7pm CT

St. Bernard Academy Building, 2021 21st Ave South

HIKING HOTLINE - 615-367-7045

Oct 4 Greater Nashville Catfish Hunt. Nashville, TN. We will hike approximately 5 easy to moderate miles in the downtown area looking for 26 of the 51 sassy, 7-foot fiberglass catfish sculptures colorfully decorated by local artists and placed all over Nashville as part of the "Catfish Out of Water" City Arts Festival. The mission of the festival is to raise awareness - through public art - about the value of the Cumberland River and greenways. Comfortable walking shoes are recommended (hiking boots are not necessary). Bring money for "refreshment stops" that we will make along the way. We will meet at Riverfront Park (1st & Broadway) by the "Tuxedo Catfish" at 9:00am CT. For information and to register contact Jerry Hendrixson at 615-423-7019 or *cheifwagee@aol.com*.

Oct 4 First Saturday Hike in Beaman Park. Joelton, TN. Join us as we explore one of Nashville's newer parks being developed by volunteers. Our hike will be from 9am until 12-noon CT on terrain rated easy to moderate. We will meet at the spring on Little Marrowbone Road. For information and to register, contact the Warner Parks Nature Center at 615-299-9586.

Oct 5 Collins Gulf Trail, Savage Gulf State Natural Area. Gruetli-Laager, TN. The trail begins along the rim of Collins Gulf then descends into the gulf where it crosses the Collins River on a suspension bridge. Continuing in the gulf, we will pass by beautiful Suter and Horsepound Falls. This is an 11-mile loop and rated difficult for the uneven and rocky terrain, in addition to several boulder fields. Bring snacks, lunch and water, and wear sturdy boots. For information and to register, call Doug Burroughs at 615-587-0085.

Oct 11 Rock Creek Loop Trail, Big South Fork National River & Recreation Area. Jamestown, TN. This is a nice woodland hike with some wonderful bluff views, and we hope to have some nice fall leaf colors. This hike is 8 miles and rated moderate for the uneven, somewhat hilly and rocky terrain. The trail starts at the Hattie Blevins Cemetery and descends along Massey Branch to its junction with Rock Creek. Then continues upstream along Rock Creek before climbing out of the gorge and returning to the starting point. We'll follow an old logging/mining railroad for part of the way. We will also hike parts of the John Muir and Sheltowee Trace Trails. Bring snacks, lunch and water, and wear sturdy boots. For information and to register, call Jim or Marietta Potet at 615-824-7666.

Oct 11 Bagel Hike at Percy Warner Park. Nashville, TN. First, we will hike the Mossy Ridge Trail (4½ miles, rated moderate due to elevation changes) and afterward, we'll stop for coffee/tea and a bagel at Brueggers Bagel Bakery (at Hwy. 70/100 split). This is the first of a three-part hike sequence that will add miles rewarded with bagels to future Warner Park hikes (see Oct. 26, below). Bring water and snacks, and wear sturdy boots. We will meet at 9:00am CT at the "Deep Well" parking area (stone arch entrance into the park on Hwy 100, about 1½ miles from the Hwy. 70/100 split). For information and to register, contact David Furse at 615-353-6435 or *dfurse@comcast.net*.

Nashville cont. on pg. 8

NASHVILLE (cont. from pg. 7)

Oct 12 Fiery Gizzard and Dog Hole Trails, South Cumberland Recreation Area. Tracy City, TN. Fall is an especially beautiful time to hike this trail. Beginning at Grundy Forest, the trail passes spectacular rock formations and a stream tumbling over large boulders, creating mini waterfalls. Then, climbing up the Dog Hole Trail (named for the coal mine tunneled out of the rock), the trail takes us along the rim with several opportunities to take spur trails to lovely overlooks. At Raven Point, another overlook, we will have lunch and begin our return hike by going down into the gorge and following the trail over many, many large rocks, which at times follows a stream. The hike is approximately 9 miles and rated moderate to difficult for steep ascents/descents and rocks. Sturdy boots are a must! Bring snacks, lunch and water. We will meet to carpool from the Target parking lot on Bell Road at 8:00am CT. For information and to register, contact Brian Dion at 615-331-7331 or Brian.Dion@state.tn.us.

Oct 14 (Tue) Lightweight Backpacking Discussion Group. This ongoing event is open to everyone – beginner as well as experienced - to learn about and/or to share their experiences of backpacking. This discussion group meets informally (just about monthly) at Blue Ridge Mountain Sports on Page Rd. in Belle Meade at 7:00pm CT. In addition to talking about gear, heavy packs, places to go, trail conditions, many backpackers (and day hikers) find their conversations gravitating toward FOOD! So, tonight we'll show 'n tell backpacking food and meals. Members, Sue Lefferts and Diane Manas will moderate (maybe prepare something yummy). Feel free to bring your favorite backpacking food/meal to show 'n tell, or just come to learn. In the event that food is prepared, and you want to taste-test, we will need to obtain a headcount; therefore, **YOU MUST PRE-REGISTER by Oct. 11**. For more information about this discussion group and to **PRE-REGISTER**, contact Herb Kneeland at 615-298-4462.

**Are you new to Nashville? Hiking? Interested in checking out a hiking club? Or, just want a gentler hike? This is the hike 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.*

Oct 18 Newcomer's Hike at Radnor Lake State Natural Area. Nashville, TN. If Mother Nature cooperates, we should see brilliant fall colors as we hike the Ganier Ridge and South Cove Trails, for a total of 4 miles over terrain that's rated moderate for the two ridges we will ascend/descend. Wear boots or comfortable walking shoes, and bring water. We will meet at the Park's Nature Center at 9:00am CT. After the hike, we will go for lunch at a nearby restaurant (bring \$\$ to pay for your meal). Radnor Lake SNA charges a \$3/carload State Park Access Fee. If you don't already have your Annual State Park Pass, bring \$3 to pay the fee. For information and to register, contact Hugh Tobin at 615-790-9567 or HTobin@hotmail.com.

Oct 19 Bearwaller Gap Trail. Carthage, TN. This Corps of Engineers' trail extends from Tater Knob Overlook above the Cordell Hull Dam to Defeated Creek Recreation Area on Cordell Hull Lake for a total of 5.7 miles. The trail provides many dramatic overlooks from the bluffs, and in the past we have spotted wild turkeys, turkey vultures, and waterfowl. Because this is a one-way hike (not a loop), it is necessary to park cars at each end of the trail. The trail is rated moderate for the several rolling hills we will climb. Bring snacks, lunch, water, and wear hiking boots. We will meet at 8:00am CT to carpool from the Kinko's in the K-mart parking lot on Donelson Pike. For information, call Elizabeth Gerlock at 615-356-6260.

Oct 25 Push, Pull, Drag & Remove - Exotic Plant Removal at Percy Warner Park. Nashville, TN. Spend a half-day clearing exotic plants from the Tornado Ridge area of the Mossy Ridge Trail (aka "red trail"). This community service project is in conjunction with REI's staff and the Friends of Warner Park. All volunteers will be rewarded with a lunch and beverage, and a t-shirt. **NO experience required!** Tools and work gloves will be provided; however, if you have loppers, pruners or work gloves, feel free to bring 'em. Please wear clothes (long pants) you don't mind getting dirty and sturdy hiking boots/shoes, and bring water. We will meet at 8:30am CT and work until 12:30pm. For food catering purposes and to obtain an accurate headcount, **YOU MUST PRE-REGISTER** by Tuesday, Oct. 21! To obtain meeting place with directions, visit www.REI.com (follow links Stores & Events, Tennessee, Brentwood) or come into the store to pick up a flyer. For additional information and to **PRE-REGISTER**, call Herb Kneeland at 615-298-4462.

Oct 26 Double Bagel Hike. Warner Woods and Mossy Ridge Trails, Percy Warner Park. Nashville, TN. Reward yourself with two bagels after completing both Warner Woods and the Mossy Ridge Trails in Percy Warner Park. Combined, both trails total 7 miles, and the hike is rated moderately difficult due to elevation changes and distance. Bring water and snacks, and wear sturdy hiking boots. After the hike, we will go to Brueggers Bagel Bakery (at Hwy. 70/100 split). We will meet at 9:00am CT at the "Deep Well" parking area (stone arch entrance into the park on Hwy 100, about 1½ miles from the Hwy. 70/100 split). For information and to register, contact David Furse at 615-353-6435 or dfurse@comcast.net.

Oct 26 Honey Creek Trail, Big South Fork Nat'l River and Recreation Area. Jamestown, TN. This 5.6-mile trail provides spectacular scenery along its entire length. It has a dramatic overlook over the Cumberland River, Indian rock houses, a cave, tumbling streams and small waterfalls, in addition to interesting plants and trees. The trail is rugged with climbs over and between rocks and in streams. Sturdy hiking boot are required! Bring snacks, lunch and water. We will meet and carpool from the Kinko's (Donelson Pike) parking lot 8:00am CT. For information and to register, contact Brian Dion at 615-532-5756 or Brian.Dion@state.tn.us.

Oct 28 **MONTHLY MEETING**. This month, we welcome top-notch nature photographer, Tullahoma's Jack B. Carman. An aerospace engineer by trade, Jack's interests in wildflower identification and nature photography have come together in his recent book, *Wildflowers of Tennessee*. Come enjoy Jack's images and get some help in naming that rare flower you saw on the trail. Bring a friend, lots in store! See you at 7:00pm CT in the Nature Conservancy Conference Room of the St. Bernard Academy Building at 2021 21st Ave. South.

OTHER ACTIVITIES:

Oct 28 Pre-Monthly Meeting Dinner at Bosco's in Hillsboro Village, at 1805 21st Ave South. We will meet at 5:15pm CT, and depart for the meeting at 6:30pm. Questions? Contact Paul Smith at 615-832-9388, or paolov@bellsouth.net.

Hike Registration? Why?

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

Please, be considerate and register.

NORTHWEST CHAPTER

(UT at Martin & Weakley County)

CHAPTER OFFICER: Jim Clark 731-587-2225 jclark@utm.edu

MEETS MONTHLY – usually the 2nd Thursday; however, call for confirmation or visit our chapter website:

www.utm.edu/~jclark/trails/

Meetings start at 7:00pm CT on the UT Martin Campus, Boling University Center in Room 231

Oct 9 (Thu) **MONTHLY MEETING**. George Evans and Greg Moore will tell us of their experiences accompanying local boy scouts to Philmont Scout Ranch. With lots of miles to cover with young, enthusiastic hikers, George and Greg will, no doubt, make us glad it was them, and not us, accompanying these energetic scouts.

Oct 11 Rim Rock/Pounds Hollow Loop. A beautiful trail atop a bluff features a Native-American stonewall 1,200 years old. At an overlook, wooden steps lead down through a rock crevice into Oxlot Cave, where oxen were housed during logging operations in the early 1800s. Below the bluff line, a trail around Pounds Hollow Lake returns us to the starting point. This is a moderately easy 5 miles with lots to see. If time and the group permit, we can stop at Garden of the Gods on the return trip. If the timing is right, fall colors could make this spectacular! For information and to register, contact Jim Clark at 731-587-2225 or jclark@utm.edu.

PLANNING AHEAD:

Nov 11 (Tue) **MONTHLY MEETING**. Dr. Tim Johnston, local Marketing Professor, will discuss his "section-hiking" of the entire Appalachian Trail.

Nov 8 Big Hill Pond State Park. Pocahton, TN. We will hike the backcountry loop (8 miles is what the sign says, but we think it is longer). You can expect rolling hills, a boardwalk through tupelo swamp and beautiful views of McNatt lake. The portion descending from the fire tower to the boardwalk and back up to the dam overlook is one of the most beautiful stretches of trails in West Tennessee. Locals (Sandy King) say, "this is the perfect time of year for this park." For information and to register, contact Jim Clark at 731-587-2225 or jclark@utm.edu.

PLATEAU CHAPTER

(Crossville)

CHAPTER OFFICER: Charlie Jones 931-484-5298 cejones9@earthlink.net

OUTINGS COORDINATOR: (Call & volunteer to lead an outing.)

Carolyn Miller 931-260-6674 cardan@usit.net

MEETS MONTHLY - 2nd Thursday at 7pm CT - See October 9, Below

Oct 9 **MONTHLY MEETING**. For this month ONLY, we will be meeting at Roane State Community College's, Community Center (Crossville Campus). Same time, 7:00pm CT. Lisa Huff, NE-TN Stewardship Ecologist, Natural Areas Program, is presenting "How Runaway Growth in the Southeast Threatens our Environment." This talk will familiarize us with several natural areas in Tennessee and presents information compiled by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on growth and its effects in the Southeast. This presentation was originally prepared by the Region IV office of EPA for the Deputy Administrator. It has lots of incredible graphics and a real eye-opener to issues of growth and sprawl. If you need more information, directions, contact Myra Holloway at 931-788-1724 or Holloway_MB@roanestate.edu.

Oct 11 We will be joined by members of the Upper Cumberland chapter for your choice of two hikes in the Big South Fork NRR. Jamestown, TN. Hike #1 begins at the Bandy Creek Campground on the John Litton Farm Loop Trail. This trail goes by rock overhangs and Fall Branch Falls. We then take the Fall Branch Trail and a section of the Grand Gap Loop Trail to Angel Falls Overlook. We will continue on to Leatherwood Ford for a total of 9 miles. Hike #2 begins at Leatherwood Ford and goes to the Angel Falls Overlook, for the best view in the park and back for a total of 5.8 miles. Both hikes are rated moderate. We will meet to carpool from the back parking lot of Cracker Barrel (I-40 exit 317) at 8:00am CT. For more information and to register, contact Charles or Leigh Jones at 931-484-5298 or cejones9@earthlink.net.

Oct 25 Elkmont Area Hikes, GSMNP. While the particular hikes have not been determined at the time this newsletter was going to the printer, you can be sure that we will include a stroll past the summer houses at Elkmont. This should be a great weekend in the Smokies, so set this weekend aside for some recreation with the Plateau chapter. For more information and to register, please contact Gene or Myra Holloway at 931-788-1724 or Holloway_MB@roanestate.edu.

Attention: Hike Coordinators (aka Hike Leaders)

A TTA *Release of Claims & Hold Harmless Agreement* form (aka "Liability Waiver") must be signed by everyone before you start your hike or before carpooling to your hiking destination. They can be obtained from your local Chapter Officer or downloaded easily from our web site: www.tennessee-trails.org/release.php

Don't Miss an Outing Plan Ahead, Register Early!

There are times when a hike leader must limit (due to park regulations, etc.) the number of participants on an outing. Please do not wait until the afternoon or evening before the outing to RSVP. *Plan ahead and register early.*

THE "10* ESSENTIALS"

Before you head out on the trail, check your pack to be sure it contains the following items:

- whistle
- water
- hat/sunglasses
- food
- map
- 1st aid kit
- compass
- flashlight
- fire starter
- rain gear/extra clothing

Other considerations:

- leave someone a copy of your hiking plans
- hiking poles
- common sense

* This list is not to be considered cast in concrete – and should be customized to each outdoor enthusiast's needs.

SODDY DAISY CHAPTER

Leigh Jones 931-484-5298

cejones9@earthlink.net

Fount Bertram 615-765-5357

fwbertram@heartoftn.net

Oct 11 Lookout Mountain. Chattanooga TN. This is a joint outing with members of the Highland Rim chapter. We will hike from Cravens House and follow the Bluff and Upper Truck Trails. This 8-mile outing is rated moderate. Bring water, snacks and lunch. For information and to register, contact Brent Morris at 931-454-1718 or bmorris@edge.net.

TENNESSEE RAILS-TRAILS ADVISORY COUNCIL (TRAC)

BOARD REPRESENTATIVE : Jim Deming

615-354-9767 jdeming@tals.org

WEBSITE www.TNRailsTrails.org

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.

On Saturday October 18, you are invited to join the Friends of the Cumberland River Bicentennial Trail for the 4th Annual Cumberland River Challenge - a 10, 30, and 60-mile bike ride. All of the rides begin at the same time and start at River Bluff Park in Ashland City, TN. The event is open to the public and everyone is invited. The 10-mile route is easy and very "family friendly." For the moderate rider, there is a 30-mile ride. And, for those wishing to go the full distance, there is the 60-mile "Challenge." To register, or to volunteer as a sponsor or helper with this event, contact event chairs Lori or Tony Pezzi at 615-587-0115. If you would like to learn more about Friends of the Cumberland River Bicentennial Trail, write to Friends of the Trail, P.O. Box 597, Ashland City, TN., 37015.

UPPER CUMBERLAND CHAPTER

(Sparta / Cookeville)

CHAPTER OFFICER: Richard Savage 931-526-2035

savage_richard@hotmail.com

Oct 4 Honey Creek Trail, Big South Fork NRR. Jamestown, TN. This trail features waterfalls, rock houses, and gorge overlooks. The trail, which is 5½ miles long, is rated difficult because of rock scrambles, stream crossings, and steep slopes. Hiking boots are needed. We will meet at 8:00am in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville. For information and to register, contact Lisa Burgess at 931-432-5723 or lmurray@twlakes.net.

Oct 11 We will be joined by members of the Plateau Chapter for your choice of two hikes in the Big South Fork NRR. Jamestown, TN. Hike #1 begins at the Bandy Creek Campground on the John Litton Farm Loop Trail. This trail goes by rock overhangs and Fall Branch Falls. We then take the Fall Branch Trail and a section of the Grand Gap Loop Trail to Angel Falls Overlook. We will continue on to Leatherwood Ford for a total of 9 miles. Hike #2 begins at Leatherwood Ford and goes to the Angel Falls Overlook, for the best view in the park and back for a total of 5.8 miles. Both hikes are rated moderate. We will meet to carpool from Penney's parking lot in Cookeville at 7:45am CT. For more information and to register, contact Charles or Leigh Jones at 931-484-5298 or cejones9@earthlink.net.

Oct 18 Colditz Cove Loop in Colditz Cove State Natural Area (Allardt, TN) & Burnt Mill Bridge Loop, Big South Fork NRR (Jamestown, TN). The Colditz Cove Loop features Northrup Falls and a lush forest of hemlock and rhododendron. The Burnt Mill Bridge Loop parallels Clear Fork River. Both trails are rated moderate. The Colditz Cove Loop is 1½ miles and the Burnt Mill Bridge Loop is 4.3 miles. We will meet to carpool from Penney's parking lot in Cookeville at 9:00am CT. For information and to register, contact Louise Miniard at 931-528-9115 or lminiard@flowserve.com.

Oct 25 Virgin Falls Pocket Wilderness. Sparta, Tennessee. This one of middle Tennessee's most interesting hikes featuring waterfalls and caves. The hike is 8 miles and is rated moderate to strenuous. For a shorter hike one can hike to Laurel Falls and return which makes the length 4 miles. You can meet us to carpool from either Penney's parking lot in Cookeville at 8:30am CT or Firststar Bank across from McDonald's in Sparta at 9:00am CT. For information and to register, call Marnell Cothran at 931-738-5874.

PLANNING AHEAD:

Nov 1 North Rim Trail, Savage Gulf State Natural Area. Palmer, TN. This trail features many overlooks of Savage Gulf and should be spectacular with the leaves changing color. We will hike 5 to 8 miles. The trail is rated easy to moderate. You can meet us to carpool from either Penney's parking lot in Cookeville at 8:30am CT or Firststar Bank across from McDonald's in Sparta at 9:00am CT. For information and to register, contact John Harwood at 931-528-6395 or jharwood@tntech.edu.

Nov 1 Across the Gulf! Savage Gulf State Natural Area. Beersheba Springs, TN. We will start at the Stone Door Ranger Station and cross the gulf to Hobb's Cabin. We will then hike the length of the North Rim Trail and end our hike at the Savage Gulf Ranger Station. The North Rim Trail features more overlooks than any other trail in the South Cumberland area and should be spectacular with the fall color. The trails vary between level, steep and rocky. Sturdy hiking boots are required! The hike is 17 miles and rated strenuous. You can meet us to carpool from either Penney's parking lot in Cookeville at 6:15am CT, or Firststar Bank across from McDonald's in Sparta at 6:30am CT. For information and to register, contact Richard Savage at 931-526-2035 or savage_richard@hotmail.com.

OFFICERS:

President
 Leigh Jones 931-484-5298
cejones9@earthlink.net

Vice-President
 Fount Bertram 615-765-5357
fwbertram@heartoftn.net

Treasurer
 June Parker 615-832-5418
jmparker13@hotmail.com

Secretary
 Anna Clark 731-587-2225
aclark@utm.edu

Past President
 Libby Francis 615-889-5718
libbyslibbys@comcast.net

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

West TN At-Large Director
 Jerry Lenski 901-255-6574
jlenski@yahoo.com

Middle TN At-Large Director
 Brent Morris 931-454-1718
bmorris@edge.net

East TN At-Large Director
 VACANT

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

Cumberland Trail Conference Representatives
 Barry & Sandra Spearman 931-839-2320
sandbar@multipro.com

TN Rails To Trails Advisory Council
 Jim Deming 615-354-9767
jdeming@tals.org

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

Newsletter Editor
 Diane Manas 615-352-7777
editor@tennesseetrails.org

Newsletter Deadlines:

Deadlines for Chapter announcements and articles of special interest are due as follows:

Due	For Newsletter Dated
October 10	November 1
NOTE: November 5	December 1
December 10	January 1

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

editor@tennesseetrails.org

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

TTA Gift Memberships Available

Throughout the Year!

- ◆ Birthdays ◆ Anniversaries ◆ Valentine's Day ◆ Boss' Day ◆
- ◆ Mother's Day ◆ Graduation ◆
- ◆ Father's Day ◆ Halloween ◆ Hanukah ◆
- ◆ Christmas ◆ Just Because ◆

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: 615-851-1052 or *ttahiker@msn.com*.

New! Tennessee Trails Merchandise Order Form

_____ TTA Patch 6.00
Round embroidered patch, sew it on anything.

_____ TTA Window Decal 3.00
A must for each car.

35th Anniversary

TTA turns 35 in December 2003! Celebrate TTA's Birthday, and show your affiliation with pride!

_____ TTA 35th Anniversary Commemorative T-Shirt... 16.00
Choose Size: Small / Medium / Large / X-Large
Choose Color: Sand / Yellow / Stone-Gray

_____ TTA 35th Anniversary Commemorative Patch 6.00
Round embroidered patch commemorating TTA's 35th Anniversary, sew it on anything.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

PHONE hm: (____) _____ wk: (____) _____

*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.

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

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

A NEW MEMBER

Oct 03

RENEWING MY MEMBERSHIP

Memberships are for one year, unless you have a Lifetime Membership.
Gift Memberships are also available. Contact our Membership Director,
Anne Wesley, at 615-851-1052 or ttahiker@msn.com

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 (FULL-TIME) \$15.00

___ Supporting (\$50.00, \$100.00 or more)

___ Life Member (Individual) \$500.00

___ Life Member (Family) \$750.00

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Home Phone (___) _____ Zip _____ -- _____

Work Phone (___) _____

e-mail _____

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

Please list me with the following chapter:

___ Big South Fork

___ Clarksville

___ Columbia

___ Cove Lake

___ Cumberland Gap

___ East TN (Oak Ridge/Knoxville)

___ Highland Rim (Manchester/Tullahoma)

___ Memphis

___ Murfreesboro

___ Nashville

___ Northwest (UT at Martin/Weakley)

___ Plateau (Crossville)

___ Soddy Daisy

___ Upper Cumberland (Sparta/Cookeville)

___ At Large

When you become a TTA member, you will receive: (1.) TTA's Hiking Handbook, a reference book containing information about TTA, trail etiquette, hiker responsibilities, etc. (2.) TTA's monthly newsletter, containing information on hiker safety, upcoming hikes / overnight trips, volunteer opportunities, chapter meeting announcements, as well as events occurring within TTA's Associate Organizations: C.T.C. and T.R.A.C. (3.) Annual Membership Directory, listing members by chapter and how to reach them. You are invited to attend any number of monthly meetings scheduled, where you will enjoy diverse programs, socializing and refreshments. In addition, in the 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.