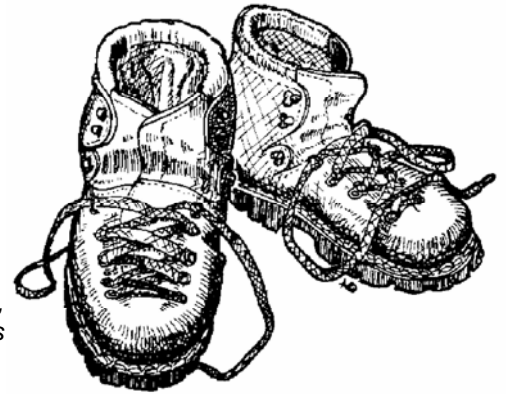


# TENNESSEE TRAILS

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



## Evan Means Small Grants Program

**Requested Deadline is Dec. 31, 2005**

In February 2006, 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, 2005.

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 2006 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 or contact:

Leigh Jones  
TTA Grants Administrator  
P.O. Box 405  
Pleasant Hill, TN 38578  
931-484-5298  
cejones9@earthlink.net

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.

## Grant Given for Trail!

On November 18, the Tennessee Parks and Greenways Foundation presented a grant of \$2,000 to TTA and the Columbia-Franklin Chapter to build a trail from a parking area just off Highway 43 near Mount Pleasant to the Stillhouse Hollow Falls. This 75' high, cascading waterfall and its surrounding land was recently obtained by the TPGF to preserve it for the people of Tennessee. Receiving the grant on behalf of TTA were LouAnn Partington, TTA Treasurer, and Rick Lausten, former chairman of the Columbia-Franklin Chapter.

The grant will be used to buy tools to construct the trail and lumber for a bridge over the creek that feeds the falls.

The Columbia-Franklin Chapter hopes to have the trail completed by spring 2006. There will be announcements in the newsletter when we will begin construction. All chapters and interested people are welcome to come help.

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## *Walking with Fount*

It seems a bit strange to sit down to do this column and realize it will be the last one. I look back over the past two years and have so much to be thankful for. First of all I appreciate the confidence you, the membership, expressed in me to allow me to represent TTA as your president. There have been so many events and moments that have meant a great deal to me. I told you at the beginning that I wanted to make the Tennessee Trails Association household words in the hiking community. I also wanted us to be recognized for our contributions to the hiking trail construction and maintenance throughout the state. I feel a good deal has been accomplished toward this goal. Our services are in demand throughout the state to assist and to construct hiking trails. I have received calls and e-mail from a number of sources for our consideration. Active projects that are going on even as we speak are trails at the Yanahli Wildlife Management Area, The Walls of Jericho, Short Springs SNA, Stillhouse Falls SNA the Hermitage and of course, our own Cumberland Trail. Requests have come in from Big South Fork, Pickett State Park, Burgess Falls, Edgar Evins State Park, South Cumberland State Park, the Tennessee River Trails Association, the Mountain Goat Trail at Monteagle and the Corps of Engineers at Center Hill Lake. It seems like our name and reputation proceeds us and when new trail projects are proposed, we are the first name that comes to mind. It is interesting to note that the dedication plaque at the Walls of Jericho gives TTA full credit for the work done on the area.

It would be impossible to name everyone that has made major contributions to all of these projects, but I would be remiss not to mention at least a few. First and foremost is Jim Schroeder from the Murfreesboro Chapter. He has been instrumental in the Yanahli project, the Walls of Jericho and of course the literally 1000's of hours devoted to the Cumberland Trail. Martin McCullough, Warren and Carol Devine, are among others that have given of themselves to promote the continuance of hiking trails for all of us in Tennessee. These individuals have not only spent time but financial and emotional sacrifices to have us where we are today. To all of you that have worked on our trail systems...Thank You!

Our recent Annual Meeting is being lauded by all concerned as an unqualified success. Many thanks go out to Anna Bertram and her planning committee from Murfreesboro, Highland Rim and Columbia/Franklin Chapters for the many hours planning and executing a nearly flawless meeting. It is exhilarating to see all the cooperation and hard work put in by all the committee members to a common goal to have something as outstanding as this Annual Meeting. I am especially proud of the effort made to honor our founders. The looks of anticipation and delight of their faces as they interacted with each other was worth all the considerable effort and expense to have them there.

It is with some nostalgia that I sit and review the past two years. I thank you for the opportunity to serve and for your support. Most of all, I thank you for your friendship. I think I can say with perfect honesty that all of the many decisions and actions taken as your president were in my considered opinion, for the good of our organization. Any mistakes were made in good faith that the actions were for the betterment of TTA. I can pass the gavel on to the incoming officers with pride and with confidence that they will continue to work for the health and strength of the Tennessee Trails Association. I pledge my continued support to them and to TTA...

God Bless and Happy Trails...

Fount

## **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.

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 Annual Directory**

If you haven't provided your e-mail address yet, you stand a chance of it being left out of the upcoming annual directory. It is simple to do and will insure state of the art communication within the organization. Your e-mail address will not be shared, sold or exchanged with anyone else, so it is a secure disclosure. To have your e-mail address included, here is what you do...Go to [www.tennesseetrails.org](http://www.tennesseetrails.org) Click on the side menu under "Member Services" ...Click on the "Change of Address" bullet...Go to the bottom of the address form and add your e-mail address. It's as simple as that...You don't need to change anything in your regular mail address. E-mail has become the major source of communication and we want you to be up to date with what is going on within TTA.

# CUMBERLAND TRAIL CONFERENCE

## CUMBERLAND TRAIL CONFERENCE STAFF:

Executive Director ..... Paul Freeman ..... *paul.freeman@frontiernet.net*  
Trail Development &  
Maintenance Coordinator Mark Stanfill ..... *mark.stanfill@frontiernet.net*  
Office Manager ..... Nora Beck ..... *nora.beck@frontiernet.net*  
Bookkeeper ..... Janet D. Smith ..... *janet.d.smith@frontiernet.net*

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

## Think Ahead into 2006 – Spring Breakaway – Soddy Daisy, TN Dogwood Lodge

How would you like to be part of the kitchen cooking crew for BreakAway 2006? We always need lots of help and we run a happy kitchen. And I'll tell you a secret -- it is fun -- except for that early wake-up call, but you can be first in the buffet line. Someone else does most of the clean up and everyone thinks you are wonderful for putting all that delicious food on the table.

BreakAway 2006 will run for four weeks during the time frame of February 26 to April 1st. The CTC is finalizing the schedule with the schools. We always have a big crowd of college students because they know our ASB is such a good experience. We need cooks and helpers and a dishwasher. If you are interested, give me a call. Please plan on staying several days so you can really learn the routine and also get to know the students. I need to schedule helpers so everyone does not come at the same time. Students arrive on Sunday afternoon and leave after breakfast on Saturday. They are on their own for Wednesday supper - and so are the cooks!

In 2006 we will not ask for food donations, but we will accept cash donations. There have been some minor problems in previous years with transportation and also container sizes. This year we have access to another food wholesaler as well as Sam's so we can keep a smaller inventory for the set menu.

I hope to see all you experienced cooks who worked previous BreakAways and everyone who has been thinking about working for the past three years. Come on, make the commitment, you will be glad you did.

Betty Porter 901-755-4740  
Kitchen Coordinator  
Ray Haley  
Chief Cook

## Adopt-A-Trail: We Need Your Help

Due to our thrust to build new trail and the rash of storms over the last couple of years, trail maintenance on the Cumberland Trail has fallen behind in some areas. We need your help by adopting a segment of the Cumberland Trail. You can co-adopt with others if a favorite section is already adopted. Go to the Cumberland Trail webpage and see the Adopt a Trail page for a list of segments.

### What do you have to do?

- √ Walk the segment 3 or 4 times a year, especially in the spring.
- √ Do what you can. If you can run a chainsaw, great!
- √ Report to the office what you did and the condition of the trail.

Adoptees can be individuals, families, scouts, hiking groups, or church groups. For more information and to answer your questions, contact Mark Stanfill at *mark.stanfill@frontiernet.net*.

## Advertising Positon with TTA Newsletter

At the TTA Board meeting held during the annual meeting, the subject of advertising in the newsletter was discussed. The cost of printing and mailing the newsletter are a significant portion of our operating budget, and the inclusion of advertising or sponsorship could free up funds for more hiking causes or forestall future dues increases.

No board members have experience in the realm of advertising, so we are appealing to the membership. We are looking for a person to take on this responsibility. It would involve contacting potential vendors, offering ad space or sponsorship. This person would work with the newsletter editor. The ads could take the form of already produced artwork, copy produced by someone within TTA, or simple sponsorship announcements.

The concept might be expanded to include ads on the TTA web site.

Just a possibility.

If you are interested in taking on this worthwhile task, please call Jim Johnson at 615.356.6246 and I'll put you in touch with the right folks.

### Carpool Etiquette

Gasoline prices have continued to roller coaster up and down. Please be considerate and take your turn as a carpool driver. If you are a rider, always contribute to the cost of gasoline (i.e. bring small bills, it'll save time and prevent the inconvenience). Your driver is not a chauffeur. Assist him or her by reading the map and/or directions to the trailhead. Help your driver remain alert on the drive home by staying awake and conversing. All passengers must wear seat belts to minimize the risk of injury in case of an accident!!! The drive is generally the most dangerous part of any hiking trip.

## Here are Your New Officers!

### President:

Anne Wesley...Nashville

### Vice-President:

Rosemary Marshall...East Tennessee

### Secretary:

Carolyn Miller...Plateau

### Treasurer:

LouAnn Partington: Highland Rim

### Membership:

Garnett Rush...Nashville

### Past President:

Fount Bertram...Murfreesboro

### Previous Past President:

Leigh Jones...Plateau

**West Tennessee At-Large Representative:** Vacant

**Middle Tennessee At-Large Representative:**

Brent Morris

**East Tennessee At-Large Representative:**

Charles Jones

**Cumberland Trail Conference Representative:**

Sandra Spearman

**Newsletter Editor:**

Leslie El-Sayad

Chapter Officers will be identified with the chapter headings as new elections are held in each individual chapter.

### Join Big South Fork Chapter!

Big South Fork Chapter invites all TTA members to visit us for January 14, 2006, Events Meeting of the Waters Hike and Chili Lunch Evening Program with Refreshments. Plan to stay overnight and enjoy more hiking in our area. For lodging reservations, contact Grey Gables Bed & Breakfast, 1-423-628-5252; [greygablestn@highland.net](mailto:greygablestn@highland.net), Historic Rugby, 1-423-628-2441 or 1-888-214-3400; [www.historicrugby.org](http://www.historicrugby.org)

### Attention: Hike Coordinators

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 website:

[www.tennesseetrails.org/release.php](http://www.tennesseetrails.org/release.php)

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

Our hike coordinators are volunteers. Make it easier for them to contact you if hike needs to be cancelled by registering! There are times when a hike leader must limit (due to park regulations, etc.) the number of participants. Please do not wait until the afternoon or evening before the outing to RSVP. Plan ahead and register early.

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## BIG SOUTH FORK CHAPTER

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Thomas Howell

423-628-5521, [tshowell@nxs.net](mailto:tshowell@nxs.net)

**SECRETARY-TREASURER:** Benita Howell

423-628-5521 or 865-974-7797, [bhowell@nxs.net](mailto:bhowell@nxs.net)

**BOARD REPRESENTATIVES:** Tim and Lynn Takacs

615-824-7048, [lynntakacs@comcast.net](mailto:lynntakacs@comcast.net) or [ttakacs@comcast.net](mailto:ttakacs@comcast.net)

**OUTINGS COORDINATOR:**

(call & volunteer to lead an outing)

Eric Wilson 423-628-2817, [ericavi@nxs.net](mailto:ericavi@nxs.net)

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**Dec 25** Colditz Cove, Allardt, TN Annual Christmas Day hike at Colditz Cove. Meet at Harrow Road Café at 2:00 p.m.

**Dec 30** Annual Business Meeting for election of officers and hike planning for 2006. 7:30 p.m. at Friendly House, behind Christ Church in Rugby.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Jan 14** Annual Snow and Ice Hike and Chili Lunch. Meeting of the Waters, Rugby, TN Join us for this joint Big South Fork, Murfreesboro, and Nashville chapter event hosted by Jim and Marietta Poteet. To register, contact Jim at [poteet@genesco.com](mailto:poteet@genesco.com), or call 423-628-5890.

**Jan 14** Special Evening Program. Come hear Bob Lantz, author of Tennessee Rivers, A Paddler's Guidebook, reminisce about Donald Todd's work on behalf of our Cumberland Plateau parks, trails, and scenic rivers. Watch your January newsletter for details.

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## CLARKSVILLE CHAPTER

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Judith Tate

931-920-2692, [mamx4@charter.net](mailto:mamx4@charter.net)

**OUTINGS COORDINATORS:**

(call & volunteer to lead an outing)

J.R. Tate 931-920-2692

Suva Bastin 931-645-2849

Wanda McCluskey 931-906-3338

Sandi Hamilton 931-920-2760

**MEETING:** Monthly - 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday, 7:00 pm CT. Crow

Community Center, 211 Richview Rd (Public is cordially invited!)

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**Dec 3** Fall Creek Falls; 7 miles, moderate; Bill and Sandi Hamilton 920-2760

**Dec 10** Ashland City Trail; 4 miles, easy; Christine Martin 552-6155

**Dec 17** TTA Christmas Party, 6:00 pm, Charlie and Jo Putnam's home. 931-362-3669

**Dec 24** Christmas Eve; No Hike.

**Dec 31** New Year's Eve Hike, downtown Clarksville; 3 miles, easy; meet 10:00 pm at McGregor Park; Potluck refreshments at the Bastin's at midnight; 645-2849

**Jan 1** Montgomery Bell New Year's Hike; 8 mi., moderate; Sandy Janus 551-8523

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## COLUMBIA/FRANKLIN CHAPTER

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Rick Lausten

615-373-0029, [saturncar1@aol.com](mailto:saturncar1@aol.com)

**OUTINGS COORDINATOR:**

(call & volunteer to lead an outing)

Tanya Juday 931-490-0856

**MEETING:** Monthly - 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday at 6:30 pm CT

Grand Buffet (North of Spring Hill)

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**Dec 4** We will hike the Buggy Top Trail near Sewanee, then attend the Lessons and Carols service at the All Saint's Chapel on the campus of The University of the South. We'll have to get in line by 3:00 pm for the 5:00 pm service. After the service, we'll stop by one of the restaurants in Monteagle/Sewanee and have dinner together. Buggy Top is a 4 mile loop that is rated difficult because of a steep descent to the creek that flows out of Lost Cave. We will leave from the A&D Market (1883 Lewisburg Pike, Hwy 431) at 8:30 am. We'll hike, then clean up, have lunch and get in line for the service. If you would like more information or want to register, contact Rick Lausten at 615-373-0029 or email [saturncar1@aol.com](mailto:saturncar1@aol.com)

### PLANNING AHEAD

**Jan 14** Bobby Hardeman will lead a hike in Mammoth Cave National Park, Kentucky. The trail is a 6.6 miles in and out and rated moderate. We will leave A&D Market (1883 Lewisburg Pike, Hwy 431) at 6:45 am, it is more than a two hour drive plus any bathroom stops. Everyone should bring lunch, snacks and of course water. The hike will include streams, overlooks and wildlife. Weather can be quite different there so everyone please watch the forecast. We plan on stopping in Bowling Green on our return trip for supper. Additional information will be available at the December and January meetings. If you would like more information or want to register, contact Bobby Hardeman at 615-305-7955 or email [puttr22@aol.com](mailto:puttr22@aol.com)

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## COVE LAKE CHAPTER

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Richard Helm

423-562-1110, [Richard.Helm@ahss.org](mailto:Richard.Helm@ahss.org)

**CO-CHAIR:** Mari Haslam

423-562-3227, [pittsteelersfan@earthlink.net](mailto:pittsteelersfan@earthlink.net)

**MEETING:** Monthly - 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday at 6:00 pm ET

LaFollette Recreation Center's Craft Room, 201 S. 9<sup>th</sup> St.

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No hikes scheduled at this time. In the meantime, check out other TTA chapter hike listings and join a hike!

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## EAST TN CHAPTER (Oak Ridge / Knoxville)

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Rosemary Marshall

[rosemary\\_l@hotmail.com](mailto:rosemary_l@hotmail.com)

**OUTINGS COORDINATOR:**

(call & volunteer to lead an outing)

Bob Uhren, [snowcap34@charter.net](mailto:snowcap34@charter.net)

**TREASURER:** Harold Draper, [h.m.draper@att.net](mailto:h.m.draper@att.net)

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**Dec 3** Come one! Come all! to our Christmas Dinner. We will dine beginning at 6 pm at Connors at Turkey Creek. They have a wonderful selection of the most popular holiday meals. We will close out our 2005 hiking year by remembering all our great hikes. For directions, just call Rosemary Marshall at 865-548-6171.

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## HIGHLAND RIM CHAPTER (Tullahoma Area)

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Doug Ratliff  
931-455-0249, [dougratliff@hotmail.com](mailto:dougratliff@hotmail.com)

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**Dec 10 MONTHLY MEETING** The Christmas party on December 10 (see below) will serve as our meeting for December.

**Dec 10 HIKE & CHRISTMAS PARTY** A hike at Short Springs State Natural Area will begin at 1:00 pm and will be followed by our chapter Christmas party at 4:00 pm at the home of Dawn Odette. Dawn will make chicken chili. The rest of us can bring food to accompany the chili. Contact Dawn at [dodette@cafes.net](mailto:dodette@cafes.net) or (931) 649-5427 to register and for directions.

**Jan 1 NEW YEAR'S DAY HIKE AND FEAST - MULTI CHAPTERS - AT THE BRIDGESTONE FIRESTONE CENTENNIAL WILDERNESS, DeRossett, TN.** The tradition lives on! The superstition is that whatever you do on New Year's Day you'll continue to do all year, so come out and hike and feast with us. This is an annual event with several Middle TN chapters. We will hike Polly Branch Falls Trail to the Screw Bluff Overlook, where we will serve up a New Year's Day feast, socialize, and take in the views of the Caney Fork River Gorge. We will return to our cars via the Chestnut Mountain Trail. The total hiking distance is 6 miles and rated moderate due to the rocky, uneven terrain, tree stobs, and two small stream crossings. Sturdy hiking shoes that provide stability are strongly advised! Everyone is encouraged to participate by bringing something to share (black-eyed peas, cornbread, greens, cook stoves, cook pots, paper plates, cups and cutlery, desserts, cider or hot chocolate and the water for making them, napkins, and garbage bags to remove our trash.) Even if you're not a chef you can help by carrying stuff. Contact Robert Davis at [davisrf@tnns.net](mailto:davisrf@tnns.net) or (931) 962-1614 to register.

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## JACKSON CHAPTER

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Gary Cooper  
731-424-5375 [gcooper52@yahoo.com](mailto:gcooper52@yahoo.com)

**MEETING:** Meeting: Monthly: 1st Tuesday at 7:00 pm CT  
Lambuth University, 705 Lambuth Blvd, Hyde Hall in basement on Maple Street. Look for TTA signs.

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**Dec 6 MONTHLY MEETING** Bring your favorite finger foods. Come and help us complete our hike planning for the first part of 2006. Visitors welcome.

**Dec 10** Percy Warner Park, Nashville, TN-We will get 7 miles of hiking by combining two trails-Warner Woods and Mossy Ridge. The trail passes through mature woods with hugh oaks, tulip poplars, sassafras, sugar maples, hickories and many other trees over terrain that is rated moderate for the several hills we will ascend/descend. Bring snacks and water. Afterwards, if enough people wish we will get together for dinner. We will meet at 10:00 am CT at the Warner Woods & Mossy Ridge trailhead in Percy Warner Park's "Deep Well" picnic area on TN-100, which is 1 1/2 miles from US-70S. For information and to register, contact Sara Hakin 731-424-6692 [hakim@lambuth.edu](mailto:hakim@lambuth.edu)

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## (cont') JACKSON CHAPTER

### PLANNING AHEAD

**Jan 1** New Year's Day Hike and Feast, Multi-Chapter annual event at Bridgestone-Firestone Centennial wilderness. Contact Gary Cooper 731-424-5375 [gcooper52@yahoo.com](mailto:gcooper52@yahoo.com)

Please register for hikes. Weather could cancel hikes and the leader needs to contact you with cancellation if the need should arise.

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## MEMPHIS CHAPTER

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Carolyn Pierce  
901-755-5635, [cedpierce2000@yahoo.com](mailto:cedpierce2000@yahoo.com)

**BOARD REPRESENTATIVE:** Gloria Lenski  
901-213-0604, [glorialenski@yahoo.com](mailto:glorialenski@yahoo.com)

**MEETING:** Monthly (Sept - May) 3rd Thursday at 7:00 pm Meeting  
Location: Cordova Library, 8457 Trinity Rd. 901-754-8443 Located off Germantown Parkway east on Trinity Rd. 1 1/8 mile. On the right - shares an entrance with Bert Ferguson Community Ct.

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**Dec 8** Memphis Chapter Christmas Party - You are invited to our annual holiday party at Betty Porter's house, 6696 Stout Road, for directions call 901-755-4740. Bring your favorite festive dishes and soft drinks; an oven is available for heating, and Betty will supply coffee, plates, cups, and eating utensils. Socializing begins around 6:30 with dinner at 7:00 pm. The 2006 hiking schedule will be distributed at the meeting afterward.

**Dec 10** Meeman-Shelby Forest, Millington. Meet at the Visitor Center at 9:00 am and bring water and snacks. We will hike the Woodland Trail, a 4-mile hike through mature forest along bluff tops and bottomlands. This hike is rated easy to moderate. New hikers welcome! For information, call Jerry Lenski at 901-213-0604. Park pass \$3 per car Directions: From Interstate 40, take exit 2-A, turn right, go 6 traffic lights to Watkins Road (this is Highway 388), turn left and go until the road dead-ends. Turn left, go one mile to a four-way stop, Shelby Forest General Store and turn right, go one mile, turn left into the park.

**Dec 31** New Year's Eve Hike - Meeman-Shelby, Forest Chickasaw Bluff Trail Meet at the Visitor Center at 9:00 am and bring water and snacks/lunch. Hike begins with a car shuttle to the north end of the trail for a 7-mile easy to moderate hike through the forest and connect up to the Woodland Trail then hike back to the Visitor Center. New Hikers Welcome. Registration required. To register and for questions, call Betty Porter at 901-755-4740.

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## MURFREESBORO CHAPTER

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Anna Bertram (also Board Rep.)  
615-765-5357, [abertram@heartoftn.net](mailto:abertram@heartoftn.net)

**OUTINGS COORDINATOR:**

(Call & volunteer to lead an outing)

Ron Dunn

615-867-3301, [trekkingtn@yahoo.com](mailto:trekkingtn@yahoo.com)

**MEETING:** Monthly - 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at 7:00 pm CT

Barfield-Crescent Park's Wilderness Station

697 Barfield Rd., Murfreesboro

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**Dec 3** Hobb's Cabin Backpacking Trip. This 14-mile hike follows the edge of the plateau on the north side of Savage Gulf the majority of the trail. The hike will begin from the Savage Gulf Ranger Station and follow the Savage Gulf Day Loop eventually crossing a suspension bridge.

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## (cont') MURFREESBORO CHAPTER

**(cont') Dec 3** 1/2 mile into our hike we will take the easy North Rim Trail, which offers more overlooks than any other at Savage Gulf. About 7 miles from our starting point we will find ourselves at Hobb's Cabin. If we are lucky enough to be the only hiker's there, some folks may opt to sleep in the cabin on cots. The cabin also has a stone fireplace! There is also a campsite available. We will reverse our steps for the hike back on Sunday morning. The hike is rated easy for the terrain but moderate for distance. For more details, and to sign-up please contact Tammy Day. [tdlay@comcast.net](mailto:tdlay@comcast.net) or phone (615) 904-0009. \*Note: If you are a strong day hiker and are thinking about giving backpacking a try, this might be a good trial run because of the level terrain.

**Dec 10** Christmas Candlelight Tour of Homes. Join the beginners and newcomers in an early evening walking tour of the historic district of Murfreesboro during the Christmas Candlelight Tour of Homes. Featured will be five of the most beautiful and historic private homes, two distinctive churches, the Woman's Club and the graceful Oaklands Mansion. There will be carols, hot cider, costumed ladies and Civil War re-enactors, and we get to go into the gorgeous homes and churches decorated lavishly for Christmas! Approximately 2.5 miles, rated easy. There will be an admission fee of \$10.00 per adult payable to the Oaklands Association. Pre-register with Jeanne' Hoechst-Ronner [hoaxie@comcast.net](mailto:hoaxie@comcast.net) or 615-890-9084

**Dec 13** CHRISTMAS DINNER PARTY AT 6 PM. We will start one hour earlier than usual at the Wilderness Station. Plan to bring your favorite holiday dish to share at this gala event. Even more important, bring your family, your sweetie, your neighbors and friends as we socialize and dine by the glow of candlelight to a background of holiday music. Beverages, plates, cups and other utensils will be furnished. This replaces the monthly meeting.

**Jan 1 NEW YEAR'S DAY HIKE AND FEAST** - MULTI CHAPTERS - AT THE BRIDGESTONE - FIRESTONE CENTENNIAL WILDERNESS, Derosssett, TN. The tradition lives on! The superstition is that whatever you do on New Year's Day you'll continue to do all year, so come out and hike and feast with us. This is an annual event with several Middle TN chapters. We will hike Polly Branch Falls Trail to the Screw Bluff Overlook, where we will serve up a New Year's Day feast, socialize, and take in the views of the Caney Fork River Gorge. We will return to our cars via the Chestnut Mountain Trail. The total hiking distance is 6 miles and rated moderate due to the rocky, uneven terrain, tree stobs, and two small stream crossings. Sturdy hiking shoes that provide stability are strongly advised! Everyone is encouraged to participate by bringing something to share (black-eyed peas, cornbread, greens, cook stoves, cook pots, paper plates, cups and cutlery, desserts, cider or hot chocolate and the water for making them, napkins, and garbage bags to remove our trash.) Even if you're not a chef you can help by carrying stuff. Contact Fount Bertram to sign up. Phone 615-765-5357 or email [fwbertram@heartoftn.net](mailto:fwbertram@heartoftn.net)

NOTE - TTA LOGO SHIRTS STILL AVAILABLE: We have a few long sleeved t-shirts left in size x-large at \$12 each, a few sweatshirts in various sizes at \$19 each, and short sleeved t-shirts in various sizes at \$10 each. They make nice Christmas gifts. If you are interested in any of these contact Anna Bertram [abertram@heartoftn.net](mailto:abertram@heartoftn.net) or 615-765-5357

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## NASHVILLE CHAPTER

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Jim Johnson  
615.356.6246, [jimjohnsonjr@gmail.com](mailto:jimjohnsonjr@gmail.com)

**OUTINGS COORDINATOR:**  
(call & volunteer to lead an outing)  
Nancy Juodenas, [njuodenas@hotmail.com](mailto:njuodenas@hotmail.com)

Sue Waldrop

**MEETING:** Monthly - 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday at 7:00 pm CT  
TN Wildlife Resources Association meeting room at Ellington  
Agricultural Center, 5105 Edmondson Pike\*\*

**HIKING HOTLINE - 615-367-7045**

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### CHAPTER NEWS:

December 2005 will mark the fourth time that we've been invited to wrap customers' gifts at REI in exchange for donations, and each time it has been a fun and very \$\$\$ful fundraising event for the chapter. As in years' past, we are asking chapter members to help by generously volunteering their time (at least 2 hours; more if you can) to wrap gifts while at the same time talking to prospective members about TTA (we'll have brochures and newsletters to give away). In exchange, we receive \$\$\$DONATIONSS (tis the season to be generous) and whatever is donated, 100% will be going to the Cumberland Trail's 2006 Spring BreakAway program to help offset some of the expenses incurred to house and feed the volunteers that come to TN to build the Cumberland Trail during the month of March (note: each week there are about 75 college students and 30 CTC/TTA volunteers working on the trail). Don't hesitate, call and volunteer today for this truly unusual and fun way to fundraise while talking to prospective members. No experience required, on-site training and materials provided. To volunteer Sat. Dec 17 (between 10:30a & 6:00p) and/or Fri., Dec. 23 (between 10:30a & 6:00p), call Diane Manas at 615-352-7777.

**Dec 3** Beaman Park First Saturday Hike 9-noon Age level: Adults, 8+ Registration opens August 19. Don't miss this opportunity to take a guided hike with one of the many knowledgeable Friends of Beaman Park volunteers and explore the still new Beaman Park - it's 1,500 acres of forest on the Highland Rim and a natural treasure! Leader: Friends of Beaman Park call Warner Park Nature Center 615-352-6299 for reservations and directions.

**Dec 3** Newcomer's Hike. Bryant Cove, Longhunter State Park, Mt Juliet TN. This hike is an "in and back" hike for a total of 8 miles. It is a flat trail that is rated easy for the terrain and moderate for the distance. Ideal for beginner's or hikers wanting a short hike close to Nashville. There will also be an option to hike in 2 miles and out 2 miles for a total of 4 miles. Meet at 7:30 at the trailhead to Bryant Cove Trail in Longhunter State Park. Bring water, and snacks and \$3.00 for the parking fee or a parking pass. For more information and to register call Betty Magee at 615-319-5394 or e-mail her at : [monetfan455@yahoo.com](mailto:monetfan455@yahoo.com)

**Dec 3** Montgomery Bell State Park- This 11.5 mile trail follows the perimeter of the park and passes by several lakes, near several historic areas and crosses 3-4 shallow streams. The terrain is rolling, but the hike is rated moderate to strenuous due to length. Wear sturdy hiking boots or trail shoes; bring snacks, water, lunch and \$3.00 parking fee (if you do not have a pass). Meet in the Wal-Mart parking lot on Charlotte Pike (exit 201 off I-40) at 8:00 a.m. For more information and to register contact Garnett Rush at 352-7217 or e-mail [rushga01@yahoo.com](mailto:rushga01@yahoo.com)

**Dec 4** 1:00. Long Hunter State Park, day loop portion of the Volunteer Trail, named in honor of all people who have volunteered their time to build the trails. TTA played an active part in the building of this trail. The trail covers a variety of elevations, terrains, and forest types. The leaves will be off the trees with lots of lake views.

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## (cont') NASHVILLE CHAPTER

**(cont') Dec 4** Total distance is 4 miles with little elevation gain. Hiking boots are always best, but tennis shoes would be fine. Bring water and dress appropriately. Call Libby Francis, 615-889-5718, for meeting place or e-mail [libbyslibbys@comcast.net](mailto:libbyslibbys@comcast.net).

**Dec 10** Virgin Falls Pocket Wilderness, DeRosset, TN. This hike follows Big Laurel Creek as it bounds over rocks, creating small waterfalls until it disappears underground. On the way to Virgin Falls the trail passes an overlook with views of the Caney Fork River Valley. Continuing on the trail we will pass Big Branch Falls, Big Laurel Falls and Sheep Cave Falls. (Bring a flashlight, we may explore a little of Sheep Cave). Finally, arriving at Virgin Falls, you will see where an underground stream emerges from a cave and drops over a 110 foot cliff to disappear once again into a cave at the bottom. This 8 mile hike is rated strenuous for the return ascent and moderate for the mileage, and is a beautiful hike in all seasons. Sturdy boots are a must due to the rocks and elevation loss and gain. Bring lunch, water, snacks and \$\$ for after-hike dinner on the way home. Dress in layers for the weather. For meeting place and time and to register, contact Jerry Hendrixson at 615-738-0582 or Nancy Juodenas at: [njuodenas@hotmail.com](mailto:njuodenas@hotmail.com)

**Dec 17** REI Gift Wrap, SEE CHAPTER NEWS

**Dec 17** Richland Creek Greenway and Centennial Park Circle. This month we'll continue to explore Nashville's expanding Greenway's system. (There are monthly hikes at newly-opened Beaman Park.) We will visit the first phase of the just-opened Richland Creek Greenway, which runs from the McCabe Park entrance along the creek and the railroad to the historic 1913 White Bridge. Along the way, we'll learn why transportation is the theme of the trail, hearing about Nashville's first airport, now McCabe Park, and the nation's worst train wreck, which occurred here.. Then we will drive over to nearby Centennial Park to walk the new mile-long loop path that is part of the conversion from the park as a place for cars to a place for people. The trail circles the Parthenon, a remnant of the 1897 exposition that celebrated Tennessee's 100th year as a state (A year late. The admission was 1796.) Meet at 9:00 a.m., McCabe Park entrance/greenway trailhead. No preregistration required. If you need directions, call trip leader: Bob Brandt, a member of the Metro Greenways Commission

**Dec 17** Jim and Marietta Poteet will host the annual Nashville Chapter Christmas Party at their home at 324 Raintree Dr., Hendersonville at 6:30 p.m. Please bring a finger food to share. Directions are: I65N to Vietnam Veterans Bypass to Hendersonville. Take the Indian Lake Blvd exit, turn right and follow Indian Lake Rd. across Gallatin Road (Methodist Church on left and Ellis Middle School on right), follow Indian Lake to 4-way stop, turn left on to East Dr. Follow East around until it turns back into Indian Lake Rd. Follow Indian Lake Road to Indian Lake Elem. School. Turn left into Indian Lake Forest subdivision (still Indian Lake Rd. ). Take 3rd left (Raintree Dr) We are 324 (number on mailbox). Join in the fun and visit other hikers or potential hikers. For help, guidance, or just plain info., call Marietta at 615-824-7286.

**Dec 23** REI Gift Wrap, SEE CHAPTER NEWS

**Dec 28** Radnor Lake . Are you looking for a mid-week hike during the Holidays? Here's your chance! This is a moderate hike that encompasses part of the Lake Trail, the Ganier Ridge Loop and the South Lake Loop for a total of approximately 4.5 miles. There are wooded hills and valleys and wildflowers should be in bloom. Meet in the Parking lot next to the Visitor Center on Otter Creek Road off Granny White Pike at 1:00 p.m. Bring water, snacks. Parking is Free on Wed.

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## NORTHWEST CHAPTER (UT at Martin / Weakley County)

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Jim Clark

731-587-2225, [jclark@utm.edu](mailto:jclark@utm.edu)

**MEETING:** usually the 2nd Thursday, call for confirmation or visit our chapter website. Meetings start at 7:00 pm CT UT Martin Campus, Boling University Center, Room 231

**WEBSITE:** [www.utm.edu/~jclark/trails/](http://www.utm.edu/~jclark/trails/)

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No hikes scheduled at this time. In the meantime, check out other TTA chapter hike listings and join a hike!

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## PLATEAU CHAPTER (Crossville)

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Terry Brophy

931-707-7234, [tpbrophy@multipro.com](mailto:tpbrophy@multipro.com)

**SECRETARY/TREASURER:** Myra Holloway

**MEETING:** Monthly - 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday at 6:30 pm CT, Art Circle Public Library's Community Room, 154 East 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Crossville

No hikes scheduled at this time. In the meantime, check out other TTA chapter hike listings and join a hike!

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## UPPER CUMBERLAND CHAPTER (Sparta / Cookeville)

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Richard Savage

931-526-2035, [savage\\_richard@hotmail.com](mailto:savage_richard@hotmail.com)

**Dec 1** Socializing, Dinner, and Meeting, Cookeville, TN. We will gather at 6:30pm at Ryan's in Cookeville. We will plan hikes for the coming months. For information contact Richard Savage at 931-526-2035 or [savage\\_richard@hotmail.com](mailto:savage_richard@hotmail.com)

**Dec 3** Black Mountain Segment of the Cumberland Trail, Crab Orchard, TN. Black Mountain is noted for its interesting rock formations and wonderful overlooks. We will begin from the Cox Valley trailhead and ascend to the summit of Black Mountain before returning to our starting point. You can meet us at 8:00am CT in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville. The hike is about 8 miles and is rated moderate to strenuous. Bring water, snacks, lunch, and sturdy hiking boots. For information and to register contact Louise Miniard at 931-528-9115 or [lminiard@flowservice.com](mailto:lminiard@flowservice.com).

**Dec 10** Tennessee River Gorge Segment of the Cumberland Trail, Signal Mountain, TN. We will hike an 8 mile segment of the Cumberland Trail from Signal Point to Hwy 27. This hike features striking overlooks of the Tennessee River Gorge. The hike is rated moderate for the rocky terrain and hills. This is a one-way hike and will require shuttling. Bring water, snacks, and lunch. You can meet us at 7:30am CT in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville or at the US Bank across from McDonald's in Sparta at 8:00am. For information and to register contact Cindy Walinski at 931-394-3413 or [cwalinski@blomand.net](mailto:cwalinski@blomand.net).

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## SODDY DAISY CHAPTER

This chapter is being reorganized. For further information contact the T.T.A. President, Fount Bertram, at 615-765-5357 or [fwbertram@heartoftn.net](mailto:fwbertram@heartoftn.net). In the interim, you are welcome to attend other chapters (13 to choose from) outings, events and meetings.



## OFFICERS:

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

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 Rosemary Marshall 865-687-0670  
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 VACANT

**Middle TN At-Large Director**  
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*bmorris@edge.net*

**East TN At-Large Director**  
 Charles Jones 931-484-5298

**Membership**  
 Garnett Rush 615-352-7217  
*Cejones9@earthlink.net*

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

**TN Rails To Trails Advisory Council**  
 VACANT

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

**Newsletter Editor**  
 Tina Dean *editor@tennesseetrails.org*

## Newsletter Deadlines

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

Due                      For Newsletter Dated

Dec 5 ..... Jan 1

Jan 5 ..... Feb 1

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

Please send all submissions to:  
*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.

## TENNESSEE RAILS-TRAILS ADVISORY COUNCIL (TRAC)

website: [www.TNRailsTrails.org](http://www.TNRailsTrails.org)

**TRAC is in the process of being reorganized. Stay tuned for further information.**

**MISSION:** *To act as a resource and mentor for 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

\_\_\_\_\_ TTA Patch .....6.00  
*Round embroidered patch, sew it on anything.*

\_\_\_\_\_ TTA Window Decal .....3.00  
*A must for each car.*

\_\_\_\_\_ TTA 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative T-Shirt ...16.00\*  
*Choose Size: Small / Medium / Large / X-Large*  
*Choose Color: Sand / Yellow / Stone-Gray*

\_\_\_\_\_ TTA 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative Patch .....6.00  
*Round embroidered patch commemorating TTA's 35th Anniversary, sew it on anything.*

\_\_\_\_\_ Flashlight Carabiner Keyring, Blue with TTA logo.6.00

\_\_\_\_\_ \*Shipping & Handling on T-shirt Orders ONLY!!! 1.50

\_\_\_\_\_ TTA Front License Plates: TTA Logo (see website)12.00

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone hm: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ wk:(\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

*Mail your check payable to: Tennessee Trails Association  
 c/o Marietta Poteet, 324 Raintree Drive  
 Hendersonville, TN 37075*

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** Dec 05

**RENEWING MY MEMBERSHIP**

Memberships are for one year, unless you have a Lifetime Membership.  
Gift Memberships are also available. Contact our Membership Director,  
Garnett Rush 615-352-7217 [rushga01@yahoo.com](mailto:rushga01@yahoo.com)

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

*PLEASE, PRINT CLEARLY.*

<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$25.00	Name _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Family	\$35.00	Address _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Student (FULL-TIME)	\$15.00	City _____	State _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Supporting (\$50.00, \$100.00 or more)		Home Phone ( _____ ) _____	Zip _____ -- _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Life Member (Individual)	\$500.00	Work Phone ( _____ ) _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Life Member (Family)	\$750.00	e-mail _____	

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

**Please list me with the following chapter:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Big South Fork	<input type="checkbox"/> Cumberland Gap	<input type="checkbox"/> Memphis	<input type="checkbox"/> Plateau (Crossville)
<input type="checkbox"/> Clarksville	<input type="checkbox"/> East TN (Oak Ridge/Knoxville)	<input type="checkbox"/> Murfreesboro	<input type="checkbox"/> Soddy Daisy
<input type="checkbox"/> Columbia/Franklin	<input type="checkbox"/> Highland Rim (Manchester/Tullahoma)	<input type="checkbox"/> Nashville	<input type="checkbox"/> Upper Cumberland
<input type="checkbox"/> Cove Lake	<input type="checkbox"/> Jackson	<input type="checkbox"/> Northwest (UT at Martin/Weakley)	(Sparta/Cookeville)
			<input type="checkbox"/> 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.**

## Purchase Order

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

Tina Dean  
865-774-1070

November 20, 2005

Color Plus Printing  
4825 Trousdale Dr, #102  
Nashville, TN 37220

Leonard Chavaz  
615-781-1071  
cell ph: 615-207-0947

## Newsletter Printing

Cover Date: **December 2005**

Number of pages submitted  
with this purchase order: 10 pages

Printed Paper size: two - 11 x 17 sheets  
One - 8.5 x 11 sheet  
printing on 2 sides  
11 x 17 pages to be folded in ½ by Color Plus

Paper Weight: 20 pound paper weight

Paper Color: white

Ink Color: black

**Print Quantity: 900 pieces**

Approximate Cost:

Send **TAX EXEMPT** Invoice to:  
Tennessee Trails Association  
P. O. Box 41446  
Nashville, TN 37204

**Leonard,**

Mr. Henderson (Chief Wagee) will be handling the printed copies, and would like to have before Nov. 27<sup>rd</sup>. Please contact Mr. Henderson with any conflicts or concerns. Thank you! Tina Dean 865-660-2495.