

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



2008 Annual Leprechaun Leap Backpacking Event **DATES: March 14-16.08**

LOCATION: Tennessee River Gorge Section of the Cumberland Trail, Signal Mountain, Tn. and Prentice Cooper State Forrest. (above Chattanooga)

HIGHLIGHTS: This trail has some of the most spectacular views of the Tn River Gorge, making it one of the finest treks in all of Tn. We will camp 2 nights at Poplar Springs campsite and enjoy a nice campfire each night. There will be a 2 and 3-day option available. Also the howlers in the group will enjoy an almost full moon.

HOSTS/TREK LEADERS: Gary Keckley C:804.8565 ; gkeckley@yahoo.com (Gary will be the go to guy if there are any problems, complaints, disputes to be settled, etc..)

Herb Kneeland: C:972.9249; hdk3@comcast.net (Herb will be the go to guy if you had a good time)

3-DAY ITINERARY:

- March 14 Drive to Signal Point Park, hike 10 miles to Poplar Springs campsite, set up camp
- March 15 Day hike to Snoopers Rock for lunch and a grand view of the Tn. River Gorge. 12-mile day.
- March 16 hike 10 miles back to the cars

2-DAY OPTION:

- March 15 Drive to Cumberland Trail trail head/parking area in Prentice Cooper State Forrest and hike 3 miles to Poplar Springs campsite.
- March 16 Hike 3 miles back to your car

LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY/FITNESS LEVEL:

We are going to give this event a level 7 out of 10, meaning it is hard for several reasons:

1. 32 miles in 3 days
2. Uneven terrain with a few climbs involved
3. Not a day hike, but a loaded backpack event
4. Early in the hiking season, so your level of fitness may be a tad short.

So, sign up early with either one of us, and start hitting the gym and the trail to blow out the winter carbon in your pipes. This is a tremendous section of trail and we will have a fun 3 days.

Save the Date
TTA's 2008 Annual Meeting
October 24, 25 & 26, 2008
Indian Creek Camp
(Liberty, TN)
Lots more information to come.
SEE CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS PG 6

BOARD MEETING

FEBRUARY 2ND, 2008
EDGAR EVINS STATE PARK
1:00 P.M. CENTRAL TIME

ALL MEMBERS WELCOME TO ATTEND

CUMBERLAND TRAIL CONFERENCE

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

CUMBERLAND TRAIL CONFERENCE STAFF:

General Manager.....Tony Hook tony.hook@frontiernet.net
Trail Development Cord....Amanda Leamon amanda.leamon@frontiernet.net
Trail Programs Cord.....Alex Schafer alex.schafer@frontiernet.net
Office Manger.....Marleya Pendleton marleyapendleton@frontiernet.net

Cumberland Trail Update

I want to take this opportunity to thank all of the TTA members for their tremendous support of the Cumberland Trail project in 2007. This volunteer support is the backbone of the CT project. TTA members have helped in so many ways from trail construction, helping to feed volunteers, assisting with the annual auction, gift-wrapping fund raising, other financial support, and many other ways. Without the TTA member's support, the many accomplishments of this project would not have been possible. In 2008, The CTC will have many volunteer opportunities to assist the Cumberland Trail. This spring's Break-Away will take place in the LaFollette, Tennessee area. At present, 196 students from 15 different schools have signed-up and we are expecting more. The Cumberland Trail Conference will need all of our "wagon masters" and help in the kitchen. Another spring program, Big Dig, will take place from April 18 thru June 14. This program will include some "back-country" outings and using more modern camp facilities. More details about these programs will be announced. Please consider volunteering in 2008 to help with trail construction, assisting in the kitchen, making a financial donation, or a food donation for these programs. All help is needed and truly appreciated. I wish everyone happiness, peace, and prosperity in 2008. Thanks, Tony Hook, CTC General Manager

February 24th- March 29th 2008:BreakAway is an Alternative Spring Break program hosted by the Tennessee Trails Association (TTA) and Cumberland Trail Conference (CTC). College students from across the country pay their own way to come to Tennessee to work on the Cumberland Trail along with TTA/CTC volunteers. Students and volunteers stay in East Tennessee and participate in trail building/maintenance for a week. BreakAway also provides for educational opportunities about the environment, history, geology, flora and fauna along the Cumberland Trail. Housing will be provided at Galilee Bible in Caryville, TN Camp. Wagon Masters and experienced volunteers are encouraged to attend to provide leadership. **BreakAway participants must be affiliated with a BreakAway sanctioned school and have a site leader present.**

"Big Dig 2008" trail building program April 18-June 14, 2008 Details TBA

"American Hiking Society Week" May 4-10, 2008 Details TBA

COLUMBIA/FRANKLIN CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER: Bobby Hardeman
615-305-7955 puttr22@aol.com

MEETS MONTHLY: 1st Tuesday at 6:30 pm CT Grand Buffet (North of Spring Hill)
Dinner begins at 6pm followed by meeting at 7pm. Jerry Link of the Brentwood REI will present a program about his hiking trip in Glacier National Park.

Feb. 16-17 Kerry Summers will lead an overnight trip to Roan High Shelter on. Meet at Kroger parking lot in Spring Hill (next to McDonald's) at 6 A.M. for departure. Bring winter gear and be prepared to hike in snow/ice. Contact Kerry at karofisher@bellsouth.net or (615) 419-8598.

Feb. 23 Rick Lausten will lead a hike to Fiery Gizzard. Register with Rick at saturncar1@aol.com or (615) 373-0029. IMPORTANT-Please make contact with hike leaders to receive communication in the event there are changes of plans!

CHAPTER NEWS

At the January chapter meeting Jim Schroeder and Martin McCullough spoke about the destructive effect of rock harvesting along the Cumberland Trail. They urged members to contact their state senator and representatives to generate support for legislation that will be introduced this year to address the problem that is damaging natural areas in the state.

CLARKSVILLE CHAPTER

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

CONTACT FOR HIKES: Suva Bastin 931-645-2849
or J. R. Tate as above

MEETS MONTHLY: 3rd Tuesday, 7:00 pm CT, Crow Community Center 211 Richview Rd Clarksville, TN

Feb 2 Murfreesboro Greenway, 4 ½ miles one way; easy; Suva 931-645-2849

Feb 9 Rotary Park Work & Hike; 5 miles; easy; Lucy Weikel, 931-358-5794

Feb 10 LBL Adopted section of trail, 8 miles; easy to moderate; Tharpe Rd to South Welcome Station, 8 miles; Jack Bastin 931-645-2849

Feb 16 LBL Ft Henry Trails, 7 miles; easy to moderate; J.R. Tate, 931-920-2692

Feb 23 Indiantown Bluff, 5 miles; moderate; Join us for a hike to a unique place. – John Sneed, 931-920-1134

BIG SOUTH FORK CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER: Jim Meadows
423-628-6475; jhnmhm@highland.net
SECRETARY / TREASURER: Benita Howell
423-628-5521/865-974-7797 bjhowell@highland.net
BOARD REPRESENTATIVES: Tim & LynnTakacs
615-824-704 lynntakacs@comcast.net
or ttakacs@comcast.net
OUTINGS COORDINATOR Tom Howell
423-628-5521 tshowell1003@highland.net
TRAIL MAINT Bob Hemminger dagbob@juno.com

Feb 2 Kellogg's Crack and Massengale Home Site, Rugby, TN
Bob Hemminger will lead this 2-3 mile hike, rated easy to moderate, to two points of interest near Rugby. Hikers can crawl through the crack in a jumble of rocks above White Oak Creek if they wish, then climb Allerton Ridge and proceed to old Massengale homestead, with a panoramic view of the Brimstone Mountains to the east. Meet at 1:00 p.m. EST at Harrow Road Cafe in Rugby to carpool to the trailhead. Dress appropriately (in clothes you don't mind getting muddy as you crawl through the crack). Hikers are invited to stay in Rugby for our monthly potluck dinner Saturday evening. If you're traveling a distance to hike with us, you don't need to bring a dish, but please register for the hike with Bob Hemminger by e-mailing dagbob@juno.com.

Impromptu Tuesday morning hikes resumed January 8 and will continue through the winter and early spring. Plans are announced on the Sunday evening or Monday morning before each hike. To receive information, please e-mail Tom or Benita Howell to have your name added to our list.

COVE LAKE CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER: Richard Helm
423-562-1110 Richard.Helm@ahss.org
CO-CHAIR: George Gill 423-562-7121

Feb 4 Monthly Meeting 6pm at Lafollette Recreation Center 201 S. 9th St. Everyone welcome. For more information call Richard at 423-562-1110

Feb 9 Ozone Falls-Black Mountain Segment of the Cumberland Trail 3 ½ -mile rated moderate. Meet at Eagle Market at 8 am EST. For more information call Richard at 423-562-1110.

Feb 23 Cumberland Trail near Norma. 3 ½ -mile hike rated moderate. Meet at Eagle Market at 9am. For more information, call Richard at 423-562-1110.

HIGHLAND RIM CHAPTER (Tullahoma Area)

CHAPTER OFFICER: Tom Bentley
931-455-5849 htbentley@charter.net
VICE PRESIDENT: Joette Carter 931-968-0073
TREASURER: Doug Ratliff
TRIP COORDINATOR/NEWSLETTER CONTACT Marietta Poteet 931-924-7666 nannietta@blomand.net
MEETS MONTHLY: _ at 7:00p at the Crockett's restaurant in Tullahoma

Feb 5 – "Heli-hiking" in Canada. The equivalent of heli-skiing will be presented by Frank and Peggy Cregor. Meeting will be held at Crockett's in Tullahoma. Come before 6:00 for dinner and social hour and the meeting will be at 7:00. Tom Bentley 455-5849 (H) (931) 273-6344 cell or htbentley@charter.net

Feb. 9, Jim and Marietta Poteet will lead a hike from the Savage Day Loop to the South Rim Trail to the Collins Gulf Trail. It will require a shuttle. It should be a very scenic trail with overlooks, a suspension bridge and beautiful woods scenes. The difficulty rating is moderate to difficult: easy because of minimal elevation change and moderate to difficult due to the distance of 13.2 miles and a short distance of boulder hopping at the end of the trail. Please contact Marietta at 931-924-7666 or nannietta@blomand.net for further information.

Feb. 16 Eat Hike Eat # 2 - Lake Cheston to Memorial Cross and back to Blue Chair. Carpool back to Cheston - 5 miles easy. Meet at Blue Chair at 9:00 for breakfast.

Feb. 23, Exploratory Hike on Carter Mountain - rated difficult, 8 miles. Call Joette Carter at 931-968-0073.

Feb. 23, Start of Spring Breakaway at Lafollette, Tn at Gallilee Bible Camp. Help with trail building, chores, kitchen, and meal preparation, and trail blazing. The goal this year is work on Smoky Mt. section. Call or email Tony Hook at 931-200-0227.

Hiking books? Shop amazon.com Through TTA's Website

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

JACKSON CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER: Candy Higgs
731-695-1960 chiggs_3@yahoo.com
Treasurer Sara Hakim
206-553-9334 hikim@lambuth.edu
Sec Don Dresser
731-668-4190 donald_dresser@usit.net
Hike Coordinator Glen Rognstad
731-217-5966- grognstad5966@charter.net
Meets Monthly 2nd Monday Perkins Restaurant 999
Vann Drive Jackson TN 38305

Feb 9 – Nathan Bedford Forrest State Park, Camden, TN, 5+ miles moderate on the orange trail. The trail starts at the Tennessee Folklife Visitor Center on Pilot Knob (highest point in west Tennessee). Stop in for information on the life/customs of the area. The center has some interesting civil war history, and you can also fill your water bottles. The first half-mile or so of the trail is along a ridge with great views of the Tennessee River. The ridge has blueberry and laurel bushes on the sides of the trail. There is an alternative shorter 3-mile trail that follows a good portion of the 5-mile trail. For more information contact Candy Higgs @ (731) 695-1960 chiggs_3@yahoo.com .

Feb 23 – Land Between the Lakes – Fort Henry, Dover, TN, Fort Henry Trail System, 6+-mile loop. The hike is rated moderate for the slightly hilly terrain. Elevation change is less than 200 feet. Portions of the trail follow the path that General Grant's Civil War troops made on their way from Fort Henry, on the east bank of the Tennessee River, to Fort Donelson, on the west bank of Cumberland. The hike walks through the both ridges and bottom land with a good possibility of seeing a deer or turkey. For more information contact Don Dresser @ (731) 668-4190 donald_dresser@usit.net.

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 of having to stop to locate change). 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 to and from a trailhead is generally the most dangerous part of any hiking trip.*

EAST TN CHAPTER (Oak Ridge / Knoxville)

CHAPTER OFFICER: Rosemary Marshall
865-548-6171 rosemary_l@hotmail.com
CO-CHAIR Allie Hubbs
494-9522
hike_announcement_etchapter@yahoo.com
ASSIST. CO-CHAIR Elise Eustace
865-712-1916 EliseEus@hotmail.com
TREASURER: Bob Uhren
snowcap34@turner.net

Feb 2: GSMNP - Old Sugarlands Trail and spur to Sugarlands Cemetery. Beginning behind the Sugarlands Visitors Center along US-441, this trail reveals a lot of Park history, such as an old quarry used to build the first paved road over the mountains, old telephone poles, stone walls, an old CCC camp, and a large cemetery. This hike is on relatively flat ground with no big climbs or creek crossings, and is suitable for all levels of hiking experience. Hike distance is a little less than 6 miles RT and is rated easy. Wear clothing appropriate for early February weather, sturdy shoes, and bring lunch and water. We will dine at the cemetery, our planned turnaround point. Meet at 10AM ET in front of Sugarlands Visitors Center. For further info on this hike, contact Keith Mertz at keithmertz@hotmail.com or 865-982-7368.

Feb 17: It's a SUNDAY! What could be better on this afternoon than a hike! Let's meet at 2:00PM ET and we'll have more details, as the date gets closer. Keep that calendar handy and plan to join us for a Sunday hike. Hikers must pre-register with Pat Sandlin. Get all those details after Feb. 10th by calling Pat at 865-310-2820 or Rosemary at 865-548-6171.

Feb 23: CALLING ALL HIKE LEADERS!! (and you know who you are) Hiking and chili are awaiting us. We will meet at 11:00AM ET at the shelter in Victor Ashe Park for a 3-mile soft shoe hike. On this trail we could see Lamas, horses, rabbits and who knows what else. After our hike, chili will taste really good. For more info, call Rosemary Marshall at 865-548-6171 or email to rosemary_l@hotmail.com.

MURFREESBORO CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER: Millette Jones
615-397-9588 millette.jones@comcast.net

HIKES COORDINATOR/CO-OFFICER Tony Jones
615-397-4463 awj68@comcast.net

MEETS MONTHLY: 2nd Tuesday at 7:00 pm CT
Barfield-Crescent Park's Wilderness Station
697 Barfield-Crescent Rd., Murfreesboro

Feb. 2 - Joe Wheeler State Park Resort, Rogersville, AL, 5 miles, easy. Bob Goodwin and Sandra Parker will lead this five-mile hike on two separate trails, which will include views of Wheeler Lake and Wilson Lake. Between the trails we will drive over Wheeler Dam. After the first part of our hike we will have lunch at the park restaurant. Then we will continue our hike in another part of the park. We will leave from the Murfreesboro Sam's Club parking lot next to Hardees at 8:00 AM. Distance from Sam's Club to Joe Wheeler State Park Resort is about 120 miles. This park has very nice facilities, including rooms on the water, cabins, golf, restaurant, etc. For more information on the park and reservations: <http://www.joewheelerstatepark.com/>. For more information and to register for the hike, please contact Bob Goodwin at CAMEL40@earthlink.net or 256-564-8417.

Feb. 9- Savage Day Loop/South Rim Trail/Collins Gulf Trail, 12.2 miles, moderate. Jim and Marietta Poteet will lead this scenic hike with overlooks, a suspension bridge and beautiful woods. It is moderate to difficult due to length and elevation change and short boulder hopping; however the hike itself is easy. A shuttle will be required on this hike. Murfreesboro members should contact the carpool coordinator, Sara Pollard to register at 615-896-9589 or spollard@mtsu.edu For more information contact Marietta Poteet at 931-924-7666 or nannietta@blomand.net

Feb. 12- Monthly Meeting, 7pm, Barfield-Crescent Park, Wilderness Station. Join us for an exploration of our ancient past with Aaron Deter-Wolf from the Tennessee Department of Archaeology. He will bring artifacts and a power point presentation covering the middle Tennessee area, specifically some of the areas where we hike most often!

Feb. 15-17- Part One of Benton MacKaye Trail Section Hike, 18.5 mi, moderate/difficult. This hike will be limited to 8 lucky hikers as we begin at the southern terminus of this 90-mile long trail. Some members of our chapter are hoping to complete a section hike of this trail by hiking on 5 different weekends this year. We will begin this first section atop Springer Mtn. The highlights of the trip are doing a short side-hike to the southern terminus of the Appalachian Trail, great views, Long Creek Falls, and the Toccoa River suspension bridge. Since we will need to set up a

MURFREESBORO (cont)

shuttle for this hike, we will leave Middle Tennessee Friday evening. Contact Tammy Day to register, tlday@comcast.net

Feb. 19 -- Our 1st Adventure Trip will be to the Tennessee State Museum, with lunch at the Sports Page Restaurant and Bar, both in downtown Nashville. One of the largest state museums in the U.S., many of us have never been inside. If the weather turns beautiful we'll spend the afternoon exploring the Bicentennial Mall State Park on the Capitol grounds. Otherwise we'll return to see more of the museum exhibits, or take an hour-long tour of the TN State Capitol Building. We'll meet at 8:15 AM in the Sam's Club overflow parking lot, behind Hardee's, with departure at 8:30 AM. We plan to be out of Nashville before the evening rush hour. Wear comfortable walking shoes, bring money for lunch, and to chip in on gasoline and parking expenses. There are no admission charges. Please contact Anna or Fount Bertram to sign up and for more information: abertram@dtccom.net or 615-765-5357

Feb 23 - Montgomery Bell (West) Trail, Montgomery Bell State Park, 7.2 miles, moderate. We will hike through diverse forest rich in Tennessee beauty and history. Along the way we'll visit a chapel and log cabin commemorating the birthplace of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. In addition we may be fortunate enough to spot some of the wildlife (deer, hawk, pileated woodpecker) that calls the park home. The hike does involve small creek crossings so proper footwear is suggested as is layered clothing this time of year. Bring water, hearty snacks to hold you over and \$\$ for a late lunch at Carl's Perfect Pig in White Bluff. Hike will go rain or shine. Contact **Ron Dunn** at 615-867-3301 or <http://mailcenter.comcast.net/wm/toolbar/trekkingtnt@comcast.net>

Planning ahead-

Mar.1- Rainbow Mountain, Madison, AL, 4 miles, moderate. Features of this area include Balance Rock, caves, and small seasonal waterfalls. For more information and to register for the hike, please contact Bob Goodwin at CAMEL40@earthlink.net or 256-564-8417.-

Mar. 1-2 Backpack Stone Door to Alum Gap, 8.6 miles, easy. Spectacular views of Savage Gulf along the western edge of the Cumberland Plateau are the highlight of this trail. For more information and to register for the hike, please contact Charlotte Broyles at mailto:CAMEL40@earthlink.net or 615-890-6308.

TTA's Calendar*

The following dates in 2007 refer to statewide activities that TTA as a whole participates in. Please refer to this calendar often so that you .

- will know when your volunteering interests are especially needed (such as during BreakAway, National Trail Days, etc.)
- will consider organizing/leading volunteers from your chapter/region for an event listed
- can be sure to prevent scheduling conflicts with an activity you wish to plan

Feb 2	Board of Directors' Quarterly Meeting (Edgar Evins SP, Middle TN)
Feb 24-Mar 1	CTC's Spring BreakAway, Wk 1 in Royal Blue-Sundquist WMA (Caryville)
Mar 2-8	CTC's Spring BreakAway, Wk 2 in Royal Blue-Sundquist WMA (Caryville)
Mar 9-15	CTC's Spring BreakAway, Wk 3 in Royal Blue-Sundquist WMA (Caryville)
Mar 16-22	CTC's Spring BreakAway, Wk 4 in Royal Blue-Sundquist WMA (Caryville)
Mar 23-29	CTC's Spring BreakAway, Wk 5 in Royal Blue-Sundquist WMA (Caryville)
Apr 7-13	TDEC's Natural Areas Week (Statewide)
Apr 18-30	CTC's Big Dig Trail Building Event on the Cumberland Trail
Apr 19	Earth Day Events (Observed Apr 22)
May 1-31	CTC's Big Dig Trail Building Event on the Cumberland Trail
May 3	Board of Directors' Quarterly Meeting (Location TBA)
May 4-10	American Hiking Society's Volunteer Vacation Trail Building Event on the Cumberland Trail
May 16-18	Boy & Girl Scout Troops Trail Building Event on the Cumberland Trail
Jun 1-14	CTC's Big Dig Trail Building Event on the Cumberland Trail
Jun 7	National Trails Day
Aug 2	Board of Directors' Quarterly Meeting (Location TBA)
Sep 14-20	B.R.A.T. (Proceeds Benefit the Cumberland Trail)
Sep 27	National Public Lands Day (Location TBA)
Oct 24-26	Annual Meeting (Liberty, TN) hosted by Nashville Chapter

**Calendar will be revised as needed. Cut out and save*

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR ANNUAL MEETING

What has made each of our past Annual Meetings so successful? Ask the Plateau (2007), Clarksville (2006), and Murfreesboro (2005) chapters, and they will all tell you – **VOLUNTEERS!**

The Nashville chapter is our Annual Meeting host this year at the Indian Creek Camp in Liberty, TN. They are already in full swing (never too early to plan for this fun-filled weekend) and are looking for volunteers to help in the following committees: Registration & Lodging, Food, Hikes, Auction and Clean-up.

Right now, volunteers are needed to help with the many planning stages and to take on any portion of the numerous jobs (many of them small) that will crop up through the year as we near the Annual Meeting weekend, October 24-26, 2008. Any time you can spare is a great help.

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

Registration and Lodging:

Judy Martin..... bentonway2002@yahoo.com

Food:

Toni Reeves..... tonir@bellsouth.net

Hikes:

Karl Dupree..... kalrd@comcast.net

Dave Walton..... dertooner@yahoo.com

Auction:

Libby Francis..... LibbysLibby@comcast.net

Clean-up:

Carole Root..... bunmixer1@yahoo.com

(Even though the Nashville chapter is this year's hosts, volunteers are not limited to the Nashville chapter members. If your chapter is slated to host a future Annual Meeting, this volunteer opportunity will provide an excellent training ground!)

Don't Miss an Outing Plan Ahead Register Early!

Our hike coordinators are volunteers. Make it easier for them to contact you if a hike needs to be cancelled by registering!

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

Plan ahead and register early.

MEMPHIS CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER: Sandra Amsden
901-830-8311 amsden61@yahoo.com

Feb 21, Monthly Meeting 7:00 p.m. Cordova Public Library, 8457 Trinity Road

Feb 2 - Shiloh Natl Military Park, Counce, TN – Compass Hike Join the fun for a compass hike (compass required for each individual). Meet at Ed Shaw's Cafe at 9:30 a.m. Bring water and snacks/lunch and be prepared for 9-miles of bush whacking through the forest. This is a rugged cross-country hike with thick undergrowth. You may choose to hike with a buddy or in a group but not alone. Wear long pants and boots or good leather shoes. After the hike our group will meet for a fabulous catfish dinner. Carpoolers meet at 7:45 a.m. at Target 9235 Hwy 72 (on Poplar in the Village Shops of Forest Hill Irene). Target is east of intersection US Hwy 72 and Forest Hill Irene Road. **REGISTRATION REQUIRED.** Call Woody Pierce 901-755-5635 to register.

Feb 9 – T.O. Fuller State Park - Memphis New Hike! The Discovery Trail, a 4-mile continuous loop with a number of scenic points of interest including the Chucalissa Indian Village and Wetlands. Trail rated moderate to rugged. We will meet at the Visitor's Center at 9:00 a.m. bring water and snacks. For information call hike leader, Francis Ruffin at 901-396-1108. Directions: I-240 west exit at Third Street Hwy 61, head south to Mitchell Rd. Turn right, continue for 3-4 miles and watch for the park and visitor's center on the right.

Feb 16-17 - Buffalo Point near Mountain Home, AR Buffalo Point is the most developed area in the Buffalo National River and is managed by the National Park Service. Located off Hwy 14, 14 miles south of Yellville and 22 miles west of Mountain Home.. **REGISTRATION REQUIRED!** Call Deena at 901-685-7706. Although the hikes are not long, the terrain is hilly, rocky, and will require a small creek crossing. The hikes have elevation gains of about 500 feet, and are rated moderate to strenuous by the Park Service. Hiking boots are strongly recommended, and bring extra socks, just in case! Saturday, meet at Indian Rockhouse Cave Trailhead parking area at 8:45 a.m. and we will hike Indian Rockhouse Cave Trail. This is a Wonderful 3.5-mile hike (add 2 miles if we decide to take a side trip to Bat Cave) that includes a nice waterfall, old mine entrances and tailings, huge bluffs, several caves, and too many interesting scenic spots to mention! The destination is to an amazing bluff

MEMPHIS (cont)

shelter, the largest in Arkansas, which includes genuine cave formations, and a large stream rushing through the back of the overhang. There are a lot of neat places to explore, so plan on spending some time here doing just that. We will eat lunch in the park then drive to the Rush Mountain Trail, a 3-mile hike, that gives beautiful views of the Buffalo River, and passes many old mine entrances and ruins of the Old Morning Star Processing Mill. Sunday, meet at Robinson Point trailhead at 9:45 a.m. for a 3-mile hike. It offers a spectacular view of Lake Norfolk atop a terrific bluff area and visits strands of very old, twisted cedar trees with lots of character. Lodging: Call Visitor Center 1-870-449-6206. Eagle's Nest Lodge in Yellville - A simple, easy to find "hotel" style lodge with continental breakfast, near restaurants eaglesnestlodgeyellville.com/Silver Run cabins - silveruncabins.com Arkansas.com "Places to Stay" listings for Yellville or Mountain Home Registration is required! Deena 901-685-7706.

Feb 24 – Coldwater Nature Trail, Arkabutla Lake, MS Hike begins at 1:30 p.m. at the trailhead, which is under the dam near the spillway and past the campground. This is an easy 5-mile walk through the bottomland forest, bring water and snacks. For information call Freddi Felt at 901-685-9915. Mar 1 - Delta Heritage Trail – Barton, AR Brand new trail, and first time for TTA to hike! This rails-to-trails conversion in SE AR is being developed in phases along the 73-mile former Union Pacific Railroad right-of-way that stretches from one mile south of Lexa (six miles west of Helena) to Cypress Bend. We will hike a 7-mile section of trail from Barton to Oneida. Meet at the park visitor center located on Ark. 49 in Barton at 9:45 a.m. **REGISTRATION REQUIRED!** Call Deena Spuryer at 901-685-7706. Directions to Barton: Take Hwy 61 South toward Clarksdale, MS. About 15 miles past Tunica, look for Lula, and take Hwy 49 West, to Helena and cross the Mississippi River. Barton is about 7 miles out of Helena, look for signs to Delta Heritage State Park Visitor Center on left. A Park Ranger will assist with shuttling cars, so registration is required.

NORTHWEST CHAPTER (UT at Martin/Weakley County)

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

Our Chapter is working on the 2008 hike schedule and is active despite not having an announcement for specific hikes. Call Jim at 731-587-2225 to find out what you can do to help the chapter.

NASHVILLE CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER: Nora Beck
615-517-6486 nora_beck@comcast.net

OUTINGS COORDINATOR: Libby Francis
Libbyslibbys@Comcast.net

(email Libby & volunteer to lead an outing)

MEETS MONTHLY:

HIKING HOTLINE: DISABLED TEMPORARILY

Feb 26 Program Meeting, 7 PM. Carson Hanrath is a Vanderbilt junior, a trail volunteer and an honorary TTA member. She's also a "Beauty for a Cause!" She'll be speaking about how the Miss Earth Pageant supports positive action for the environment, and what she's learned during her reign as Miss Earth Tennessee. We meet in the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency Region 2 headquarters building on the Ellington Agriculture Center campus - directions on the TTA website under Chapters - Nashville."

Feb 2-3 Long Hunter State Park. Nashville, Backpack 6 easy miles and enjoy a backcountry cookout and bonfire. Prepare your favorite dish to share. Return on Sunday. Day hikers are welcome to join in this hike and return for a 12-mile day hike. The trail is fairly flat and follows the lake. Contact Keith White at 615-305-9078 or keithwhiteassoc@bellsouth.net.

Feb 3, Radnor Lake, Nashville. Soup and Chili Hike, 7 miles. Enjoy great views of the lake as the leaves are still off the trees. Easy to moderate. Lunch at Toni Reeves. Please bring a side dish. tonir@bellsouth.net. 615 509 7278.

Feb. 9 & 10 Bear Waller Gap Backpack. Carthage. This rewarding but challenging hike extends along the wooded and rugged shoreline of Cordell Hull Lake. The 5.6 mile, one way, hike ends with a backcountry campsite. The trail provides many dramatic overlooks from the bluffs, and often we spot wild turkeys, turkey vultures, and waterfowl. The next day we retrace our steps to conclude the hike. Contact Nancy at 615-319-8811 or Jerry at 615-738-0582. to register and for more info.

Feb. 9, Beaman Park, Nashville. Another fabulous *Trail building Workday at Beaman Park* from **9 till noon**. Join us at the Creek side Trailhead. We are trying to finish the connector trail between the new bridge and the nature center site. We will provide the tools, work gloves, drinks and snacks. Bring a friend. All are welcome. Call if you need more information or directions. Nancy, 615-202-5891.

Feb. 10, Montgomery Bell State Park, Dickson. 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 \$\$\$ for carpooling. For more information and to register contact Garnett Rush at 352-7217 or e-mail rushga01@yahoo.com

NASHVILLE (cont)

Feb 16, Shelby Bottoms Nature Park, East Loop. Nashville. This hike offers paved greenways and primitive natural surface trails. The less traveled east loop winds among old fields, beneath huge trees in forestlands, and by the Cumberland River. The 5.2-mile trail is rated easy. Bring snacks and water. Bad weather will cancel this hike. Register by calling Libby Francis, 615-889-5718 or libbyslibbys@comcast.net

Feb 24 Wilderness Trail along Cordell Hull Lake. Granville, TN. The Wilderness Trail, described by Johnny Molloy in his book, 60 Hikes Within 60 Miles of Nashville, as "the most difficult trail in this entire guidebook" and one not traveled by today's hike coordinator. Therefore, you must know going into this hike that this is a scouting outing and only open to experienced and strong hikers. Especially since the description further goes on to say, "The trail begins along the shoreline and climbs to the first bluff, only to descend to a steep, narrow hollow, then climb back out. This process repeats itself many times; however, your efforts are well rewarded with vistas, solitude, and a waterfall along the way." This trail is also a shared-use trail with horse riders so you can expect rutted and muddy areas. And, a one-way hike, which will require a car shuttle. The trail is 6 miles long and rated difficult. Bring water, snacks, lunch and an open mind for adventure – no clock-watchers, whiners or complainers. Dress appropriately for the weather and wear sturdy hiking boots. For additional information, and to obtain meeting time and location, call Diane Manas at 615-352-7777

CHAPTER NEWS:

IT'S A "WRAP." . . . **THANK YOU** to the following gift-wrapping Elves who generously volunteered their time to help with wrapping Christmas gifts for REI's customers on December 15th and 23rd while at the same time introducing many of them to TTA, the Cumberland Trail, hiking and trail building opportunities in Tennessee. Each "Elf" was asked to commit to a 2-hour shift; however, due to the large volume of customers wanting to have their gifts wrapped, several "Elves" stayed on an extra hour or two, while others stayed the entire day. In exchange for the beautifully wrapped and creatively decorated packages, TTA received donations – a total of \$650.00 dollars. Donations received have been earmarked for use by the CTC to feed the student volunteers who come to Tennessee in March and participate in the 2008 Spring BreakAway program on the Cumberland Trail (where they will be building a new segment of trail). Thanks to the following "Elves" for your commitment to TTA, CTC and our future trail system in TN: **Nora Beck, Karl Dupre, Libby Francis, Valerie Galan, Jenice and Jim Johnson, Sue Lefferts, Diane Manas, Judy Martin, Dianna Richter, Garnett Rush and Julie Walski**. A special thanks to Tony Hook, CTC's General Manager, for spending so much time on December 15 at the TTA booth talking to prospective members and answering

NASHVILLE (cont)

all of the inquiries about the Cumberland Trail. You were a huge help! To close, this was the 5th year that TTA-Nashville has wrapped gifts at REI and it continues to be overwhelmingly well-received by the customers, so . . .

Thank you REI for inviting us into your store during the busiest and most hectic time of year, and for your continued support!

CAN YOU DONATE A LITTLE TIME?

The Nashville Chapter will be hosting the 2008 Annual Meeting at Indian Creek Camp (Liberty, TN.) over the weekend of October 24-26. Nora Beck and Diane Manas are serving as Co-Chairs of the Organizing Committee for the event. Volunteers are needed - NOW! There will be many little jobs for you to get involved with throughout the year, as well as over the Annual Meeting weekend – any time you can spare is GREATLY appreciated. See the complete announcement, containing a listing of the committees (and contact person) that need your help, located within this newsletter but on another page.

PLATEAU CHAPTER (Crossville)

CHAPTER CO-CHAIRS

931/839-6662

Jan Barber

taxxing@aol.com

Myra Holloway

931/ 788-1724

genetn1@hotmail.com

Sec/Treasurer:

Jim Grove

There is a leaderless hike (typically 5 - 7 miles) every Wednesday morning. For additional information or to get on an e-mail list for the hikes, contact Bill Harris at (931) 484-9152 or Jim McCullough at sue1290@frontiernet.net. Rain cancels.

Feb 9. Maude's Crack, Big South Fork. This will be a loop into the No Business Creek gorge, which was the site of an early 1900's settlement. After searching for remnants of the old community along No Business Creek, we will return to the rim of the gorge thru Maude's Crack, a shoulder width split in a 100' cliff. Minnie "Maude" Roysdon found this short cut to the top of the cliff in the early 1900's while bringing lunch to loggers working on the top of the cliffs. The 7-mile hike should be classified moderate to difficult due to the elevation change and a steep climb through the crack. Bring lunch and plenty of water. We will depart Cracker Barrel's rear parking lot at 8 AM CST. To register and for more information, contact Bill Harris at 931/484-9152.

Feb 14. Monthly meeting scheduled. Art Circle Public Library Community Room, 6:30 PM CST. Call chapter chair for details.

Feb 16. John Litton Loop, Big South Fork. The John Litton loop is about a 6-mile long hike with some small waterfalls and some rock formations along the way. The trail is named for John Litton who settled in the area around 1900 and his dwelling and outbuildings are still standing. The hike is rated moderate. Meet behind the Cracker Barrel at 8:00 AM CST. For more information and to register, contact Pam and Terry Brophy at 931/707-7234 or tpbrophy@multipro.com.

UPPER CUMBERLAND CHAPTER (Sparta / Cookeville)

CHAPTER OFFICER:
931-526-9259

Pam Miller
pdmiller@citlink.net

Feb 2 Chimney Top Trail, Frozen Head State Park, Wartburg, TN. We will hike to Chimney Top from the ranger station via the Rough Ridge Trail. The hike is about 7 miles and VERY STRENUOUS. The view from the top is wonderful. We will lunch at the top and retreat along the ridge top to the abandoned Connector Trail and down to Spicewood Branch. Bring lunch, water, dress in warm layers, wear good hiking boots, and bring a walking stick or trekking poles. You can meet us in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville at 8:00am CT. We will leave from the ranger station about 10:00am. The hike should take about 5 ½ hours. For information and to register contact Paul Miller at 931-526-9259 or pdmiller@citlink.net.

Feb 9 Hidden Passage Trail, Pickett State Park, Jamestown, TN. This 10-mile loop is noted for rock houses and other interesting formations passed along the way. It is rated easy for the terrain and moderate for the length. You can meet us at 8:00am CT in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville. Bring water, snacks, and lunch. For information and to register contact Eugene Cummings at 931-528-6139 or eugeneslions@yahoo.com.

Feb 16 Leatherwood Overlook Loop, East Rim Overlook Trail, Sunset Overlook Trail, and Twin Arches, Big South Fork NRR, Oneida, TN. These trails feature overlooks of the Big South Fork and the Twin Arches, two of the largest arches in the eastern United States. The total hike is about 6 miles with all trails rated easy. Bring water, snacks, and lunch. You can meet us in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville at 8:00am CT. For information and to register contact Guy Zimmerman at 931-526-1574 or guyz@charter.net

Feb 23 Sweden Cove Trail and West Rim Trail, Franklin State Forest, Sewanee, TN. This will be a shuttle hike and we will start at the park headquarters. We will first hike to Tom Pack Falls, a 20-foot high wall of water. We will cross the highway, hiking on and below the bluff line of Sweden Cove. We will end at Cave Spring after 8.2 miles. The hike has several scenic overlooks and interesting rock formations. It is rated easy to moderate with one short descent and ascent near the falls. Bring lunch and snacks and wear sturdy hiking shoes or boots. You can meet us at 7:30am CT in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville, at the US Bank across from McDonald's in Sparta at 8:00am, or at the trailhead about 10:00am. For information and to register contact Cindy Johnson at 931-570-0122 or cjhike@comcast.net.

OFFICERS:

President

Rosemary Marshall 865-548-6171
rosemary_1@hotmail.com

Vice-President

LouAnn Partington 931-393-4835
louannpartington@bellsouth.net

Treasurer

Don Dresser 731-668-4662
Donald_dresser@usit.net

Secretary

Carolyn Miller 931-456-4465
cardan@frontiernet.net

Past President

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

Previous Past President

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

West TN At-Large Director

VACANT

Middle TN At-Large Director

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

East TN At-Large Director

Joe Matlock 865-354-6101
matlockjf@usit.net

Membership

Garnett Rush 615-352-7217
rushga01@yahoo.com

Cumberland Trail Conference

Representatives

Ray Garrett 865-483-4466
garrett.ray@comcast.net

TN Rails To Trails Advisory Council

VACANT

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

Newsletter Editor

Leslie El-Sayad *editor@tennesseetrails.org*

Newsletter Deadlines:

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

<u>Due</u>	<u>For Newsletter Dated</u>
Jan 25	Mar 1
Mar 10	Apr 1
Apr 5	May 1

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

Please send all submissions to:
editor@tennesseetrails.org

Give 'em a State Park?

Special Winter Rates at TN State Parks

Each winter, Tennessee State Parks offers sizable discounts on their villas, cabins and inn rooms, and this year they are offering the Special Winter Discount Coupon. The lodging discounts began December 1, 2007 and end on February 29, 2008. Reservations are not required; however, advisable since discounts are offered solely on room availability. Holidays are not included and certain other restrictions may apply. Upon check-in, you will need a discount/promotional coupon which are available at TN State Park's website, www.tnstateparks.com (follow the link Winter Coupon Now Available). Or, you can obtain them when phoning to make your reservation toll free at 888-867-2757. Specifics regarding the promotion on inn rooms and cabins are as follows:

Inn rooms: The discount for 1 inn room is \$45.95 (plus, appropriate taxes) seven days a week. No other discounts apply. Groups may take advantage of this discount.

Cabins: The discount for cabins is 50% with a 2-night minimum required. The cabin discount is good Sunday through Thursday. No other discounts apply. The cabins at Reelfoot Lake State Park are not included in this promotion.

Tennessee State Parks has six inns with over 600 rooms and 17 parks with over 300 cabins throughout the state. We invite you to come visit us and **"Enjoy Our Good Nature."**

Tennessee Trails Merchandise Order Form

_____ TTA Patch.....5.00
Round embroidered patch, sew it on anything.
 _____ TTA Window Decal2.00
A must for each car. Removable, no adhesives.
 _____ TTA License Plate..... 12.00
Perfect for the front bumper of your car.
 ----- TTA T-Shirt S-M-L-XLG Blue or Yellow 12.00
 _____ TTA 35th Anniversary Commemorative Patch.....5.00
Round embroidered patch commemorating TTA's 35th Anniversary, sew it on anything.
 _____ TTA Flashlight Carabineer Key Ring, blue.....3.00

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

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

E-mail Address: _____

Mail your check payable to: Tennessee Trails Association
 c/o Marietta Poteet, 525 Huckleberry Place
 Monteagle, TN 37356
nannietta@blomand.net

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

Feb 08

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

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 | ___ Cumberland Gap | ___ Memphis | ___ Plateau (Crossville) |
| ___ Clarksville | ___ East TN (Oak Ridge/Knoxville) | ___ Murfreesboro | ___ Soddy Daisy |
| ___ Columbia/Franklin | ___ Highland Rim (Manchester/Tullahoma) | ___ Nashville | ___ Upper Cumberland |
| ___ Cove Lake | ___ Jackson | ___ Northwest (UT at Martin/Weakley) | (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.

Purchase Order

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

Leslie El-Sayad
Home: 865-717-6246
Les1202@aol.com

January 14, 2008

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

Leonard Chavaz
615-781-1071
cell ph: 615-207-0947
colplprt@bellsouth.net

Newsletter Printing

Cover Date: February 2008
Number of pages submitted
with this purchase order: 12 pages
Printed Paper size: Three - 11 x 17 sheets

printed 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: 800 pieces
Approximate Cost:

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

Leonard, please contact TTA Newsletter Party Coordinator Contact Diane
Manas, Newsletter party on **January 24** at 6pm

- Their picking newsletters up from you at Color Plus Printing or,
- Your delivering newsletters to Their home or,
- Your delivering the newsletters to the location of the Newsletter Party