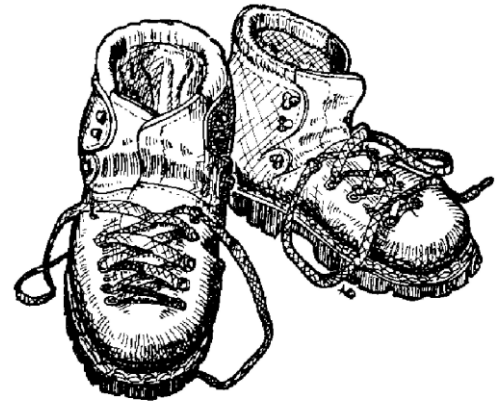


# TENNESSEE TRAILS

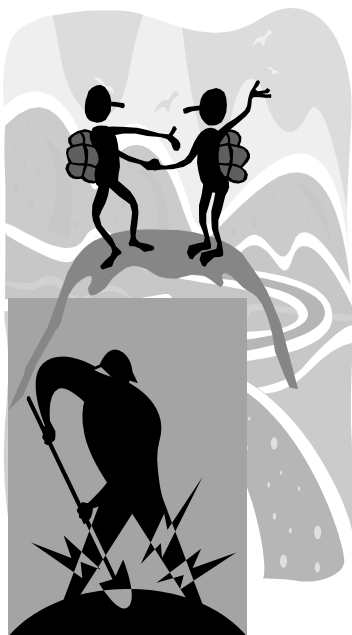
THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE TENNESSEE TRAILS ASSOCIATION

*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



## WHAT A WONDERFUL WEEKEND!



Our Annual Membership meeting was held on November 7, at Valley View Lodge and Convention Center in the beautiful and very scenic Townsend, TN (the quiet side of the Smokies). It was a wonderful weekend with lots of sunshine and over 200 anxious hikers. We were entertained on Friday evening with great speakers and colorful dancers. Tony Hooks enlightened us with his presentation on the progress of Cumberland Trail activities and we appreciate his dedication to this project. Our general membership meeting on Saturday evening was equally wonderful when we welcomed our two new Chapters into our TTA organization. The Sumner Trails Chapter and Dyer County Chapter were represented and received a “from the beginning” manual to remind them when and how they came to be. Next we heard from most of our chapters as they gave us their “year in review” reports. We love to hear from our chapters because they make us what we are. The awards this year went to 3 worthy recipients. The Tennessee Trails Award went to Chuck Robinson at REI for his generous support of TTA and the Bill Stutz Award went to our TTA President, Rosemary Marshall for her efforts to lead TTA and keep the high standards already established. We elected new officers for 2010 and they are as follows:

**President** – Don Dresser, Jackson Chapter

**Vice President** – Millette Jones, Murfreesboro Chapter

**Secretary** - Carolyn Miller, Plateau Chapter

**Treasurer** – Janet Agee, Soddy Daisy Chapter

**Membership Director** – Ron Dunn, Murfreesboro Chapter

**West Tennessee Representative** – Graydon Swisher, Memphis Chapter

**Middle Tennessee Representative** – Nora Beck, Nashville Chapter

**East Tennessee Representative** – Joe Matlock, Plateau Chapter

**Rails to Trails Representative** – Robert Richards, Nashville Chapter

We had a goal to reach this year through our annual live and silent auction and we met it with all your help. We wanted to “make a mile” on the Cumberland Trail and it cost \$7,128.00 and we did it! We raised \$7,212.00 and we’re so happy because we really contributed and worked hard for that mile. We actually went over and above our goal because the Valley View Lodge & Convention Center discounted the weekend breakfasts in the amount of \$600.00 so that we may add that amount to the total contribution to CTC making the overall total of \$7,812.00! What a wonderful weekend!

**WE MADE IT!!**

**TOTAL \$\$\$  
COLLECTED  
TO  
MAKE A MILE**

**OVER  
\$7,800  
CONGRATULATIONS**

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# CUMBERLAND TRAIL CONFERENCE

## CUMBERLAND TRAIL CONFERENCE STAFF:

General Manager ..... Tony Hook.....[tony.hook@frontiernet.net](mailto:tony.hook@frontiernet.net)

Office Manager ..... Marleya Pendleton....[marleyapendleton@frontiernet.net](mailto:marleyapendleton@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](mailto:cumberlandtrail@rocketmail.com)  
Website: [www.cumberlandtrail.org](http://www.cumberlandtrail.org)

## CTC Schedule

The 2010 CTC Breakaway program is shaping up to be one of the biggest yet. A total of 241 ASB students have signed up for a 4 week program. It breaks down as follows:

- Week 1, February 21-27 open, no sign-ups
- Week 2, February 28-March 6/47 students
- Week 3, March 7-13/126 students
- Week 4, March 14-20/50 students
- Week 5, March 21-27/18 students

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## BIG SOUTH FORK CHAPTER

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Jim Meadows  
423-628-6475 [jhnmhm@highland.net](mailto:jhnmhm@highland.net)  
**SECRETARY / TREASURER:** Benita Howell  
423-628-5521 [bjhowell@highland.net](mailto:bjhowell@highland.net)  
**BOARD REPRESENTATIVES:** Tim & Lynn Takacs  
615-824-7048 [lynntakacs@comcast.net](mailto:lynntakacs@comcast.net)  
or [ttakacs@comcast.net](mailto:ttakacs@comcast.net)  
**OUTINGS COORDINATOR** Tom and Benita Howell  
423-628-5521 [tshowell1003@highland.net](mailto:tshowell1003@highland.net)  
(Call Tom & volunteer to lead an outing.)

**Dec 25** Colditz Cove, Allardt, TN Join us for our annual Christmas Day hike at Colditz Cove. Meet at Harrow Road Cafe in Rugby at 2:00 p.m. EST.

Other Events

**Dec 27** Annual Business Meeting and election of officers. 3:00 p.m. at Harrow Road Cafe, Rugby.

## COVE LAKE CHAPTER

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Richard Helm  
423-562-1110 [Richard.Helm@ahss.org](mailto:Richard.Helm@ahss.org)  
**CO-CHAIR:** George Gill 423-562-7121

I want to send out a special thank you for Sharon and Jerry Phillips for arranging a River Boat Cruise for our Cove Lake Hiking group that we took October 24. It was all about taking the time to enjoy each other's fellowship. A trip much needed from life's up's and down's. Again I not only speak for myself but everyone in our group. Again thank you

**Dec 12** We will meet 8:00 a.m. @ Food Lion. To go hiking in the Cumberland Gap Historical Park. Starting from the Iron Furnace working our way up to the tri state marker. The hike is 7 miles. Rated moderate. More information or contact John Redmon 423-869-8286. Bring plenty of water and snacks.

**Dec 21** George and Rita Gill will host our annual Christmas dinner @ 6:00 p.m. in their home. Bring a favorite dish of your taste. We will be viewing hikes we already have taken through the year on CD and fellowship with each other. Everyone is welcomed. More information or contact George and Rita Gill 423-562-7121

For the 2010 BA program, trail construction will continue in North Chickamauga Gorge. The goal is to complete the trail from Cooper Creek southwest to Cain Creek. Trail maintenance will also be performed between the cable crossing and Stevenson Branch. Lodging will be provided at the Dogwood Lodge. As in the past, I will need help managing the program. I will need help from past crew leaders (wagon masters), volunteers that have helped with trail construction, and help in the kitchen. Please consider volunteering and make this a successful trail construction program.

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## CLARKSVILLE CHAPTER

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Paul Schwab 931-645-9068  
[paulschwab@bellsouth.net](mailto:paulschwab@bellsouth.net)  
**OUTINGS COORDINATOR:** Suva Bastin 931-645-2849  
(call Suva & volunteer to lead an outing)  
**MEETS MONTHLY:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday, 7:00 pm CT at Crow Community Center, 211 Richview Rd. (Additional information: see our web site <http://hikeclarksville.homestead.com/>)

**Dec 5** Urban hike, Nashville, TN; easy; We will park in the Bicentennial Mall/Farmers Market area and walk to the Shelby St. pedestrian bridge via 1st Ave. We will come back via 4th and 5th Ave. We will see Ft. Nashboro, Titans stadium, Ryman Auditorium, Farmers Market, historic hotels and the Capitol Building and more. I have stories from native Nashvillians about Jesse James, Minnesota Fats, James McGavock and what happened when the Capitol was built.; John Sneed 931.920.3828; meet 8:00 a.m., I 24 Exit 11 commuter parking lot.

**Dec 12** Christmas Party, potluck; Jo and Charlie Putnam, 931.362.3669, meet 6:00 p.m., 3525 Shadowbend Lane, Clarksville, TN.

**Dec 15** There will be no chapter meeting this month.

**Dec 19** Dunbar Cave State Natural Area, Clarksville, TN; 3 miles easy; Pam and Carl Gadsey, 931.552.2325; meet 9:00 a.m., park visitors center.

**Dec 26** No hike.

**Dec 31** New Years Eve hike downtown Clarksville; easy to moderate; Suva Bastin 931.645.2849; meet 9:00 p.m., Cumberland River Pavilion, McGregor Park, Riverside Drive, Clarksville, TN.

**Please call hike leaders to confirm hike time and meeting place.**

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## COLUMBIA/FRANKLIN CHAPTER

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Bobby Hardeman 615-430-0638 [puttr22@aol.com](mailto:puttr22@aol.com)

**MEETS MONTHLY:** 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday at Grand Buffet (Hwy 31, north side of Spring Hill). Socializing and dinner at 6:00pm CT; meeting starts at 7:00pm.

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**Dec. 1** Regular monthly meeting at Grand Buffet in Spring Hill. Reports from Nov. hikes and plans for hikes Jan. through June, 2010.

**Dec. 6** Annual Festival of Lessons and Carols. A tradition at Christmas season, we attend Lessons and Carols at All Saints Chapel on campus of The University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee. Meet at old Kroger on Hwy. 31 in Spring Hill, park near McDonald's. We leave at 12 noon and car pool to Sewanee, having lunch at Shenanigans. We tour the campus and get in line at 3 PM, service starts at 5 PM. After services we have dinner at Papa Ron's Italian Restaurant in Mount Eagle. No hike, dress for attending church service. Register with Bobby Hardeman at [puttr22@aol.com](mailto:puttr22@aol.com) or call 615-430-0638.

**Dec. 12** Hike Fiery Gizzard, South Cumberland Recreation Area, Tracy City, TN. We'll hike the Fiery Gizzard Trail, rock hopping many boulder fields on the way to Raven Point where we'll stop for lunch, returning via the Dog Hole Trail. Hike rated mod-difficult - 9 miles. Rick Pinkleton leads this route. Russell Smith leads easier hike on Dog Hole trail to Raven Point. Rated moderate 9. Bring water, lunch and wear sturdy boots. Meet at old Kroger Store parking lot, near McDonald's, at Campbell Station at 7:00 AM or at the trailhead at 9:30. For info contact Rick Pinkleton at 931-619-5012 or Russell Smith at [carving082334@aol.com](mailto:carving082334@aol.com) or 615-790-1833.

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## EAST TN CHAPTER (Oak Ridge / Knoxville)

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Rosemary Marshall  
865-548-6171 [Rosemary\\_L@hotmail.com](mailto:Rosemary_L@hotmail.com)  
**CHAPTER CO-OFFICER:** Allie Sasser Hubbs  
865-494-9522 [hike\\_annoucement\\_etchapter@yahoo.com](mailto:hike_annoucement_etchapter@yahoo.com)  
**ASSISTANT CO-OFFICER:** Elise Eustace  
865-712-1916 [eliseeus@hotmail.com](mailto:eliseeus@hotmail.com)  
**TREASURER:** Bob Uhren  
[snowcap34@hotmail.com](mailto:snowcap34@hotmail.com)

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**Dec 5** Rock Creek Gorge segment of the Cumberland Trail located in North Hamilton County. It's a moderate, 9 mile hike. So, let's make a day of it and enjoy the winter weather (we've had a warm summer). For meeting time and place, contact Keith Mertz at [keithmertz@hotmail.com](mailto:keithmertz@hotmail.com) or 865-982-7368.

**Dec 19** Annual Christmas Dinner will be held at the Parkside Tavern at 338 North Peters Rd, Knoxville. Our reservations are at 6:00pm ET; so come join us for a great celebration. We want to close out our 2009 hiking year in style.

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## HIGHLAND RIM CHAPTER (Tullahoma Area)

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** H.T. (Tom) Bentley  
931-455-5849 [htbentley@lighttube.net](mailto:htbentley@lighttube.net)  
**VICE PRESIDENT:** Joette Carter 931-968-0073  
**OUTINGS COORDINATOR / NEWSLETTER CONTACT:**  
Contact Tom Bentley  
**MEETS MONTHLY:** 1st Tuesday We eat at various places, this coming month is Ruby Tuesdays at 5:30 and meeting is at 7:00 at D. W. Wilson.

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**Dec 1** Monthly Meeting - DW Wilson Community Center. Dinner to begin at 5:00 at Applebee's. Program to begin at 7:00. We will have a review of programs for the coming year and a brief election of officers

**Dec 11** Christmas season Party - at the Bentley's house. It will be a pitch-in affair with a turkey provided. Festivities will start at 6:00 and continue until. Contact Tom Bentley (931) 273-6344 or [htbentley@lighttube.net](mailto:htbentley@lighttube.net)

**Dec 12** Lookout Mountain - Contact Marietta Poteet (931) 924-7666 [nannietta@blomand.net](mailto:nannietta@blomand.net)

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## JACKSON CHAPTER

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Candy Higgs 731-695-1960 [chiggs\\_3@yahoo.com](mailto:chiggs_3@yahoo.com)  
**TREASURER:** Sara Hakim 206-553-9334 [sara.hakim@gmail.net](mailto:sara.hakim@gmail.net)  
**SECRETARY:** Don Dresser 731-668-4190 [Donald\\_Dresser@usit.net](mailto:Donald_Dresser@usit.net)  
**OUTINGS COORDINATOR:** Glen Rognstad 731-217-5966 [glenrognstad@gmail.net](mailto:glenrognstad@gmail.net)

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**MEETS MONTHLY:** 2nd Mon at Perkins Restaurant, 999 Vann Drive in Jackson. Socializing & dinner starts 6:00pm CT; meeting starts 7:00pm

**Dec 5:** Percy Warner Park, Nashville: We will combine Mossy Ridge and Warner Woods trails for a 7.5 mile loop that winds through hollows and along ridges. There are several long uphill stretches, all the more reason to stop and admire the beautiful, old hardwood trees and scenic views. Other sites along the way include a waterfall and a chimney from the Betsy Ross cabin. The trail is rated moderate due to the numerous rolling hills, ascends, descends and uneven rocky spots. Wear sturdy hiking boots and bring a snack/lunch. For more information and to register, please contact Anne Goodson at 731-664-1556 or [goodsona1@juno.com](mailto:goodsona1@juno.com)

**Dec 14:** Chapter Meeting: Meet at Perkin's Restaurant on Vann Drive. We will eat at 6:00 p.m. and the meeting will start at 7:00 p.m. We'll be finalizing our hiking calendar for the first half of 2010. Please contact Candy Higgs at [chiggs\\_3@yahoo.com](mailto:chiggs_3@yahoo.com) or 731-695-1960 if you need additional information.

**Dec 19:** Big Hill Pond: On this 7 to 8 mile hike, we will hike over the Boardwalk and through the scenic Dismal Swamp and to the 70-foot refurbished Observation Tower which offers a panoramic view of Travis McNatt Lake and Dismal Swamp Civil War Earthworks-railroad guard post build by Union Soldiers. Nature watching may include osprey, fall migrations and year round wildlife. Bring lunch/snack and plenty of water. Hiking boots are recommended if recent rain. For information and registration, contact Sara Hakin at 206-553-9334 or [hikim.sara@gmail.com](mailto:hikim.sara@gmail.com)

**Jan 1** - Annual New Year's Day Hike at Centennial Wilderness - Scotts Gulf. This is a multi-chapter hiking event. Please see Murfreesboro hike description for additional information. To register, please notify Candy Higgs at 731-695-1960 [chiggs\\_3@yahoo.com](mailto:chiggs_3@yahoo.com)

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## MURFREESBORO CHAPTER

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Millette Jones  
615-397-9588 [millette.jones@comcast.net](mailto:millette.jones@comcast.net)

**OUTINGS COORDINATOR / CO-OFFICER:** Tony Jones  
615-397-4463 [awj68@comcast.net](mailto:awj68@comcast.net)

*(Call Tony & volunteer to lead an outing)*

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

**BLOG** [www.ttamurfreesboro.blogspot.com](http://www.ttamurfreesboro.blogspot.com)

**Dec. 5-** Panther Knob Trail and the Stone Cuts Trail, Monte Sano State Park, Huntsville, Alabama, 4 miles, moderate. We will see panoramic views of the Tennessee Valley, a large sink hole, and for the first time with the TTA, Panther Knob Trail which passes through a chimney-like stone formation; then the Stone Cuts Trail which passes through deep erosional clefts in a section of limestone on the top of the mountain with high walled, cave-like cuts. There will be two 200 foot elevation drops and two 200 foot elevation gains; each one in about ½ mile. Please note that there will be a \$3 (\$1-62 yrs+) per person fee to get into the park. After our hike we will have lunch at a local restaurant. We will leave from the Cracker Barrel on Church Street at Interstate 24, Exit 81 in Murfreesboro at 8:00 AM. Distance from the meeting place to Monte Sano State Park is about 90 miles. For more information and to register for the hike, please contact Bob Goodwin at CAMEL40@earthlink.net or 256-564-8417.

**Dec 8-** Monthly Meeting, Barfield Crescent Park Wilderness Station at 6PM. This is our annual Christmas Party. Bring a covered dish and your family. Please call or e-mail Tony Jones at 615-397-4463 or [awj68@comcast.net](mailto:awj68@comcast.net) to RSVP with the number you are bringing so that we can make food arrangements.

**Dec. 12-** Lookout Mountain Bluff Trail, Chattanooga, 10 miles, moderate/difficult. Jim Poteet will lead this hike, rated mod/diff for steep ascents and descents. Please contact Jim at 931-924-7666 or [nannietta@blomand.net](mailto:nannietta@blomand.net) to register.

**Dec. 12&13-** BACKPACK Cumberland Trail, Possum Creek Segment, 10 miles, moderate. Dec 12, we will hike 4.4 miles and camp near Little Possum Falls. Sunday, we will hike 5.6 miles to our vehicles. We will meet at the Heiss Mtn trailhead at 10:30 AM CST and then shuttle to the beginning of our hike on Retro-Hughes Road. There is some elevation loss and gain hiking in and out of Little and Big Possum Gorges. The group size will be limited to 8. Contact me at [tony.hook@frontiernet.net](mailto:tony.hook@frontiernet.net) to sign-up

### Planning Ahead-

**Jan. 9-** Chilly Chili Hike with the Poteets

**Jan 12-** Monthly Meeting- Various Members will discuss and show slides of favorite hikes 7 PM

### SAVE THE DATE !!!!!

The Southeastern Foot Trails Coalition's 2010 Conference will be held on

May 20-23, 2010 (Thursday thru Sunday)  
DuBose Conference Center, Monteagle, Tennessee.  
There will be hiking, presentations, entertainment, and great food!

More information to follow! [www.southeastfoottrails.org](http://www.southeastfoottrails.org)

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## MEMPHIS CHAPTER

**CHAPTER OFFICER: (Memphis BD REP)** Margaret Smith  
901-210-6097 [spikie542003@yahoo.com](mailto:spikie542003@yahoo.com)

**MEETS MONTHLY:** (Sep - May) 3rd Thursday at 7:00pm CT at  
Cordova Library, 8457 Trinity Rd.

**Dec 5,** Tishomingo State Park, located South of luka, MS - Registration required. This is a 6-7 mile hike winding along rocky ridges with spectacular views, through shallow, fern-filled canyons, and across the Bear Creek Swinging Bridge constructed in the 1930's. Bring lunch and water. Sturdy hiking books recommended. Meet at the park toll gate. There is a parking lot to the right just before entering the park through the gate. We will regroup into lesser vehicles. To register contact Jerry at 901-213-0604. Heavy rain will cancel this hike. Directions to park: Two miles south of Tishomingo off Mississippi Highway 25. The entrance road is 15 miles +/- a couple south of luka on Hwy 25. Follow the signs just shortly after the town of Tishomingo. After you turn left off Hwy 25 at the park sign, you will come to a sort of 'y'. Take the left branch.

**Dec 10,** Memphis Chapter Holiday Party and Potluck When: Thursday, December 10 at 6:30 p.m. Where: 50 Shady Glen, Memphis, TN Freddi and Joel Felt invite you to their home at 6:30 p.m. to celebrate and enjoy food, fun, and good conversation. Please bring one of your favorite dishes (with serving spoon) to share with the group. Coffee, water, tea, and ice will be provided or you may bring a favorite beverage. The 2010 hiking schedule will be distributed at the party. For questions and directions, call Freddi at 901-685-9915. Directions: I-240, turn west onto Walnut Grove, cross Yates, next street turn left onto Shady Glen (3rd house on left)

**Dec 12,** Meeman-Shelby Forest - Poplar Tree Lake Meet Francis at the Visitor Center at 9:00 a.m. and bring water and snack. Hike begins with a car shuttle to the south end of the trail for a 5-6 mile easy to moderate hike through the forest and connect up to the Woodland Trail then hike back to the visitor center. For information call, Francis Ruffin at 901-396-1108. Directions: From I-40, take Exit 2-A, turn right, go past 6 traffic lights to Watkins Road, turn left and continue until the road dead ends. Turn left, drive 1 mile to a four-way stop and General Store then turn right, continue 1 mile, turn left into the park. [www.tnstateparks.com](http://www.tnstateparks.com)

Jan 1, New Year's Day Hike at Meeman-Shelby Forest Poplar Tree Lake Meet Freddie at the Visitor Center at 10:00 a.m. and bring water and snack or lunch. We will hike the Poplar Lake Trail which begins with a car shuttle to the south end of the trail for a 5-6 mile easy to moderate hike through the forest connecting with the Woodland Trail and back to the visitor center. For information call Freddi Felt 901-685-9915.

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## NORTHWEST/MARTIN CHAPTER

**CONTACT:** Graydon Swisher 901-737-3114  
[gotoswish@bellsouth.net](mailto:gotoswish@bellsouth.net)

Monthly meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of month, 7p.m. Sept-April, not Jan. at Paul Meek Library, Rm 120 in Media Services/B1

**Jan 30** Shawnee Natl Rec area, S. Illinois. Hike leader Scott Pun . [spun@utm.edu](mailto:spun@utm.edu) or 731-881-7316

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## SODDY-DAISY CHAPTER

**Chapter Officer:** Brandy Selman (423) 544-9608  
chattowngrl@gmail.com  
**Treasurer:** Jan Agee (423) 504-3581  
ageejanice@bellsouth.net  
**Hike Coordinator:** Don Deakins (423) 842-3140  
don.deakins@gmail.com

**Meet Quarterly:** First Monday of Jan, Apr, Jul, and Oct at 6:00pm in Soddy Daisy Municipal Building  
Schedule: See a comprehensive up-to-date schedule at <http://tinyurl.com/6np53k>  
**Blog:** <http://sdttta.blogspot.com>

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**Dec 5** Cumberland Trail - Soddy Gorge in Soddy Daisy - Hike 5 mile section of trail between Mowbray Pike and Sluder Lane. Since there is no parking at Mowbray Pike trail head, we will meet at Sluder Lane trail head, haul hikers to Mowbray trail head and return vehicles to Sluder Lane. Contact Don Deakins at 423-842-3140 or [don.deakins@gmail.com](mailto:don.deakins@gmail.com) for more info.

**Dec 12** Off trail GPS navigation at Prentice Cooper - Meet at main trail head in Prentice Cooper. Caravan to Davis Pond parking area (N35 04.911 W85 25.793) on Pot Point Road where hike begins. Hike through woods to Natural Bridge located at N35 05.219 W85 24.784 which is approximately 1 mile straight line distance from Davis Pond. After a break at Natural Bridge, we will follow Cumberland Trail to footbridge located at N35 05.080 W85 25.460. At the bridge we will again leave the trail and navigate back to Davis Pond. Total distance will be approximately 3 miles. Move vehicles to junction (N35 05.014 W85 26.248) of Pot Point Road and Tower Road (aka Game Reserve Rd) and from there hike off trail to Ransom Hollow Overlook located at N35 05.121 W85 26.686. Return hike to vehicles will also be off trail for a total round trip distance of about 1 mile. Contact Don Deakins at 423-842-3140 or [don.deakins@gmail.com](mailto:don.deakins@gmail.com) for more info.

**Dec 19** Cumberland Trail - Piney River in Spring City - Meet at Piney River trail head where we will leave appropriate number of vehicles and then shuttle to Duskin Creek parking area (N35 41.402 W84 56.997) where hike begins. This will be an approximate 8 mile hike which is rated moderate. Contact Don Deakins at 423-842-3140 or [don.deakins@gmail.com](mailto:don.deakins@gmail.com) for more info.

**Dec 26** Cumberland Trail - Tennessee River Gorge - Meet at main trail head in Prentice Cooper. Stage required number of vehicles at parking area near Snoopers Rock Overlook and return to Prentice Cooper trail head where hike begins. Approximate distance is 6 moderate miles. Contact Don Deakins at 423-842-3140 or [don.deakins@gmail.com](mailto:don.deakins@gmail.com) for more info.

*I want to thank a very special hard working committee that works behind the scenes assembling 800 newsletters in Nashville every month. Diane Manas is the coordinator and many volunteers meet at different homes to make sure TTA members receive their newsletters on time. Thank you, whoever you are for your dedication and hard work.*

**Leslie El-Sayad, Retiring Newsletter Editor**

**I, Rosemary Marshall, TTA President and East Tenn. Chapter Representative, wish to personally thank the East TN Chapter members and friends for their volunteer spirit in helping with our Annual Meeting weekend. They are:**

**Leslie El-Sayad**

**Galal El-Sayad**

**Tarik El-Sayad**

**Keith Mertz**

**Janie Mertz**

**Barbara Milsaps**

**David Milsaps**

**Bob Uhren**

**Elise Eustace**

**Robert Paul**

**Karen Towle**

**Lesley Price**

**Allie Hubbs**

**Robert Hubbs**

**Smoky Mtn Twirlers**

**GSMNP Rep & Robert Schuffert**

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## SUMNER TRAILS CHAPTER

**CONTACT PERSON:** Libby Francis  
[LibbysLibbys@comcast.net](mailto:LibbysLibbys@comcast.net) 615-889-5718

**MEETS MONTHLY:** 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday at 7:00pm CT at First Presbyterian Church, 172 West Main Street, Hendersonville

**Dec 1-**This will be our monthly meeting/holiday gathering. Our tentative plan is to meet at the Italian Grille in Hendersonville for dinner at 7:00. Cost of the meal with appetizers, salad, main course and dessert is approx. \$15. There will be a cash bar. You will receive an email with more information.

**Dec 6-**This is a Sunday afternoon hike at Radnor Lake. We will hike around the lake 1.4 miles. This is considered an easy hike that will take about 1 hour. We will meet at the Hendersonville Presbyterian Church at 12:30 to carpool. Bad weather will cancel. For more information contact Mary Ann Haufler at [hauflerg@bellsouth.net](mailto:hauflerg@bellsouth.net)

Due to the holiday season we will only have one hike this month. We wish all of you and your families a joyous holiday season!

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## NASHVILLE CHAPTER

**CHAPTER OFFICER:**

615-517-6486

Nora Beck

[nora\\_beck@comcast.net](mailto:nora_beck@comcast.net)**OUTINGS COORDINATOR:**

Libby Francis

[libbyslibbys@comcast.net](mailto:libbyslibbys@comcast.net)*(email Libby & volunteer to lead an outing)***MEETS MONTHLY:** 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday at 7:00 pm CTREI Community Room, 261 Franklin Road, Brentwood,  
TN 37027. For directions, visit:[www.tennesseehike.org/nashville.php](http://www.tennesseehike.org/nashville.php)

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**CHAPTER NEWS:**

December 2009 will mark the eighth time that we've been invited to wrap customers' gifts at REI (Brentwood) in exchange for donations, and each time it has been a FUN and very \$\$\$ful fun-raising event for the chapter. This year we will be wrapping gifts on Sat, Dec 12 from 10:30am until 6:00pm and on Sun, Dec 20 from 10:30am until 6:00pm. 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 (the TTA Display Unit will be up; plus, we'll have brochures and newsletters to give away). In exchange for the gifts we wrap, customers in the past have been extremely generous to us by making \$\$\$DONATIONS\$\$\$ (*'tis the season to be generous*). Donations received will be allocated to the Cumberland Trail Conference's 2010 Spring BreakAway program which will 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). So, don't hesitate, call and volunteer today for this truly unusual and fun way to FUN-raise while talking to prospective members about TTA, trails, hiking, trail building, parks, wildflowers, etc. No experience required, on-site training and materials provided. To volunteer Sat, Dec 12 (between 10:30a & 6:00p) and/or Sun, Dec 20 (between 12noon and 6:00p), call Diane Manas at 615-352-7777.

**Dec. 12** Beaman Park, Nashville. Beaman Park is 1688 acres of natural area in northwest Nashville near Joelton. This wild and rugged land features a Highland Rim forest type, unique plant associations and species and a rugged landscape with steep slopes, narrow hollows, and streams and waterfalls. Hike 7 miles of trails, including nature center. Meet at Beaman, lower parking lot, 9:00, CT. Bring \$ for lunch at Stratton's. Call to confirm: Nancy / 615-319-8811 or e-mail [njuodenas@hotmail.com](mailto:njuodenas@hotmail.com)

**Dec 12** Gift Wrapping at REI; 10:30a until 6:00p – see **CHAPTER NEWS** (above).

**Dec 20** Gift Wrapping at REI; 12noon until 6:00p – see **CHAPTER NEWS** (above)

**Dec 25** Warner Parks, Nashville, TN. So you got some really cool hiking gear for the holidays. Today's a good day to break 'em in on this 7.5 mile hike on the Mossy Ridge and Warner Woods Trails in the Percy Warner side of Warner Park. The terrain is rated moderate for the numerous rolling hills we will ascend and descend along the way. Sturdy hiking shoes/boots are recommended for the terrain because it is uneven with roots, rocks and ruts. Bring snacks, lunch, water and the 10 Essentials. We'll meet at the flagpole just inside the entrance to the park at the end of Belle Meade Boulevard. For additional information, meeting time and/or to register, call Diane Manas at 615-352-7777.

## NASHVILLE (cont)

**Dec 27** Fiery Gizzard and Dog Hole Trails, South Cumberland State Park. Tracy City, TN. The Fiery Gizzard portion of this hike is perhaps one of the most diversified and beautiful in TN. The first part of the hike is the most rugged and somewhat challenging because of the rocky (i.e. huge boulders) and uneven terrain, plus the steep ascent from the gorge onto the Plateau. Upon reaching the Plateau and Dog Hole Trail, the terrain levels out and for the remainder of the day it is smooth hiking. Along the way, we will visit Sycamore Falls (12-ft. high waterfall has a gorgeous setting), pass Black Canyon (named for the organic stains on the rocks where Little and Big Fiery Gizzard Creeks merge), and lunch at Raven Point (a spectacular overlook of Gizzard Cove). The hike is approximately 10 miles and rated difficult. Sturdy hiking boots are a must! Bring water, snacks, lunch and the 10 Essentials. Also, carry a few small bills to pay towards the carpooling gas. For more information, carpool meeting time and location, and to register, call Diane Manas at 615-352-7777.

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## PLATEAU CHAPTER (Crossville)

**CO-CHAPTER OFFICERS:** Jan Barber 931-839-6662[taxxing@aol.com](mailto:taxxing@aol.com)

Myra Holloway 931-788-1724

[followthesun12@live.com](mailto:followthesun12@live.com)**SECRETARY/TREASURER:**

Jim Grove

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

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 visit the Plateau Chapter Blog at <http://ttaplateauchapter.blogspot.com> Rain cancels.

**Dec 10.** Chapter Christmas Party. First National Bank of the Cumberlands. 4:30 PM – 8:00 PM CST. Please bring an appetizer to share while socializing with your hiking buddies. Bring a gift if you want to participate in the "dirty Santa" gift exchange

**Dec 12.** House Mountain, Knoxville, TN.

The 2,100-foot crest of House Mountain provides significant vistas of the parallel ranges of the Unakas and Cumberland mountains some 30 miles away. Great sandstone boulders, encrusted with lichens, crown the western rim of the rock outcropping. The climb to the top of the mountain is strenuous, but worth the effort for the views. Total hiking distance: 4 miles roundtrip. For more information and to register, contact Pam or Terry Brophy at 931-707-7234 or [p18brophy@comcast.net](mailto:p18brophy@comcast.net). Meet at the Bean Pot restaurant at I-40 Exit 322 at 8:00 AM CST to carpool.

**Dec 19.** Pickett-Palooza, Pickett State Park, Jamestown, TN. We will combine several of Pickett's short trails for a total of between 5 - 6 miles of hiking. We'll see a couple large natural rock bridges, several rock houses, and have one ladder descent. Meet at behind the Cracker Barrel at 8 AM CST. For more information and to register, contact Carolyn Miller at 931-456-4465 or [cardan@frontiernet.net](mailto:cardan@frontiernet.net).

## OFFICERS:

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### Cumberland Trail Conference

#### Representative

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### TN Rails To Trails Advisory Council

Bob Richards 615-532-0753  
[TRAC@tennesseetrails.org](mailto:TRAC@tennesseetrails.org)

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

### Newsletter Editor

Leslie El-Sayed [editor@tennesseetrails.org](mailto: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>
<b>Dec 10</b> .....	Jan 1
Jan 10 .....	Feb 1
Feb 10 .....	Mar 1

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

Please send all submissions to:

[editor@tennesseetrails.org](mailto:editor@tennesseetrails.org)

## UPPER CUMBERLAND CHAPTER (Sparta / Cookeville)

### CHAPTER OFFICER:

Mary Jane Ware

[maryjaneware@bellsouth.net](mailto:maryjaneware@bellsouth.net)

**Dec 5** Standing Stone State Forest, Hilham, TN. This hike will consist of 3 different trails in the Standing Stone State Forest which surrounds Standing Stone State Park with short driving distances between the trailheads. Total distance will be about 8 miles and is rated moderate. This first hike will be of the Rock Quarry Trail and features hiking adjacent to a tumbling stream and an old rock quarry. The second hike will be of Table Rock Trail and a section of Cooper Mountain Trail and features interesting rock formations and a disappearing waterfall. The third hike will explore some of Standing Stone's history. Bring snacks, water, and lunch. You can meet us at 8:00am CT in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville. For information and to register contact Lillian Ey at 615-746-8890 or [eyintn@hotmail.com](mailto:eyintn@hotmail.com).

**Dec 19** Old Stone Fort State Park, Manchester, TN, and Short Springs State Natural Area, Tullahoma, TN. We will start out at the museum at Old Stone Fort State Park. After a quick walk through the museum we will hike all the trails in the park - about 3.25 miles total. We will then eat lunch at a local restaurant, Jiffy Burger, and head down the road to Tullahoma to hike at Short Springs. We will hike first to Machine Falls and then explore some of the other short trails there. We will hike as long as there is interest. Both hikes are rated easy and you can sign up for both or just one. We will meet in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville at 7:30, at the US Bank in Sparta across from McDonald's in Sparta at 8:00, and at Manchester at 9:00. Bring plenty of water, snacks, and sturdy shoes. For information and to register contact Cindy Johnson at [cjhikes@att.net](mailto:cjhikes@att.net) or at 931-570-0122.

## THANK YOU

HIKE LEADERS FOR THE WEEK DIANE  
MANAS, BILL HANCOCK, WARREN AND  
CAROL DEVINE, ROBERT PAUL AND  
KAREN TOWLE, BOB UHREN, MARK  
PAULLEY, LYNN KSZOS, AND  
AND A SPECIAL THANKS TO  
**KETH MERTZ.**  
FOR COORDINATING THE HIKEs

### Tennessee State Parks Special Winter Promotion

Hundreds of Cabins and Hotel Room Rates Reduced

November 1, 2009 through February 28, 2010

Cabins are 50 percent off regular rates Sunday through Thursday with a 2-night minimum stay. Inn rooms are \$47.95 per night seven days a week. Popular breakfast plan is available for \$57.95 per night. When making your cabin or hotel room reservation you must request the "Special Winter Promotion" rates in order to secure the promotional rates. **The fine print:** The Special Winter Promotion rates are not available during holiday weeks and are not valid with other discounts. Applicable taxes will be added. Other restrictions may apply.

For additional information or to make a reservation call 888-867-2757, or visit [www.TNStateParks.com](http://www.TNStateParks.com)

Tennessee Trails Association  
P.O. Box 41446  
Nashville, TN 37204-1446  
  
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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 09  
 **RENEWING MY MEMBERSHIP**  
Memberships are for one year, unless you have a Lifetime Membership.  
Gift Memberships are also available. Contact our Membership Director,  
Ron Dunn 615-867-3301 [trekkingtn@comcast.net](mailto:trekkingtn@comcast.net)

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

**PLEASE, PRINT CLEARLY.**

___ Individual \$25.00	Name _____
___ Family \$35.00	Address _____
___ Student (FULL-TIME) \$15.00	City _____ State _____
___ Supporting (\$50.00, \$100.00 or more)	Home Phone (_____) _____ Zip _____ -- _____
___ Life Member (Individual) \$500.00	Work Phone (_____) _____
___ 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:**

- |                       |   |                                      |                      |
|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------------|----------------------|
| ___ Big South Fork    | ___ East TN (Oak Ridge/Knoxville)       | ___ Nashville                        | ___ Upper Cumberland |
| ___ Clarksville       | ___ Highland Rim (Manchester/Tullahoma) | ___ Northwest (UT at Martin/Weakley) | (Sparta/Cookeville)  |
| ___ Columbia/Franklin | ___ Jackson                             | ___ Plateau (Crossville)             |                      |
| ___ Cove Lake         | ___ Memphis                             | ___ Soddy Daisy                      | ___ At Large         |
| ___ Cumberland Gap    | ___ Murfreesboro                        | ___ Sumner Trails                    |                      |

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.**