

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



MULTI-CHAPTER NEW YEAR'S DAY HIKE – CENTENNIAL TRAIL, EDGAR EVINS STATE PARK, 4 MILES, EASY

The Bridgestone/Firestone Centennial Wilderness will be closed for hiking on New Years Day because of the big game hunting season. Our annual multi-chapter hike has had to find a new home. We will be hiking the four mile Centennial Trail at Edgar Evins State Park this year. We will meet at 10 am CT at the covered picnic shelters at the marina parking area to carpool to the trail head. This is an easy hike that includes lake views as well as deep woods. We will go by abandoned homesteads where people were relocated when Center Hill Lake was impounded, a former moonshine still and other artifacts of a time gone by. There won't be any creek crossings to contend with this time. This is the trail that TTA built to celebrate the park's 25th anniversary in 2000. It has a special significance since seven TTA Chapters were represented in building it.

We will have our traditional New Years Feast at the shelters with roaring fires to knock off the winter chill and be able to eat at tables instead of off the bare ground! Please bring your favorite New Year's traditional food, plate and silverware, along with a trash bag to use for a tablecloth (and to pack out our trash). The park is furnishing the shelters and firewood at no cost. There are electrical outlets in case someone wants to bring appliances. - Hot coffee anyone? And the best news.....there are restrooms located near the shelters. No roughing it for our group this year!

The park is located 60 miles east of Nashville off Interstate 40, exit 268. Head south on Hwy. 96, Buffalo Valley Road for 3.6 miles. The entrance to the park is straight ahead. Follow the signs to the marina. Take a right at the second stop sign after entering the park. The shelters are straight ahead when you enter the parking lot.

If there are questions, or to register for this hike, please email Bobby Hardeman at puttr22@aol.com or call 615-430-0638. For the carpool/hike coordinator for this event for your chapter, please check the listing under your chapter.

Request From Prentice Cooper State Forest

If your organization is planning an event or outing on Prentice Cooper State Forest, we would like to hear from you. There are many different activities that take place on the forest. We would like to be aware of them. When you are planning an event, drop us a note. We would like to know what the activity is, where it will be held, when you plan to have it, and about how many people you expect. We can help spread the word and make sure there aren't any conflicts with any other planned events. If you are planning a large event with twenty or more people, we will issue you a permit. Come use the forest, it is a great place.

Contact: Jim Lane
State Forest Supervisor
Tennessee Division of Forestry
P.O. Box 160
Hixson, TN 37343
Email: Jim.D.Lane@tn.gov
Phone: 423-658-5551

Hiking in late February (TBob 2.27.02)

a cold black wind sews shadows on the ground
while ice fires devour western ridges
gilding girders on river bridges
now the coward sun takes flight to Morningtown
and we are left
breathless brothers to fugitive clouds
freeze-dried and still
in the sepulchral silence of winter sky.

From "Trail Mix", On-line Poetry by Bob Peckham,
Northwest Chapter

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
Office ManagerMarleya Pendleton..... marleyapendleton@frontiernet.net

I want to thank all of my fellow TTA members and especially the East Tennessee Chapter for making the Cumberland Trail fundraising events at the 2009 annual meeting a terrific success. The money raised will allow for a successful 2010 Break-Away program. The goal for this program is to build four miles of trail in the North Chickamauga Gorge segment. Because of the tremendous support from the Tennessee Trails Association, the Cumberland State Scenic Trail will extend an additional four miles, moving the trail project ever closer to its completion.

-----Tony Hook
CTC

Excerpted from December 2009 press release: The Cumberland Trail Conference (CTC) would like to acknowledge Middle Tennessee Natural Gas (MTNG) for a donation of \$2,500 to support the CTC's 13th annual spring Break-Away program. This donation was made possible by MTNG's Project Hometown Help, a community enhancement program. Customers may elect to round their monthly bill up to the next whole dollar, and all funds collected are distributed back to the community from which it was collected to benefit local charitable causes. The CTC's Break-Away program brings college and university students from across the United States to Tennessee during their spring break to help construct the Cumberland Trail, a state scenic trail. The funds from the Project Hometown Help will offset the cost of food and lodging for the student volunteers that attend, assist with trail construction materials, staffing, and transportation cost. This program enables the CTC to educate the volunteers about the Cumberland Trail project, trail construction techniques, the environment, and the conservation effort to help preserve the Cumberland Plateau.

BIG SOUTH FORK CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Jim Meadows 423-628-6475
bigsouthfork@tennesseetrails.org
SECRETARY/TREASURER: Benita Howell 423-628-5521
bigsouthforktreas@tennesseetrails.org
BOARD REPRESENTATIVES:
Tim and Lynn Takacs 615-824-7048
bigsouthforkboard@tennesseetrails.org
OUTINGS COORDINATORS:
Tom and Benita Howell 423-628-5521
bigsouthforkhikes@tennesseetrails.org
(Call Tom or Benita & volunteer to lead an outing.)

Jan 9 - Deer Gap Loop, Fentress County – 3 miles. Moderate. We will hike approximately three miles along the bluffs south of Jamestown, on East Fork Stables property accessed from Jordan Motel on TN 127 South. The hike is rated moderate, depending on the weather, with bluff views, a waterfall, and Jordan Lake as points of interest. Dress appropriately for the weather, and bring water and snacks. We will meet at Harrow Road Cafe in Rugby at 9:30 am ET to carpool, or arrange to meet us at the animal barn parking area behind Jordan Motel at 9:00 am CTI. For more information and to register, contact hike leader Bob Trumbo at ctrumbo@highland.net

CLARKSVILLE CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Paul Schwab 931-645-9068
clarksville@tennesseetrails.org
OUTINGS COORDINATOR: Suva Bastin 931-645-2849
(call Suva & volunteer to lead an outing)
MEETS MONTHLY: 3rd Tuesday at 7:00 pm CT at Crow Community Center, 211 Richview Rd.
*Additional information may be seen at our web site:
<http://www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/clarksville>*

Jan 1 - New Years Day hike, Montgomery Bell State Park, Burns, TN - 8 miles. Moderate. Merri Hinton, 270-726-3141 or Suva Bastin 931-645-2849; Meet 9:00 am CT, Big Lots parking area, Riverside Drive, Clarksville, TN.

Jan 9 - Rotary Park, Clarksville, TN. Easy to moderate. Renate Gills 931-648-1448. Meet 9:00 am CT, first shelter on left after entering park.

Jan 16 - Beaman Park, Joelton, TN - 5 miles. Easy to moderate. Lily Bell, 931-552-2773. Meet 8:30 am CT KMart parking lot, Madison Street, Clarksville, TN.

Jan 19 - Monthly Chapter Meeting 7:00 pm CT Crow Community Center.

Jan 23 - LBL adopted trail or Honker-Hematite Lake, Land Between the Lakes. 8 miles. Easy. Sandy Janus 931-551-8523; Meet 8:00 am CT, Kroger parking area, Dover Crossing, Clarksville, TN.

Jan 30 - Ashland City Rails to Trails, unpaved section. 5 miles. Easy. Paul Schwab, 931-645-9068. Meet 8:30 am CT, Big Lots parking area, Riverside Drive, Clarksville, TN.

COLUMBIA/FRANKLIN CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Bobby Hardeman 615-430-0638
columbia@tennesseetrails.org

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

Jan 1 – Annual New Years Day Hike - See page one for details. We will meet at Campbell Station McDonald's in Spring Hill and leave at 7 am CT. Wear sturdy boots, bring water for the trail and don't forget to bring you favorite food to share at our feast. Register with Bobby Hardeman at *puttr22@aol.com* or 615-430-0638.

Jan. 4 - Monthly meeting at Grand Buffet in Spring Hill. Program to be announced.

Jan 23 - Fort Donelson National Battle Field Eagle Watch. 5.7 miles. Moderate. This 5.7 mile moderate hike loops the perimeter of Fort Donelson National Battlefield, on the shores of Lake Barkley. Along the way, it visits monuments, river batteries, troop trenches, and log huts from the Civil War. You will be surprised at the terrain and the natural beauty that accompanies this special place. This is one of Middle Tennessee's great, unsung hikes. The historical importance of the trailside setting is obvious, but the setting will surprise you. Travel along flanks of Confederate earthworks, erected to protect Fort Donelson, which in turn guarded the lower Cumberland River. Pass a tall monument to Confederate soldiers. Next, drop to the shores of Lake Barkley and reach Fort Donelson, where river batteries look over a stunning sweep of the Cumberland River. Visit log hut replicas that housed Confederate troops, and enjoy a walk in the woods while returning to the visitor center and completing the loop. This is also the winter home to bald eagles that can be seen flying over the river and nesting in the tall trees. Bring your field glasses to get a close look at our National Symbol. Bring lunch and water for the trail, wear sturdy boots and dress appropriately for the weather. Also plan to stop at Marvin's favorite restaurant for dinner on our trip home. Meet at Campbell Station McDonald's in Spring Hill, we leave at 6:45 am CT. Register with Bobby Hardeman at *puttr22@aol.com* or call 615-430-0638.

COVE LAKE CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Richard Helm 423-562-1110
covelake@tennesseetrails.org

CO-CHAIR: George Gill 423-562-7121

Happy New Year Everyone!

Jan 4 - We will meet at The LaFollete Recreation Center at 6:00 pm ET to discuss upcoming hikes. For more information contact Richard Helm 423-562-1110. Everyone is welcome to come and share ideas.

Jan 16 – Yahoo Falls. Easy Meet at Jacksboro Middle School at 9:00 am ET. The hike is easy. Be sure to bring your camera. For more information or to register, contact Richard Helm 423-562-1110

DYER COUNTY CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Rita Norvell 731-445-4601
dyercounty@tennesseetrails.org

SECRETARY/TREASURER: Frank Salowitz
dyercountysecy@tennesseetrails.org

OUTINGS COORDINATOR/BOARD REP: Jim Stark 731-589-1776
dyercountyhhikes@tennesseetrails.org

(Call Jim & volunteer to lead an outing.)

MEETS MONTHLY: (Sep-Jun) 4th Thursday at 5:30 pm CT at Dyersburg Main Street Office, 111 Market Street on the south side of the square in downtown Dyersburg

Jan 2 – Forked Deer River Trail, Dyersburg We will hike the new 1.4 mile trail along the Forked Deer River in downtown Dyersburg and plan improvements to and extension of the trail. Meet at Farmers Market in the new River Park at 9:00 am CT. and get the year started right. For more information, call Jim Stark at 731-589-1776

Jan 16 - Old Johnsonville State Park. 4.5 miles. Easy to Moderate.: Hike the 4.5 mile trail through Johnsonville, along the bank of Kentucky Lake and through the forest where the Battle of Johnsonville was fought. Meet at the Museum at 9:00 am CT for interpretive tour by Park Ranger before the hike. For more information and carpooling contact Jim Stark at 731-589-1776

Jan 28 - Monthly Meeting

EAST TN CHAPTER (Oak Ridge / Knoxville)

CHAPTER CHAIR: Rosemary Marshall 865-548-6171
easttennessee@tennesseetrails.org

VICE-CHAIR: Elise Eustace 865-201-5806
easttennessee@tennesseetrails.org

TREASURER: Bob Uhren
easttennesseetreas@tennesseetrails.org

Jan 23 - Benton MacKaye Trail segment (Cherokee National Forest. 9.8 miles. Strenuous. This hike will begin off Tellico River Rd. at Pheasant Field picnic area. For the first 2.4 miles there will be a 1400' climb up to Sugar Mountain Lead where we begin a 1300' descent over the next 2.5 miles to Brookshire Creek and our lunch spot. We'll then turn around and retrace our steps. There will be 6 creek crossings on this hike. This hike is rated fairly strenuous for climbs and water crossings. Dress warmly and wear sturdy boots. Don't forget lunch and water. For meeting place and time contact Keith Mertz at 865-982-7368 or e-mail (preferred) *keithmertz@hotmail.com*

Jan 30 - Finley Cane, Bote Mountain and West Prong Trails, Great Smokey Mountains National Park. 6 miles. Moderate. We'll combine the Finley Cane, Bote Mountain & West Prong trails for a moderate point to point hike of 6.0 miles. Hike is fairly level most of the way except for a 3/4 mile climb of about 300 feet on West Prong. Contact Bob Uhren at *snowcap@me.com* or 865-748-9227 for meeting time and place.

HIGHLAND RIM CHAPTER (Coffee and Franklin Counties)

CHAPTER CHAIR: Barbie Taylor 931-454-0599 highlandrim@tennesseetrails.org
VICE CHAIR: Nora Henn 931-668-1870 highlandrimvice@tennesseetrails.org
TREASURER: Marietta Poteet 931-924-7666 highlandrimtreas@tennesseetrails.org
OUTINGS COORDINATOR & NEWSLETTER CONTACT: Jim Poteet 931-924-7666 highlandrimhikes@tennesseetrails.org
(contact Jim & volunteer to lead an outing)

MEETS MONTHLY: 1st Tuesday at 7:00 pm CT at the D. W. Wilson Community Ctr., 501 N. Collins St., Tullahoma.

Chapter News

The South Cumberland State Park is one of our chapter's favorite hiking destinations, with over 80 miles of trails offering both day hiking and back-packing opportunities. The South Cumberland Friends group has recently established a couple of hiker recognition programs: one for folks who hike all the trails in the park (the "I Hiked 'Em All" award) and another for folks who have hiked at least 100 miles on park trails (the "100-Miler" award). The Highland Rim Chapter is working with the Friends to help TTA members and other hikers achieve these awards by coordinating a series of hikes in 2010 that will cover all the trails. This will allow hikers to finish any trails they need to fulfill the requirements for either award, or to even start from scratch and earn both. We encourage other chapters to participate in this endeavor by also scheduling as many South Cumberland hikes this year as possible. Just let us know when and where you would like to hike, and we'll coordinate it with our schedule. On January 30, Nora Henn will lead the inaugural hike in this series (see below).

Jan 1 - Annual New Year's Day Multi-Chapter Hike. See page one of the newsletter for details. Tom Bentley, 931-455-5849 or htbentley@lighttube.net will be coordinating the car-pooling to this hike for our chapter.

Jan 5 - Monthly Program Meeting. Robert Davis, long time TTA member and Appalachian Trail hiker plans to surprise us with an automated slide show based on his life experiences. Not to be missed! Some folks are getting together before the meeting for dinner at 5:00 pm CT at Raphael's Italian Restaurant, 812 N. Jackson, Tullahoma.

Jan 9 - Annual Chilly Chili Hike. 3 miles. Easy to moderate. Jim & Marietta Poteet will host their annual Chilly Chili Hike. We will meet at 10 am CT at the Grundy Forest Picnic Shelter in the South Cumberland State Recreation Area, just off Highway 41 in Tracy City. We are going to hike the Fiery Gizzard Trail to Sycamore Falls and back, a round trip of about 3 miles. Be sure to dress for the weather (which hopefully will be cold, with lots of ice), wear good boots, and bring plenty of water. After the hike, we will re-group at the Poteet's home in Monteagle for our chili lunch. For those of you who are not hiking, we will probably eat between 12:30 and 1:00. Bring along a finger food if you would like. We will have hot and cold drinks available, but feel free to bring your favorite beverage. Please RSVP by Jan. 6, so that we will have an estimate of the number of folks hiking and eating. Call Marietta at 931-924-7666, or email her at nannietta@blomand.net.

Jan 16 - Eat-Hike-Eat, Sewanee Perimeter Trail. 4 miles. Easy. We'll leave the Blue Chair in Sewanee at 9:45 am CT for a short trip on the Perimeter trail. We will be walking through the campus past the Chapel of the Apostles to pick up the Perimeter Trail at Morgan's Steep, then to the Memorial Cross and back via the Mountain Goat Trail. This is an easy trip of about 4 miles. Meet at the Blue Chair before the hike to have a cup of coffee or breakfast. Contact Tom Bentley at htbentley@lighttube.net or at 931-273-6344 for any additional information.

Jan 23 - Wolf Cove, Carter Mountain. 9 miles. Difficult. Joette Carter will lead a joint hike for TTA and the Sierra Club into Wolf Cove on Carter Mountain, south of Winchester in Franklin County. This is a rare opportunity to visit this privately owned scenic and geologically fascinating area, offering waterfalls, caves, and views. The hike is rated difficult because at least half of it is off trail, with significant elevation change, and is 7 to 9 miles in length. Dress for the weather and bring lunch and plenty of water. We'll meet at the trail head at 9:50 am CT. Contact Joette at 256-776-3551 for additional information. Directions to the trail head: From the Winchester courthouse, go west on US64 (business route). The courthouse should be on your left as you leave the square. Continue on US64 (business route) for between 2 and 3 miles, then turn left onto TN16. Cross the four-lane US64 and go about 11 miles up Keith Spring Mountain to a cement block checking station on the left, between mile markers 23 and 24. The actual trail head is nearby.

Jan 30 - Big Creek Gulf and Rim Trails, South Cumberland State Recreation Area. 10.3 miles. Difficult. Nora Henn will lead a loop hike on the Big Creek Gulf and Rim Trails in the Savage Gulf unit of the South Cumberland State Park. She will lead a group from the Stone Door Ranger Station near Beersheba through the Stone Door onto the Big Creek Gulf Trail, with a side trip to Ranger Falls, then out of the gulf at Alum Gap, and returning to the beginning along the Big Creek Rim Trail. We'll also hike the short Laurel Trail either at the beginning or end of the Big Creek Loop. The total mileage is 10.3 miles. Since this is a difficult hike due to length and elevation change, please call Nora at 931-668-1870 to pre-register and to get meeting time and location. (This is the inaugural hike in our SCSRA "I Hiked 'Em All" series.)

Looking Ahead: As part of the Tennessee Invasive Weed Awareness Week, Feb 22-28, we are planning a workday on Feb 27 in the South Cumberland State Recreation Area, working with the Friends of South Cumberland, the Tennessee Native Plant Society, and the Sewanee Herbarium to remove an exotic pest plant from Collins Gulf. Further details about this "Multiflora Rose Raze" project will appear in the next newsletter.

JACKSON CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Candy Higgs 731-695-1960
jackson@tennesseetrails.org
TREASURER: Sara Hakim 206-553-9334
jacksontreas@tennesseetrails.org
SECRETARY: Don Dresser 731-668-4190
jacksonsecy@tennesseetrails.org
OUTINGS COORDINATOR: Glen Rognstad 731-217-5966
jacksonhikes@tennesseetrails.org
(call Glen & volunteer to lead an outing)
MEETS MONTHLY: 2nd Monday at Perkins Restaurant, 999
Vann Drive in Jackson. Socializing & dinner starts at
6:00 pm CT; meeting starts 7:00 pm

Jan 1 - Annual New Year's Day Multi-Chapter Hike. See page one for details. To register, please notify Candy Higgs at 731-695-1960 or *chiggs_3@yahoo.com*

Jan 11 - Chapter Meeting. Meet at Perkin's Restaurant on Vann Drive. We will eat at 6:00 pm CT and the meeting will start at 7:00 pm. We'll be finalizing our hiking calendar for the first half of 2010. Please contact Candy Higgs at *chiggs_3@yahoo.com* or 731-695-1960 for additional information.

Jan 23 - Big Hill Pond, 8 miles. 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 built 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 Hakim at 206-553-9334 or *hakim.sara@gmail.com*

Jan 30 - Multi-Chapter Hike, Mousetail Landing State Park, Parsons, TN. See description under the Nashville Chapter for details. This is a favorite hike of the Jackson Chapter. The trail is rated moderate. Bring lunch/snack and plenty of water. Hiking boots are recommended. For additional information and to register, contact Candy Higgs at (731) 695-1960 or email *chiggs_3@yahoo.com*

Planning Ahead:

Feb 13 - Red Leaves Trail, Natchez Trace State Park. 8 miles. This hike is in the Pin Oak Lake area and is approximately 8 miles. For additional information, contact Dick McKeen at *sprucemountain@eplus.net*

Tip: In the fall, winter and spring, always bring a stocking cap or warm hat. Weather is often unpredictable, and covering your head will keep you more comfortable in a variety of conditions.

Tip: Dressing in layers will allow you to adjust to different levels of exertion. Weather can change unexpectedly in the spring, fall and winter, and proper layering will help keep you comfortable, warm and dry.

MEMPHIS CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Margaret Smith 901-210-6097
memphis@tennesseetrails.org
VICE-CHAIR: Francis Ruffin 901-396-1108
memphisvice@tennesseetrails.org
MEETS MONTHLY: (Sep – May) 3rd Thursday at 7:00 pm CT at
Cordova Library, 8457 Trinity Rd.

Jan 1 - Pioneer Springs Trail, Meeman-Shelby Forest., 6 miles. Easy to Moderate. Meet Freddi at the Visitor Center at 10:00 am CT and bring water and snack or lunch. We will hike the Pioneer Springs 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 at 901-685-9915.

Jan 9 - Herb Parsons Lake. 6 miles. Easy. Herb Parsons Lake is in Fisherville located northeast of Collierville, near Collierville Arlington Rd. and Macon Road. Here's an easy 6-mile hike around the lake and through the woods. Meet at 9:30 am CT at the lake and bring snacks and water. For information call Margaret Smith at 901-210-6097.

Jan 16 - Nesbit Park Stanky Creek and the 2nd Annual "After the Hike Chili Party." This small park has almost ten miles of hiking trails (bikes too.). The trails and terrain are reminiscent of Shelby Forest. Meet at 9:00 am CT for a 4-mile walk. We will walk the NEW 1-mile loop, then connect up to the Out House Loop, and continue on a section of the White Trail. For questions e-mail *charliebright@yahoo.com*. After the hike we will meet at Margaret Smith's house for chili. Chili will be provided. Please bring cornbread or dessert. Hike Location: Stanky Creek is on Yale Road in Bartlett between Bartlett Blvd. and Old Brownsville Road on the north side of Yale.

Jan 21 - Monthly Meeting - Speaker: Scott Easley, T. O. Fuller State Park Ranger. Scott will give a brief history of the park, the trails, the plant and animal life, and work that has been done to improve the trails. He will also give an update on future trail plans. Invite a friend!

Jan 23 - Wolf River Wildlife Area. 5 miles. Easy. Located along the north bank of the Wolf River between Collierville-Arlington and Houston Levee roads. This is an easy 5-mile walk on trails lined with crushed limestone. Meet at 9:00 am CT. at the northwest parking lot off Collierville-Arlington Road. Drive out Poplar to C- A Road, turn north (left) onto C- A Road approx 3 miles, cross river, and look for parking lot on left. For information call Linda Walston at 901-606-9866.

Jan 30 - Woodland Trail, Meeman- Shelby Forest. 4 miles. Easy to Moderate. Meet at the Park Visitor Center at 9:00 am CT for a 3-4 mile hike along the Woodland Trail with a side trip to the Woodland Shelter. The loop trail has a few steep climbs (for Mississippi Delta country, that is) but most of the walk is fairly level. Bring water and snack. New hikers welcome! For information contact *DebbiHicks@memphismediasource.com*

Looking Ahead

February 6 – Discovery Trail, T.O. Fuller State Park. 5-6 miles. Moderate to Strenuous. The Park is located at 1500 Mitchell Road within the southern limits of the City of Memphis, three miles west off of Highway 61 South (Third Street). The hike will cover 5 to 6 miles of moderate to rugged terrain with some wetland. The trail includes part of the Discovery Trail of the Chucalissa Indian Village. The hike will begin at 9:30 am CT. We will break for hot chocolate! Bring water and a snack. Rain will cancel the hike. For further information call hike leader Francis at 901-396-1108. Directions: From East, take I-40 West to I-240 West to I-55 North, Exit 9 (Mallory Ave). Go 200 feet east on Mallory, turn right at the big green Rivergate sign. Follow brown signs into park.

MURFREESBORO CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Millette Jones 615-397-9588
murfreesboro@tennesseetrails.org

OUTINGS COORDINATOR/BOARD REPRESENTATIVE:
Tony Jones 615-397-4463
murfreesborohikes@tennesseetrails.org

(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.tennesseetrails.org/blog/murfreesboro

Jan 1 - Multi Chapter New Years Day hike. See hike description on page one

Jan 9 - Multi-Chapter Annual Chilly Chili Hike. See details under Highland Rim Chapter.

Jan 12 - Monthly Meeting Happy 2010! We will discuss our hikes and adventures of 2009.

Jan 23 - Goat Trail, Monte Sano State Park, Huntsville, AL. 5 miles. Moderate. This hike will include panoramic views of the Tennessee Valley, steep rock outcroppings and an historic fire tower. The hike is mainly on the Goat Trail, but includes the Sinks and South Plateau Loop Trails. The trails are in good condition, but rocky and uneven in places. There will be an initial elevation loss of 300+ feet in about ½ mile and a similar gain in about 1 ½ miles. **Please note that there will be a \$3 (\$1 for 62 yrs and older) per person fee to get into the park.** After our hike we will have lunch at a local restaurant. We will leave from the Murfreesboro Sam's Club overflow parking lot next to Hardees at 8:00 am CT. Distance from Sam's Club 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.

Jan 30 - Multi-Chapter Hike, Mousetail Landing State Park. For details, see listing under the Nashville Chapter. Contact Ron Dunn at trekkingtn@comcast.net for information.

Planning Ahead-

Feb. 6- Rainbow Mountain, Huntsville. 4 miles. With Bob Goodwin

Feb. 9 - Monthly Meeting - Ann Ford & Linda Strickland discuss Machu Picchu, Peru from their 2006 Trip

Attention: Hike Coordinators (aka Hike Leaders)

A TTA **Release of Claims and 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

NASHVILLE CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Libby Francis
nashville@tennesseetrails.org

OUTINGS COORDINATOR: Libby Francis
nashvillehikes@tennesseetrails.org
(email Libby & volunteer to lead an outing)

MEETS MONTHLY: 4th Tuesday at 7:00 pm CT in the REI
Community Room, 261 Franklin Road, Brentwood. For directions, visit: www.tennesseetrails.org/nashville.php

Jan - 1 Multi Chapter New Years Day Hike See details on page one. Meet at the K-Mart on Donelson Pike in Nashville at 8:45 am CT to carpool to Edgar Evins State Park. E-mail Libby Francis at libbyslibbys@comcast.net to register.

Jan 9 - Southwest Loop, Montgomery Bell State Park. 6.9 miles. Moderate. Near Dickson. Pass by pits from an old iron-ore mine, a historic cabin, a local cemetery, Hall Spring, Lake Woodhaven and Creech Hollow Lake. Call Nancy or e-mail to register, 615-319-8811 or njuodenas@hotmail.com

Jan. 30 - Overnight (Eagle Point) Trail at Mousetail Landing State Park, Linden, TN. 8 miles. Moderate. This is a joint hike with the Jackson and Murfreesboro Chapters (and an opportunity to hike with members that we don't get to see very often). Mousetail Landing State Park is located on the east banks of the Tennessee River in the state's picturesque Tennessee River valley. Tradition has it that Mousetail Landing received its name during the Civil War period when one of the area's tanning companies caught fire. The exodus of mice fleeing the burning tannery was so profuse that the area in proximity of the park became known as Mousetail Landing. The Overnight (Eagle Point) Trail is 8 miles and rated moderate for the several steep rugged hills, very uneven terrain and length. At the start and end of our hike we'll pass through a cedar glade, while most of our hike will be under the canopy of a hardwood forest. We will pass by two backcountry shelters. The second one sits on a large limestone bluff overlooking the Tennessee River and Busseltown Wildlife Management Area. Warm clothing, sturdy hiking boots, snacks, plenty of water and lunch are necessary for this all day outing. We'll meet and carpool from the Kroger on Charlotte Pike (one block west of the Charlotte-White Bridge Road intersection) in west Nashville. For additional information and meeting time, call Diane Manas at 615-352-7777.

Other Hiking Opportunities - Submitted by John Kennedy
Grand Canyon hike with the Grand Canyon Field Institute on April 15-20 of 2010. The trip leader is a geologist and a real good guy with whom I have hiked before. We will go down the new Hance trail in the Eastern Canyon to the Colorado and camp for a few nights. We will then hike to Horseshoe Mesa for one night and go out the Grandview Trail-about 3 miles and 2,000 feet the last day. It is a back pack & we carry and cook our own food. The cost is \$635, (\$610 if you are a member of the Grand Canyon Association). I would love to share a rental car. For more info, anyone can contact me or, better yet, the Grand Canyon Field Institute. The web site is www.grandcanyon.org/fieldinstitute. At that site just click on "Classes" and this trip is under the heading of "Natural History". Their toll free number is (866) 471-4435. Contact John Kennedy at 615-646-8889 or e-mail john.kennedy@comcast.net for more information.

NORTHWEST Chapter

(UT at Martin / Weakley County)

CHAPTER CHAIR: Bob Peckham 731-587-6562
northwest@tennesseetrails.org

TREASURER: Sandy Davis 731-587-9134
northwesttreas@tennesseetrails.org

MEETS MONTHLY: 2nd Tuesday at 7:00 pm CT during the academic year (Feb-Apr and Sep-Dec) on the UT Campus in the Paul Meek Library, Rm 120, Media Services B1

Jan 30 - Shawnee National Recreation Area, Southern Illinois. Contact Scott Pun, Hike Leader, spun@utm.edu or 731-881-7316. for more information or to register.

PLATEAU CHAPTER (Crossville)

CHAPTER CHAIR: Cheryl Heckler 931-456-6437
plateau@tennesseetrails.org

SECRETARY/TREASURER: Jim Grove 931-484-7900
plateausecy@tennesseetrails.org

MEETS MONTHLY: 2nd Thursday at 6:30 pm CT
Art Circle Public Library Community Room,
154 East 1st Street, Crossville

BLOG: www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/plateau

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 www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/plateau Rain cancels.

Jan 9 - Middle Creek/Slave Falls in the Big South Fork. 7 miles. Difficult. This hike is about 7 miles long with lots of rock formations, and 60 foot Slave falls. This hike is moderately difficult due to length. Wear sturdy hiking boots and bring water, lunch and snacks. Meet behind the Cracker Barrel in Crossville at 8:00 am CT to carpool. For more information and to register, contact Karla Miller at 931-707-5502 or by e-mail at karla2957@gmail.com.

Jan 14 - Chapter Meeting. Art Circle Public Library Community Room. 6:30 pm CT. Come hear a short First Aid Refresher course presented by Chris South, Assistant Fire Chief. We also need to plan hikes for February and March.

Jan 30 - Lilly Bridge Overlook and Point Trail, Obed Wild and Scenic River, Wartburg, TN. 5 miles. Moderate. We'll hike to the Lilly Bridge Overlook and then go along a ridge to a point above where Clear Creek and the Obed River join. This will give us a total distance of about 5 miles. The trail is easy most of the way, but is rated moderate due to some elevation gain. We will also explore the Lilly Boulders. Meet at Vanity Fair shopping center across from Save-A-Lot at 8:00 am CT. For more information and to register, contact Gary Ruetenik at 931- 337-7921 or by e-mail at gruetenik456@comcast.net.

SODDY-DAISY CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Brandy Selman (423) 544-9608
soddydaisy@tennesseetrails.org

TREASURER: Jan Agee 423) 504-3581
soddydaisytreas@tennesseetrails.org

OUTINGS COORDINATOR: Don Deakins (423) 842-3140
soddydaisyhikes@tennesseetrails.org
(Call Don & volunteer to lead an outing)

MEETS QUARTERLY: 1st Monday of Jan, Apr, Jul & Oct at 6:00 pm in Soddy Daisy's Municipal Building

SCHEDULE: See a comprehensive up-to-date schedule at www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/soddydaisycalendar

BLOG: www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/soddydaisy

Jan 1 Cumberland Trail - Soddy Gorge in Soddy Daisy. 5 miles.- 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 for more info.

Jan 9 – Honey Loop Trail, Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area. 5.7 miles. Strenuous. The hike will be led by Lora Smith. Meet at and depart from Dayton Lowe's (on Hwy 27) at 7:30 am ET to drive to Big South Fork. Hike the approximate 5.6 mile Honey Loop Trail. This trail contains some of the most rugged and beautiful terrain in the park and is rated strenuous. Scenery includes overlooks, waterfalls, rock formations, and views of the Big South Fork River. There will be creek crossings as well as boulder scrambling on this hike...no pets or small children, please. To register, call Brandy Selman at (423) 544-9608 or email at chatttowngrrrl@gmail.com

Jan 16 - Cumberland Trail - Soddy Gorge in Soddy Daisy. 8 miles. - Hike from Hotwater Road to Highway 111. We will take a short-cut down the rock mining road to Deep Creek which will reduce the walking distance to 7 or 8 miles. Be prepared to wade across Deep Creek and Soddy Creek. Staging vehicles along Highway 111 near Jones Gap Road will be required prior to proceeding to Sluder Lane parking area on Hotwater Road. Contact Don Deakins at (423) 842-3140 or via e-mail at don.deakins@gmail.com for more info.

Jan 30 - Clear Creek Loop. 6 miles. Moderate. located at Flipper Bend, this is a relatively level moderate 6 mile hike. Contact Don Deakins at (423) 842-3140 or don.deakins@gmail.com for more info.

SUMNER TRAILS CHAPTER

CHAPTER CO-CHAIRS:

Thomas & Debra Obrock 615-826-7459
sumner@tennesseetrails.org

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

Jan 1 - Beautiful Radnor Lake, Nashville. We'll start on the Lake trail (1 1/2 miles flat) and take on the Ganier Ridge Trail (1 1/4 mile with a steep ascent and gradual descent. One Bonus Trail for the New Year: Those wishing to add one more trail at the end of our hike will have the option of doing the South Ridge Trail, another 1 1/4 mile with a steep ascent and then a gradual descent. We will meet at Kroger's parking lot at Glenbrook in Hendersonville for carpooling. Please bring water and snacks and hiking boots are recommended. Bad weather will cancel. If you have questions call Anne at 615-851-1052 or ttahiker@msn.com

Jan 5 - Monthly Meeting. Luke Obrock will be our guest speaker and will present a program on hiking the Himalayas in India. We hope to see you then.

Jan 9 - Shelby Bottoms Greenway, Nashville, 5 miles Easy. Our hike will take us over the Cumberland River on the pedestrian bridge near Opryland and will end at the trailside kiosk in Shelby Park where we will shuttle drivers back to the trailhead. Meet at First Presbyterian Church, 172 Main St. Hendersonville, TN at 9 am CT or at the Wave Pool Parking lot (Two Rivers Exit off Briley Parkway) at 9:45. To register or for further info call Al Ballenger at 347-2623 or ballallenger@aol.com.

Tennessee State Parks Special Winter Promotion

Hundreds of Cabins and Hotel Room Rates
Reduced -- Now 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 their website at www.tnstateparks.com

UPPER CUMBERLAND CHAPTER (Sparta / Cookeville)

CHAPTER CHAIR:

Louise Miniard 931-528-9115

Jan 9 - North Rim, North Plateau, Mountain Oak, Savage Day Loop, Savage Gulf State Natural Area, Palmer, TN. 9.5 miles. Easy to Moderate. We will hike parts of the North Rim, North Plateau, and Savage Day Loop, along with the Mountain Oak Trail, to make a 9 1/2 mile loop. The hike is rated easy for the terrain and moderate for the distance. The hike features several nice overlooks. Bring water, snacks, and lunch. You can meet us at 8:00 am CT in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville or at the US Bank in Sparta across from McDonald's in Sparta at 8:30. For information and to register contact Margaret Massa at 931-761-2258 or mycorey@blomand.net.

Jan 16 - Natural Bridge, Hazzard Cave, Lake View, Lake, Ladder, and Island Trails, Pickett State Park, Jamestown, TN. 6 miles. Easy. We will hike a collection of short but scenic trails in Pickett State Park. Highlights include two natural bridges and Hazzard Cave. The total distance is about 6 miles and is rated easy. You can meet us at 9:00 am CT in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville. Bring water, snacks, and lunch. For information and to register contact Kathleen Sullivan at 931-520-6294 or ksully@frontiernet.net.

Jan 23 - Bandy Creek to Leatherwood Ford, Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area, Jamestown, TN, 9 miles, Moderate. We will hike a section of the John Litton Loop, the Fall Branch Trail, and a portion of the Grand Gap Loop to Angel Falls Overlook - perhaps the finest overlook in the park. We will then descend to Leatherwood Ford via the John Muir Trail. Other highlights include the gorge of Fall Branch and a large rock house. The hike is about 9 miles and is rated moderate for uneven terrain, narrow ledges and crossings, boulder passages, and ladders. Wear sturdy footwear and bring snacks, lunch, and water. You can meet us at 8:00 am CT in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville. For information and to register contact Cindy Johnson at cjhikes@att.net or at 931-570-0122

Jan 29 - Chapter Meeting. Louise Miniard will show pictures from her trips this year and Kathleen Sullivan and Richard Savage will show pictures from their summer trip. We will meet at Kathleen's home in Cookeville, TN at 6:30 pm CT. Bring finger foods. For information call Kathleen at 931-520-6294 or e-mail her at ksully@frontiernet.net.

January 30 - Maude's Crack, Big South Fork NRR, Jamestown, TN. 8.5 miles. Moderate to Strenuous. Maude's Crack is a shoulder width crack in a rock cliff about 100 feet high. It was used as a shortcut by Minnie Maude Royston to bring supplies from a settlement near the bottom of the cliff to workers at the top. The hike is a loop (plus a side trip to the John Muir Overlook) that descends to the bottom of No Business Gorge, then follows the creek for a mile or so and then ascends to the rim of the gorge. The last 100 feet of the climb is through Maude's Crack. There are relics of an early 20th century settlement along No Business Creek. The side trip to the John Muir Overlook is a steep climb. The hike is approximately 8.5 miles and is rated moderate to strenuous because of the rugged terrain, a stream crossing, and two several hundred foot climbs. Bring snacks, water, lunch, and hiking boots. You can meet us at 7:30 am CT in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville. For information and to register contact Richard Savage at 931-526-2035 or savage_richard@hotmail.com.

OFFICERS:

President		
Don Dresser	731-668-4190	<i>president@tennesseetrails.org</i>
Vice-President		
Millette Jones	615-397-9588	<i>vicepresident@tennesseetrails.org</i>
Treasurer		
Jan Agee	423-504-3581	<i>treasurer@tennesseetrails.org</i>
Secretary		
Carolyn Miller	931-456-4465	<i>secretary@tennesseetrails.org</i>
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Previous Past President		
Anne Wesley	615-851-1052	<i>pastpresident2@tennesseetrails.org</i>
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Middle TN At-Large Director		
Nora Beck	615-517-6486	<i>middleregional@tennesseetrails.org</i>
East TN At-Large Director		
Joe Matlock	865-354-6101	<i>eastregional@tennesseetrails.org</i>
Membership Director		
Ron Dunn	615-867-3301	<i>membership@tennesseetrails.org</i>
Cumberland Trail Conference Representative		
Ray Garrett	865-483-4466	<i>CTC@tennesseetrails.org</i>
TN Rails To Trails Advisory Council Representative		
Bob Richards	615-532-0753	<i>TRAC@tennesseetrails.org</i>
CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVES ON THE BOARD ARE LISTED WITHIN EACH CHAPTER'S HEADER		
Newsletter Editor		
LouAnn Partington	931-393-4835	<i>editor@tennesseetrails.org</i>

Newsletter Deadlines:

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

<u>Due</u>	<u>For Newsletter Dated</u>
Jan 10	Feb 1
Feb 10	Mar 1
Mar 10	Apr 1

All submissions are subject to editing. Articles of general interest and non-hiking events will be included as space permits.

Please send all submissions to:
editor@tennesseetrails.org

TTA CALENDAR

The following dates in 2010 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 or leading volunteers from your chapter/region for an event listed.
- can be sure to prevent scheduling conflicts with an activity you wish to plan.

FIRST QUARTER

Feb 6	Board of Directors Quarterly Meeting (Location TBA)
Feb 21-27	CTC's Spring BreakAway, Week 1 in North Chickamauga Gorge (Soddy-Daisy)
Feb 28-Mar 6	CTC's Spring BreakAway, Week 2 in North Chickamauga Gorge (Soddy-Daisy)
Mar 7-13	CTC's Spring BreakAway, Week 3 in North Chickamauga Gorge (Soddy-Daisy)
Mar 14-20	CTC's Spring BreakAway, Week 4 in North Chickamauga Gorge (Soddy-Daisy)
Mar 21-27	CTC's Spring BreakAway, Week 5 in North Chickamauga Gorge (Soddy-Daisy)
Mar 27	Earth Hour - 8:30 pm local time

SECOND QUARTER

Apr (tbd)	TDEC's Natural Areas Week (Statewide)
Apr (tbd)	Trail Building on the Cumberland Trail
Apr 22	Earth Day 40 th Anniversary
May (tbd)	Trail Building on the Cumberland Trail
May 1	Board of Directors Quarterly Meeting (Location TBA)
May 20-23	Southeastern Foot Trails Coalition Conference (DuBose Conference Center, Monteagle, TN)
Jun (tbd)	Trail Building on the Cumberland Trail
Jun 5	National Trails Day (Statewide)

THIRD QUARTER

Aug 7	Board of Directors' Quarterly Meeting (Location TBA)
Sep (tbd)	Bike Ride Across Tennessee (B.R.A.T.) Proceeds Benefit the Cumberland Trail
Sep 25	National Public Lands Day (Statewide)

FOURTH QUARTER

DATE (TBD)	Annual Meeting (Location TBA) hosted by Jackson & Memphis Chapters
Nov 14-17	American Trails National Symposium (Chattanooga, TN)

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

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NOTICE: YOUR MAILING LABEL CONTAINS YOUR MEMBERSHIP EXPIRATION DATE.
To avoid any interruption with delivering your newsletter, we ask that you renew at least one month before the date shown. Use the Membership Form provided below.
PLEASE RENEW, STAY INFORMED, WE NEED YOU!!!

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

- A NEW MEMBER**
 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 membership@tennesseetrails.org

Jan 10

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 | ___ Dyer County | ___ Murfreesboro | ___ Sumner Trails |
| ___ Clarksville | ___ East TN(Oak Ridge/Knoxville) | ___ Nashville | ___ Upper Cumberland |
| ___ Columbia/Franklin | ___ Highland Rim(Coffee & Franklin Counties) | ___ Northwest(UT at Martin/Weakley) | (Sparta/Cookeville) |
| ___ Cove Lake | ___ Jackson | ___ Plateau(Crossville) | |
| ___ Cumberland Gap | ___ Memphis | ___ Soddy Daisy | ___ 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: CTC. and TRAC. (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, our annual meeting is held in the fall at one of Tennessee's many parks for a weekend of hiking, camaraderie, and programs, in addition to learning about the progress and plans of the organization.

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