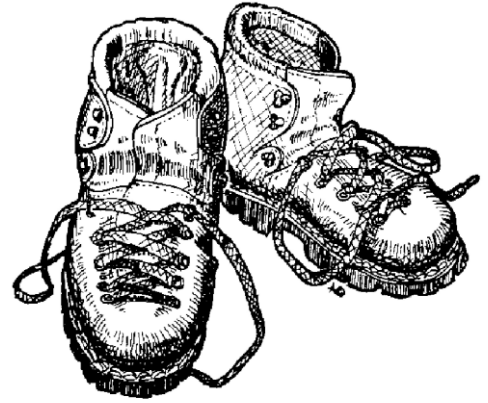


TENNESSEE TRAILS

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



ANNUAL NEW YEAR'S DAY HIKE

The Annual Multi-Chapter New Year's Day Hike will be at Edgar Evins State Park on January 1, 2012.

We will hike the Jack Clayborn Millennium Trail (3.5 miles) in the morning and the Highland Rim Nature Trail (2.0 miles) in the afternoon. The hike is in conjunction with the Tennessee State Parks 75th Anniversary. The Parks Department wants to schedule hikes in all of our 53 State Parks on New Year's Day. If you can't join our hike, contact your local park to see what they have scheduled.

The traditional New Year's Feast will be a major part of the day. Bring your favorite New Years culinary contribution to share. We'll have electrical outlets to warm/heat your food. The park is also furnishing firewood so we can have a roaring, crackling fire to warm ourselves.

We will meet at Picnic Shelter #1, located at the marina parking lot, at 10:00 am to drop off food and to carpool to the trail head. After the hike we'll return to the shelter for our meal. We'll plan to eat somewhere around 1:00 pm. We will then proceed to the Visitors Center and hike the nature trail.

This is a multi-chapter event and we encourage participation by all our chapters. The old adage..."What you do on New Year's Day, you will do all year" applies. Hopefully we will all hike all year long! For further information, directions to the park and questions or comments, contact Fount Bertram at 615-765-5357 or fwbertram@dtccom.net.



BRAIN TEASER

What do these items have in common????

- 2 DVDs
- 32 books
- Saucony running shoes
- Cat food
- Hydration tablets
- A gift card for a high school graduate
- Crossword puzzles
- Samsonite luggage
- Hiking pants
- 4 CDs
- Lens filters and cleaner
- Computer paper
- Herbal water
- Camera batteries
- Tea bags
- Flea medicine
- Gaiters
- Energy bars
- Note cards

The answer is on page 7.



Office Location 409 Thurman Avenue, Ste 102
 Crossville, TN 38555
 Office Hours..... 8am-2pm CT
 Phone: 931-456-6259
 Fax: 931-456-4934
 Email: cumberlandtrail@rocketmail.com
 Website: www.cumberlandtrail.org

Jan 7-14 - Winter BreakAway. Trail maintenance on the Cumberland Trail State Scenic Trail in Hamilton County. Base camp will be at the Lutheran Camp near Soddy-Daisy, TN. Please contact the CTC to register for this event and further details, cumberlandtrail@rocketmail.com, tony.hook@frontiernet.net, or 931-456-6259. For non-student volunteers requiring lodging/meals and who are not TTA or CTC members a \$25/night fee is charged.

Feb 26-Mar 31 - CTC's BreakAway Hamilton/Rhea Counties. Trail construction and maintenance on various sections of the Cumberland Trail State Scenic Trail. Volunteers needed to help with trail construction/maintenance, and help in the kitchen. Base camp will be at the Dogwood Lodge near Soddy-Daisy, Tennessee. For non-student volunteers requiring lodging/meals and who are not TTA or CTC members a \$25/night fee is charged. Please contact the CTC to register for this event and further details, cumberlandtrail@rocketmail.com, tony.hook@frontiernet.net, or 931-456-6259.

GIVE THE GIFT OF TTA

The gift-giving holidays are upon us! Looking for a meaningful gift for a friend or relative? Give them the Great Smoky Mountains, the sandstone arches of the Big South Fork, the Native American archeology at Pinson Mounds, the spring wildflowers of Middle Tennessee, the overlooks on the Cumberland Plateau, the civil war history of Shiloh - not to mention new friends, physical fitness benefits and support for trail-building and trail advocacy.

All this and more are included in a **Tennessee Trails Association Gift Membership.** Gift memberships include, at no additional cost, all the benefits of a TTA membership, a TTA window decal and a certificate to let them know who has given them a year's worth of outdoor adventures. Contact Ron Dunn (TTA Membership Director) at membership@tennesseetrails.org to arrange a gift membership for 2012.



CLARKSVILLE CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Paul Schwab 931-645-9068
clarksville@tennesseetrails.org
CHAPTER CO-CHAIR: J.R. Tate 931-920-2692
clarksville@tennesseetrails.org
TREASURER: Sandy Janus 931-551-8523
clarksvilletreas@tennesseetrails.org
SECRETARY: Chris Everett 931-494-8038
clarksvillesecy@tennesseetrails.org
OUTINGS COORDINATOR: Sandy Evans 931-217-4339
clarksvillehikes@tennesseetrails.org

(call Sandy & 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>

Dec 3 - Urban hike, Nashville. 4 miles. Easy. Have lunch at a Germantown restaurant. John Sneed 931-920-3828. Meet 8:00 am CT, I 24 Exit 11 commuter parking lot.

Dec 10 - Christmas Party, Pot Luck. Jo and Charlie Putnam 931-362-3669. Meet 6:00 pm, 3525 Shadowbend Lane, Clarksville, TN.

Dec 17 - Oak Grove Kentucky Memorial Park and Veterans' Cemetery. 3 miles. Easy. Chris Evert 931-494-8038. Meet 8:30 am CT, I 24 Exit 11 commuter parking lot.

Dec 20 - There will be no monthly meeting.

Dec 31 - New Years Eve hike. downtown Clarksville. Moderate. Paul Schwab 931-645-9068. Meet 9:00 pm CT, Cumberland River Pavilion, McGregor Park, Riverside Drive. After the hike bring a party snack and come to Jack and Suva Bastin's house for a New Years Eve Party.

COLUMBIA/FRANKLIN CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Marvin Caine 931-486-1632
columbia@tennesseetrails.org

MEETS MONTHLY: 1st Tuesday

Dec 3 – Fiery Gizzard Trail, Tracy City, TN. 9 miles.

Strenuous. This beautiful hike will go down the Fiery Gizzard Creek Trail and back via the Doghole Trail. The trail name is said to have come from a story about Davy Crockett burning his tongue on a hot turkey gizzard while camping in the area. Believe it or not, this is a very good hike! Sturdy hiking boots on this trail are a must. Bring snacks, lunch and water. We will meet behind the McDonald's in north Spring Hill (4908 Main Street, Spring Hill), ready to leave by 7:00 am CT. For more information call Rick Pinkleton at 931-619-5012 or email Marvin Caine at mlcaine@aol.com.

Dec 6 - Chapter Meeting and Potluck Dinner at the home of Suzanne and Mike Morrison, 2738 Wales Court, Crowne Point Subdivision, Spring Hill. 6 pm.

We will be discussing hikes for the first half of 2012, planning for two hikes each month. Everyone should bring ideas for hikes they would like to go on. Also, please bring any suggestions you may have for programs at our monthly meetings in 2012. Our hosts will provide paper goods, tableware and roast beef for a main dish. If you plan to go, please email the Morrisons at suzannemorrison@msn.com or call 615-599-0395 to let them know what you will be bringing so we can have a variety. Directions will be provided to our Chapter membership a few days prior to the meeting, or you may contact the Morrisons directly.

Dec 17 – Lake Trail, Standing Stone State Park, Hilham, TN. 4.8 miles. Moderately Strenuous.

This hike was described by Fran Wallas in her book *Great Hikes in Tennessee State Parks*. She rated it as moderately strenuous because of the steep changes in elevation. Depending on the amount of rain, we may encounter some beautiful waterfalls. We should also have some scenic views since the leaves will be off the trees. Wear sturdy boots and bring water, snacks and lunch. We will likely stop and eat on the way home. We will meet behind McDonald's in north Spring Hill (4908 Main Street (Hwy 31) Spring Hill) and leave by 8:00 am CT. Register with Marvin Caine at mlcaine@aol.com or 931-486-1632.

COVE LAKE HIKING CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: John Redmon 423-869-8286
covelake@tennesseetrails.org

SECRETARY/BOARD REPRESENTATIVE:
Kathy Sarvis 865-494-0374
covelakesecy@tennesseetrails.org

MEETS MONTHLY: 1st Tuesday at 7:00 pm ET at the recreation center, 300 W. Beech St., La Follette.

Dec 10 – Cumberland Gap. 8 miles. Three miles of this hike will apply to the Cumberland Badge. We will meet to car pool at Food Lion in La Follette (up the valley on highway 63) at 9:15 am ET. We will meet up with John Redmon, our hike leader at 10 am at the Cumberland Gap National Historical Park at the Iron Furnace. For those who want to drive directly to the gap - take highway 63 to the light in Harrogate, turn left onto US 25E, continue north and before the tunnel make a right onto US 58. Get in the left lane and about 1/4 mile turn left to Cumberland Gap. Follow this road down the hill to Pennlyn Ave. make right onto Pennlyn and go to the end – the parking lot is on the right. For more information call John Redmon at 423-869-8286.

DYER COUNTY CHAPTER

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

SECRETARY/TREASURER: Frank Salowitz
dycountysecy@tennesseetrails.org

OUTINGS COORDINATOR/BOARD REP:
Jim Stark 731-589-1776
dycountyhhikes@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

No hike information available at press time.

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

Dec 10 - Annual Christmas Dinner, Puelo's (the Cedar Bluff location). Come about 6 pm ET and enjoy good food and meet new/old hiking friends. Be sure to put your favorite hiking trail in the "pot" and if it's drawn out; your dinner is free. We need to get a head count, so please reply by Dec 9 to rosemary_1@hotmail.com or 865-548-6171.

HIGHLAND RIM CHAPTER

(Coffee and Franklin Counties)

CHAPTER CHAIR: Barbie Moré 931-455-3311
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:
Joan Hartvigsen 931-962-0811
highlandrimhikes@tennesseetrails.org
(contact Joan & volunteer to lead an outing)

MEETS MONTHLY: 1st Tuesday

Dec 3 – Christmas Potluck Dinner, 6 pm. Our annual Christmas party replaces the monthly meeting for December. Our hosts are Marcos and Barbie More'. Bring canned food for donation to the Good Samaritan. Meat and rolls are supplied. Bring your favorite side dish or dessert. For directions and to RSVP your attendance email Barbie at *teachcdc@gmail.com*.

Dec 3 – Fall Creek Falls State Park. Fall Creek Falls Trail, Gorge Overlook and Woodland Trails and the Scenic Motor Trail. Pikeville, TN. 4 miles. Moderate. On the Fall Creek Falls Trail we will wind down into Fall Creek Gorge and stand at the base of the 256 foot high Fall Creek Falls, the tallest waterfall in the eastern United States. Back on top we will have a bird's eye view of the tall waterfall. From the Falls overlook we'll pick up the Gorge Overlook and Woodland Trails Loop. This route takes us around a bluff top above Cane Creek Gorge with grand views, over Cane Creek Cascade on a suspension bridge and then onto the Nature Center before looping back to the Fall Creek Falls overlook parking area. This hike is easy except for the steep but thrilling hike down to the base of the falls. (Steps and handrails are provided.) We will then enjoy the numerous overlooks of the Scenic Motor Trail and visit Piney Falls and the nearby suspension bridge. Bring water and lunch. Contact Joan Hartvigsen at 931-962-0811 or 931-636-2914 for more information and to register.

Dec 10 – North Rim, Mountain Oak, and North Plateau Trails. Savage Gulf State Natural Area, Palmer, TN. 10 miles. Moderate. This is a joint hike with the Murfreesboro Chapter. The North Rim Trail and the North Plateau Trail combine to provide a walk with little elevation change that loops by numerous overlooks of Savage Gulf. The North Rim Trail has more overlooks than any other trail on the South Cumberland Plateau. From these viewpoints you will see the confluence of tributary gorges with Savage Gulf, old growth forests in the bottom of the gorge, the scars of avalanches, and the junction of the three gulfs that make up the state natural area. Bring water, snacks, and lunch. Contact Joan at 931-962-0811 or 931-636-2914 for more information and to register.

Dec 17 – Eat-Hike-Eat, Sewanee Domain. Join Tom Bentley at the Blue Chair Restaurant at 9:00 am for breakfast. We will depart from Blue Chair Restaurant at 9:45 to begin our hike. The hike, to be determined, is typically 3 to 5 miles and rated easy to moderate. After the hike we will lunch at a local restaurant. Contact Tom Bentley at 931-273-6344.

JACKSON CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Glen Rognstad 731-217-5966
jackson@tennesseetrails.org

TREASURER: Anne Goodson 664-1556
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 Panera Bread, 1145 Vann Drive (The Columns), Jackson. Socializing & dinner starts at 6:00 pm CT; meeting starts 7:00 pm

Dec 3 - Beaman Park. For information and registration, contact Anne Goodson at 731-664-1665 or *annegoodson@eplus.net*.

Dec 12 - Chapter Meeting. For additional information, contact Glen Rognstad at 731-217-5966 or *glenrognstad@gmail.com*.

Dec 17 - Mousetail Landing State Park. For information and registration, contact Terry McCoy at 731-535-0625 or *cityclar@aeneas.com*.

Planning Ahead:

Jan 1 - New Years Day Hike. For additional information, contact Glen Rognstad at 731-217-5966 or *glenrognstad@gmail.com*.

See TTA calendar website as additional hikes may be added.

MEMPHIS CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Charlie Bright 901-829-4434
memphis@tennesseetrails.org

VICE-CHAIR: Francis Ruffin 662-781-5034
memphisvice@tennesseetrails.org

MEETS MONTHLY: (Sep – May) 2nd Thursday

Dec 3 - Meeman-Shelby Forest Woodland Trail. Meet at the Park's Visitor Center at 9:00 am. Margaret will lead the 3-4 mile hike along the Woodland Trail with a side trip to the Woodland Shelter then hike back to the visitor center. 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 as we will not be stopping for lunch. Those who love a good cheeseburger can meet at the Shelby Forest Country Store after the hike. Invite a friend! For information contact Margaret at *spikie542003@yahoo.com*.

Dec 8 - Chapter Christmas Party and Potluck. Margaret Smith will be hosting our annual party at 7421 Wendy Street in Bartlett. Bring your favorite festive dishes to share with the group. Socializing begins around 6:30 with dinner at 7:00 pm. We'll supply plates, glasses, eating utensils, soft drinks, and ice or you may bring a favorite beverage. The 2012 hike schedule will be distributed at the party. RSVP *spikie542003@yahoo.com*.

Planning Ahead:

Jan 2 - New Year's Hike at T.O. Fuller State Park, 1500 Mitchell Road. Meet Francis at the visitor center at 10:00 am for a 4-mile hike over moderate to rugged terrain with some wetland. The trail includes part of the Discovery Trail of the Chucalissa Indian Village. Bring water and snack. After the hike, we will meet at Interstate BBQ for lunch. Rain will cancel the hike. For information and questions, call Francis at 662-781-5034. Directions: Go I-240 West to I-55 North, Exit 7 South to Highway 61(3rd Street) drive south approx 1 mile and turn right onto Mitchell Road, continue 3 miles west to the T.O. Fuller Park sign and turn right at the Visitor Office.

MURFREESBORO CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Tony Jones 615-397-4463 murfreesboro@tennesseetrails.org

OUTINGS COORDINATOR: Ron Dunn 615-867-3301 murfreesborohikes@tennesseetrails.org
(Call Ron & 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

Dec 3 - Oaklands Mansion Candlelight (Walking) Tour of Homes. We'll meet at 4 pm in front of the annex building next to the mansion, where we'll buy our tickets (\$10 in past years), tour the mansion decorated as it would have been at the time of the Civil War, then move our cars nearer the beginning of the tour somewhere in the historic district. We will visit inside 10 to 12 private homes and churches decorated for Christmas. (These vary each year.) Dress warmly in layers but preferably without bulky things to carry. Bring money for tickets and to eat out as a group afterwards if you wish. If we have over six going we will consider breaking down into smaller groups that evening for the tour. For information and to sign up contact Anna Bertram, abertram@dtccom.net or 615-765-5357.

Dec 3 -4 – Backpack. 17.6 miles. Moderate. We will be hiking in from the Savage Gulf Ranger station. We will hike the day loop to the North Rim trail to Hobb's Cabin on Saturday. Sunday we will hike the North Plateau Trail back to the day loop and back to the Ranger station. You will see waterfalls, and good views of the Gulf. The trail is relatively flat. We will be hiking 8.2 Miles Saturday and 9.4 Miles Sunday for a total of 17.6 Miles. To register or for more information contact Craig McBride at rutherfordvfd@gmail.com.

Dec 10 - North Rim, Mountain Oak, and North Plateau Trails. Savage Gulf State Natural Area. 10 miles. Moderate. This is a joint hike with the Highland Rim Chapter led by Joan Hartvigsen. The North Rim Trail and the North Plateau Trail combine to provide a walk with little elevation change that loops by numerous overlooks of Savage Gulf. The North Rim Trail has more overlooks than any other trail on the South Cumberland. From these viewpoints, you will see the confluence of tributary gorges with Savage Gulf, old-growth forests in the bottom of the gorge, the scars of avalanches, and the junction of the three gulfs that make up the state natural area. Wear sturdy boots, bring snacks, lunch and water. For more information about where to meet and to sign up, contact Sara Pollard at 615-714-3610 or spollard50@gmail.com.

Dec 13 - Christmas Dinner, 6 pm, Barfield Crescent Park Wilderness Station. Join us for our annual Christmas dinner in lieu of our monthly business meeting. Please bring a covered dish or dessert to share. We will also be doing the "Dirty Santa" again this year. Participation is OPTIONAL and if you want to play, please bring a non-gender specific gift in the \$15.00 or less range to exchange. Please contact Chapter Chair, Tony Jones with a number of guests that you plan to bring so that we can prepare. Tony's info: tonjon1968@gmail.com or 615-397-4463.

Dec 17 - Radnor Lake Ganier Ridge, 2 or 4.5 miles. This will be a split hike. Those that want a short, easy hike can do the lake trail of 2 miles. Those that want a more challenging hike can do the lake trail with the Ganier Ridge trail for about 4.5 total miles. For information or to register contact Martin McCullough at 615-896-1043 or mam1932@bellsouth.net.

PLANNING AHEAD:

Jan 1 - New Years Day Hike. Edgar Evins State Park. See article on page 1 for details.

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

CHAPTER NEWS: December 2011 will mark the TENTH year 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-draising event for the chapter, which benefits the Cumberland Trail. This year we will be wrapping gifts on Sat, Dec 17 from 10:00 am until 6:00 pm. As in years' past, chapter members are invited to help by generously volunteering time to wrap REI customers' gifts while at the same time talking to prospective members about TTA (the TTA and CTC Display Units 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 \$\$\$donation\$\$\$. Donations received will be allocated to the Cumberland Trail Conference's 2012 Alternative Spring BreakAway program to help offset some of the expenses incurred to feed the students and volunteers that come to TN to build the Cumberland Trail during the month of March 2012 (note: each week there are about 75 college students and 30 CTC/TTA volunteers working on the trail; and, it takes a lot of food to fill the tummies of these hungry trail builders). So, don't hesitate, call today – before they are gone - to volunteer for a 2-hour "wrap" ("wrap" times are 10-12 noon; 12noon-2:00; 2-4:00; 4-6:00). This **IS** truly an unusual and fun way to FUN-draise while talking to prospective members about TTA, trails, hiking, trail building, parks, wildflowers, etc. No experience required, and on-site training and materials provided. To volunteer, call Diane Manas at 615-352-7777.

Dec 4 - Shelby Bottoms Greenway, Off Road. Nashville. We will hike the lightly used Cornelia Fort non-paved trail with views of the Cornelia Fort airport. We will meet at 12:30 pm CT at the Wave Pool parking lot on Two Rivers Parkway in Donelson. We will cross the awesome pedestrian bridge over the Cumberland and begin our journey. We will return via the paved trail with views of the Cumberland River. If there is time, we will visit the Shelby Bottoms Nature Center. Bad weather will cancel this hike. Total distance—about 5 miles. Tennis shoes are fine, but bring water. For more info and to register, contact Libby Francis at libbyslibbys@comcast.net, or 615-889-5718.

Dec 9 - Annual holiday party! 6 pm. Our host is Alice Cannon, and the party will happen at the community room of her condo association at River Plantation in Bellevue. Bring a holiday dish, bring a friend, and enjoy the camaraderie. The address is, 800 General George Patton Rd. **Please note: The party is the program this month.** We will not meet on the 4th Tuesday of Dec. but will resume our program meeting schedule on Jan. 24.

Dec 10 - Mousetail Landing State Park, Linden TN. 8 miles. Moderate. This will be a joint hike with the Sumner Trails Chapter. Of course anyone from any other chapter is always welcome. We will hike the Backpacker's Loop as a day hike. As noted in Fran Wallas' Great Hikes, "We will enjoy scenic views of the creeks, TN River and an occasional white tail of a fleeing deer. There will be some steep ups and downs through the woods and broad areas of flat open fields." We will see some big cedar trees which will remind you of a Middle Tennessee cedar glade but wait..... we are in West Tennessee! There will be an option to spend the night in shelter #2 which offers scenic bluff views of the TN River—a great place to watch the sunset. If you choose to spend the night we will leave our packs in the cars for the day hike and retrieve them afterwards. The shelter is only 2 miles from the parking area. This would be a great overnight for beginning backpackers. For more information and to register (registration is necessary if you are spending the night.), call Nancy Juodenas at 615-319-8811 or e-mail njuodenas@yahoo.com.

Dec17 - Gift Wrapping at REI; 10:00a 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 4.5 mile hike on the Mossy Ridge Trail 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, water and the 10 Essentials. We will meet in the "Deep Well" area of the park. For additional information, meeting time and/or to register, call Diane Manas at 615-352-7777. **DIRECTIONS:** to get to Deep Well from Nashville: head west on Hwy 70 (aka West End Ave). In Belle Meade (after you have crossed over Woodmont Blvd, passed Publix then Kroger on the right, and the Belle Meade Mansion on the left), Hwy 70 splits. Take the left side, which puts you on Hwy 100. Go approx 1.8 miles and turn left into the grey stone entrance, drive to the end/t-intersection (approx 1 mile) – you're in Deep Well. If on Hwy 100 and you reach Old Hickory Blvd, you've gone too far.

NORTHWEST Chapter

(UT at Martin / Weakley County)

CHAPTER CHAIR: Scott M. Pun 731-881-7316
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

Hike information unavailable at press time.

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
BLOG: *www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/plateau*

There is a leaderless hike (typically 5 - 7 miles) every Wednesday morning. For additional information, contact Bill Harris at 931-484-9152. Rain cancels.

Dec 3 - Garrison Christmas weekend at Fort Loudoun State Historic Area, Vonore. 5 miles. For details visit *Fort Loudoun.com*. The hike will start at 9 am CT at Fort Loudoun in the parking lot of the visitor center. Other historical points nearby are Sequoyah's Birthplace Museum and the Tellico Blockhouse. For a group of 10 or more the SBM admission is \$1.50 and admission to the TB is free. Either or both could be added if there is interest, time and the weather permits. If there is enough interest we could stop at a restaurant after the hike. Promptly at 8 am CT the carpool will depart from the back parking lot of Cracker Barrel in Crossville. We'll meet around 7 am for an informal social breakfast at Cracker Barrel. For further details and to register contact Levonn at *lhubbard@gmail.com* or at 931-707-1020.

Dec 8 - Chapter Christmas Party. 4:30 pm to 7:30 pm. First National Bank of Tennessee, corner of Hwy 127 North & Industrial Blvd, Crossville. 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. For further information, contact Cheryl Heckler at *thehecklers@charter.net* or 931-456-6437.

Dec 10 - Cumberland Mountain Segment of the Cumberland Trail, Cumberland Gap, TN. Joint hike with the Cove Lake Hiking Club Chapter. The hike begins at the historic Iron Furnace Works in the quaint town of Cumberland Gap. The trail ascends steeply 600 feet to the intersection with the Tri-State Marker Trail (TSM). The TSM pavilion marks the spot where Tennessee, Kentucky, and Virginia meet. The CT begins at the TSM. From the TSM, the trail passes through a Civil War earthworks site and rises and falls with the curves of the ridgeline for two miles out to the historical boundary of the Cumberland Gap National Park. Scenic views abound, eastward into Tennessee and Virginia, and westward into Tennessee and Kentucky. Total distance: 8 miles out and back. The hike is rated moderately difficult due to the elevation change and the distance. Meet at Vanity Fair parking lot at 7:00 am CT. For more information and to register, contact Cheryl Heckler at *thehecklers@charter.net* or 931-456-6437 for additional information.

SODDY-DAISY CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: George Bonneau 423-842-3619
soddydaisy@tennesseetrails.org

TREASURER: Robertson (Bob) McGavock 423-667-2960
soddydaisytreas@tennesseetrails.org

MEETS EVERY OTHER MONTH: 1st Tuesday in Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, Nov at 6:00 pm ET at Burk's United Methodist Church, 6433 Hixson Pike, Hixson
Additional information may be seen at our web site:
http://www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/soddydaisy

Dec 3 - Retro Hughes Road to Lower Leggett Road. Approximately 7.5 miles.

Dec 7 - Enterprise South. Approximately 4 miles.

Dec 10 - Hotwater Road to Heiss Mountain trailhead. Approximately 10 miles.

Dec 14 - Signal Mountain High School to Mushroom Rock and back. Approximately 3 miles.

Dec 17 - Chickamauga Battlefield. Approximately 8-9 miles.

Dec 21 - Audubon Trail. Approximately 3.5 miles.

Dec 28 - Heiss Mountain. Approximately 3 miles.

Dec 31 - Sluder Road to Mowbray Pike. Approximately 5 miles.

For information on hikes, contact George Bonneau (423-842-3619) or *george.r.bonneau@gmail.com*.

All hikes start at 9 am ET.

ANSWER TO BRAIN TEASER:

During 2011, one person bought these items from *Amazon.com*, and TTA received a portion of each purchase to help fund trail projects. How much trail could we build and maintain if everyone shopped at Amazon??? Anything you buy on or through the Amazon website will give TTA a charitable dividend.

For TTA to receive a dividend, follow these 2 easy steps:

- You must connect to the Amazon website from the TTA homepage (Go to *tennesseetrails.org* and click on the "Amazon" button on the upper right corner.)
- Shop til your fingers drop, but **do not** use their one-click check-out option.

Now get out and enjoy the trail you helped build! Who says shopping isn't fun?????

SUMNER TRAILS CHAPTER

CHAPTER CO-CHAIRS:

David & Shirley Primeau 615-424-2948
sumner@tennesseetrails.org

MEETS MONTHLY: 1st Tuesday at 7:00 pm CT,
Hendersonville First United Methodist Church, 217
E. Main St. Hendersonville, TN

Dec 3 - Natchez Trace - Burns Branch to Garrison Creek Loop. 6.3 miles. Moderate. We will drive down to Leiper's Fork, TN and begin our trek at the Burns Branch parking area. Part of our hike will be on the 200-year-old trail developed in response to the Treaty with the Chickasaw. Our hike will include wooded coves, open meadows, ridge lines, and a creek crossing. Bring snacks, water (there will be a chance to refill water & use restrooms halfway), bug spray, extra clothes for the ride home (in case you fall in!), and comfortable shoes. Water level is generally about shin-deep. We will stop for lunch on the way home. There will be some steep ravines on the sides of the trail, so we are limiting this hike to adults, youth, and children over the age of ten. Meet at Hendersonville First United Methodist Church to carpool at 8:00 am. Contact Bethany at bethanyhader@gmail.com to register or for more information.

Dec 6 – Chapter Holiday Party. Details had not been completed prior to the newsletter deadline, but we will have sent out all the information via the chapter list serve and to chapter members. If you are not signed up for the chapter list serve, please contact David or Shirley Primeau at davidprimeau@bellsouth.net for info. Hope to see you all there!!!

Dec 10 - Mousetail Landing State Park, Linden TN. Joint hike with the Nashville chapter. We'll start with an 8 mile moderate day hike, and then the grand finale: a 2-mile backpack with an overnight in a reserved shelter. This time of year Mousetail is a fabulous destination to view waterfowl from the bluffs above the Tennessee River. Take a look at the Nashville chapter write-up for more information. Please RSVP to Anne at tahiker@att.net or 615-851-1052 to let me know if you want to do the day hike and/or the overnight.

Dec 17 - Richland Creek Greenway, Nashville. 3 mile loop. Easy. This is a paved, mostly flat greenway, looping around the golf course, featuring pretty bridges over the creek and an historic train wreck site. Meet at First Presbyterian Church in Hendersonville at 9 am CT or at the north parking lot at McCabe golf course at 9:45 am CT. After the hike, we'll have lunch at McCabe's Pub. For further info contact Loopy Al at ballallenger@aol.com or 615-347-2623.

Dec 30 - Hidden Lake Trail, Kingston Springs. 2.5 miles. Moderate. Hike off all your holiday food with a walk through the woods. We will take a leisurely stroll through the meadows in Harpeth River State Park and then ascend up to the bluffs surrounding Hidden Lake. We will walk past the old dance floor and several building remains from a 1940 resort. This hike is rated moderate for the climbs up and down from the bluffs. The cliffs are pretty steep, so we request that any children that come along be over the age of 12. We will meet at the K-Mart on Long Hollow Pike in Goodlettsville at 12:30 pm CT to carpool. Contact Bethany at bethanyhader@gmail.com to register or for more information.

UPPER CUMBERLAND CHAPTER

(Sparta / Cookeville)

CHAPTER CHAIR: Louise Miniard 931-528-9115
uppercumberland@tennesseetrails.org

HIKE COORDINATOR: Cindy Johnson 931-570-0122
uppercumberlandhikes@tennesseetrails.org

Dec 3 - North Rim, North Plateau, Mountain Oak, and Savage Day Loop Trails, Savage Gulf State Natural Area, Palmer, TN. We will hike parts of the North Rim, North Plateau, and Savage Day Loop along with the Mountain Oak Trail to make a 9 ½ 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 at 8:30. For information and to register contact Margaret Massa at 931-761-2258 or mycorey@blomand.net.

Dec 10 - North Chickamauga Pocket Wilderness, Soddy-Daisy, TN. 7 miles. Moderate to Strenuous. Hike features views of Chickamauga Gulch, waterfalls, and old coal mining structures. We eat lunch at the cable crossing. Optional hike an additional mile making descent to Stevenson Branch (strenuous). Bring snacks, water, and lunch. Meet us at 7:30 am CT in Penney's parking lot in Cookeville or at US Bank across from McDonald's in Sparta at 8:00. For info and to register contact Pete Broehl at 931-738-3551 or pabroehl@blomand.net.

Dec 17 - Cardwell Mountain, McMinnville, TN. 5 miles. Moderate. Neat rock outcroppings near top of mountain. Bring light lunch for the hike because Nora Hunn is hosting a meal at her house after the hike. Meet at Cumberland Caverns lower parking lot at 10:00 am. PLEASE call Nora at 931-808-2560 by Wed. Dec 14 so she can have a head count for the meal - there must be enough food to fill up Gary!

Dec 31 - Virgin Falls Pocket Wilderness. 8 miles. Moderate to Strenuous. This hike is a classic middle Tennessee hike and one of the most interesting hikes featuring unique waterfalls, overlooks and caves. Bring snacks, water, and lunch and wear sturdy footwear. We will meet in Sparta at the US Bank across from McDonald's at 8:00 am CT. For information and to register contact Cindy Johnson at 931-570-0122, or by email at cjhikes@comcast.net.

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Bob Richards 615-532-0753
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CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVES ON THE BOARD
ARE LISTED WITHIN EACH CHAPTER'S HEADER

Newsletter Editor

LouAnn Partington 931-393-4835
editor@tennesseetrails.org

TTA CALENDAR

The following dates in 2011 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.

NO STATEWIDE ACTIVITIES PLANNED.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND EDITORIAL STAFF, WE WISH YOU AND YOURS A BLESSED HOLIDAY SEASON AND A PHENOMENAL NEW YEAR!!

HAPPY TRAILS!!

WINTER TUNEUP

With the New Year approaching comes a good time to take a few minutes and perform simple maintenance on your hiking gear for the upcoming season. Take good care of your gear and your hiking experience will be so much more safe, comfortable and enjoyable!

- Clean and waterproof your boots. They don't come cheap and they are arguably the most important item of hiking gear in your closet. Replace the laces if they look a little frayed.
- Is your rain gear starting to leave you a little damp? Consider cleaning and applying a fresh coat of waterproofing.
- Replace the batteries in your headlamp.
- Replace the expanders in your hiking sticks if they're starting to get weak.
- Restock your first aid kit.
- And most importantly, throw winter gear in your pack to enable good layering.

Newsletter Deadlines:

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

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

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



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

Dec 11

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

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

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
 I would like to receive my newsletter by email.

** ___ **CTC Membership** **\$5.00****

** Special \$5.00 rate for membership in Cumberland Trail Conference if you also are joining TTA or renewing your TTA membership. CTC is building the Cumberland Trail, which will go from Chattanooga to Cumberland Gap. Over 185 miles are now complete and open for hiking. More information can be found at www.cumberlandtrail.org. Please consider enhancing your commitment to Tennessee's great trails by joining the CTC.

Please list me with the following chapter:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clarksville | ___ Murfreesboro |
| ___ Columbia/Franklin | ___ Nashville |
| ___ Cove Lake | ___ Northwest (UT at Martin/Weakley) |
| ___ Dyer County | ___ Plateau (Crossville) |
| ___ East TN (Oak Ridge/Knoxville) | ___ Soddy Daisy |
| ___ Highland Rim (Manchester/Tullahoma) | ___ Sumner Trails (Sumner County) |
| ___ Jackson | ___ Upper Cumberland (Sparta/Cookeville) |
| ___ Memphis | ___ 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, 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 any/all TTA/CTC/TRAC functions.