

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 MEETING A SUCCESS!

Thanks all around to everyone who helped with the set-up, contributed goods and ideas, provided services and talents, supported with financial generosity, organized accommodations and activities, and most of all attended the 2013 TTA Annual Meeting. There was plenty of good cheer, good will, and good vibes buzzing from beginning to end. From hiking great southeastern Tennessee trails to connecting with friends in the hospitality suite to sharing meals with fellow hikers to just soaking in the great location, TTA members moved to the spirit of the outdoors.

We had 236 registrations for the event. It goes without saying that a lot of hard work from the sponsoring clubs (Plateau, Soddy Daisy, Upper Cumberland), our newsletter editor (LouAnn Partington), and our webmaster (Jim Poteet) preceded the event, but the pay-off was well worth the efforts. Included in this newsletter is a list of donors – businesses, individuals, and chapters. All were instrumental in making this event a success.

Speaking of pay-offs, you will be interested in the funds that were raised:

- Live Auction - \$2490.50
- Silent Auction - \$1604.00
- White Elephant - \$429.00
- Cash Bar - \$518.00
- Bake Sale - \$325.66
- T-Shirts - \$310.00
- Registrations - \$4275.00

Once expenses are covered, a distribution will be forwarded to TTA.

Whether this was your first TTA Annual Meeting or it was a repeat event in your annual activities, let's all plan to reconnect next year!

Donor acknowledgements on pages 2 and 5.

TTA AWARDS AND ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

During the annual meeting, the 2013 TTA awards were presented:

- **Tennessee Trails Association – Friends of the Smokies.** This award is presented for outstanding contributions to the Association or for the furtherance of trails and natural resource programs and opportunities within Tennessee.
- **Bill Stutz Award – Millette Jones, Murfreesboro Chapter.** The Association gives this award in honor of the late Bill Stutz, past TTA member and beloved hiker. The award is presented to an active hiker for his or her individual contribution to the Association or one of its chapters.
- **Bob Brown Lifetime Achievement Award - Jim Schroeder and Martin McCullough, Murfreesboro Chapter.** The Board of Directors of the Association established this award to honor the extraordinary lifetime leadership and personal contributions of Bob Brown to hiking and conservation in the State of Tennessee.

The TTA officers for 2014 were also elected during the annual meeting:

- President – Carolyn Miller, Plateau Chapter
- Vice President – Levonn Hubbard, Plateau Chapter
- Secretary – Diane Manas, Nashville Chapter
- Treasurer – Kathy Woods, Nashville Chapter
- Membership Director – Tim Townley, Jackson Chapter

We also wish to recognize the dedicated service of the regional representatives and the tireless efforts of the chapter chairs.

A special thanks is owed to LouAnn Partington, newsletter editor, and to Jim Poteet, webmaster, for their efforts to keep us informed of TTA activities.



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 Crossville, TN 38555
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 Fax: 931-456-4934
 Email: cumberlandtrail@rocketmail.com
 Website: www.cumberlandtrail.org

Please contact the CTC office for information on activities and volunteer opportunities.

CLARKSVILLE CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: J.R. Tate 931-920-2692
clarksville@tennesseetrails.org
CHAPTER VICE-CHAIR: Suva Bastin 931-645-2849
clarksville@tennesseetrails.org
TREASURER: Chris Everett 931-494-8038
clarksvilletreas@tennesseetrails.org
SECRETARY: Robbin Cusic 931-542-3266
clarksvillesecy@tennesseetrails.org
OUTINGS COORDINATOR: Paul Schwab 931-645-9068
clarksvillehikes@tennesseetrails.org
(call Paul & volunteer to lead an outing)
MEETS MONTHLY: 3rd Tuesday at 6:00 pm CT,
 Crow Community Center, 211 Richview Rd.
Additional information may be seen at our web site:
<http://www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/clarksville>

Dec 7 - Nashville Urban Hike. 4 miles. Easy. Start at Bicentennial Capitol Mall and hike along the Downtown Cumberland Greenway south across Shelby Street Bridge, then hike back to the Mall through city streets. We will eat lunch at a Nashville restaurant. John Sneed 931-920-3828. Meet 8:00 am CT, I-24 Exit 11 commuter parking lot. 39 miles to trailhead.

Dec 14 - Harpeth River State Park. Newsoms Mill 100 yards and Hidden Lake 1.9 miles, moderate. Mace Bluff .25 miles out and back, difficult. Narrows of the Harpeth 2.1 miles, moderate. Paul Schwab 931-645-9068. Meet 8 am CT, Big Lot parking lot, Riverside Drive, Clarksville. 49 miles to trailhead.

Dec 21 - Christmas Party. 6 pm CT, Dotsonville Community Center.

Dec 17 - No 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.

2013 TTA ANNUAL MEETING DONORS

Business

1307 Gifts, Chattanooga * Academy Sports and Outdoors, Hixson * Academy Sports and Outdoors, Mt. Juliet * Ace Hardware, Columbia * Amber Falls Winery and Cellars, Hampshire * Aviagen, Crossville * Bear Paw Coffee Roasters, Columbia * Chattanooga Bakery, Chattanooga * Cracker Barrel, Crossville * Cumberland County Bank, Fairfield Glade * Cumberland County Medical Center, Crossville * Cumberland County Playhouse, Crossville * Cumberland Transit, Nashville * Dick's Sporting Goods, Murfreesboro * Dunham's Sports, Waterford, MI * El Tapatio Restaurant, Cookeville * Eureka Inn B & B, Jonesborough * Fall Creek Falls Inn Fall Creek Falls State Park, Pikeville * First National Bank, Crossville * Gander Mountain, Knoxville * Gulf Trading Post (near Virgin Falls), Sparta * Hermitage Hotel, Nashville * High Cotton Brewery, Memphis * Keg Springs Winery, Hampshire * Kroger of Providence, Mt. Juliet * Lake Tansi Resort, Crossville * Nate Houser, Tays Realty and Auction, Cookeville * Nature's Way Center for Massage Therapy, Crossville * Uplands Village, Pleasant Hill * Pickett State Park, Jamestown * Pin Oak Lodge Natchez Trail State Park, Wildersville * Plateau Outdoors, Crossville * Progressive Savings Bank, Crossville * Redmond Trading Company, American Fork, UT * REI, Nashville * Tennessee Valley Federal Credit Union, Chattanooga * The Medicine Shoppe, Crossville * The Outdoor Experience, Cookeville * Trader Joe's, Nashville * Wal-Mart, Soddy Daisy

Chapter Donations

Murfreesboro Chapter * Nashville Chapter * Plateau Chapter * Soddy Daisy Chapter

Individuals who solicited items

Jan Barber, Plateau Chapter * George and Sara Bonneau, Soddy Daisy Chapter * Pete Broehl, Upper Cumberland Chapter * Pam Brophy, Plateau Chapter * Doug Burroughs, Nashville Chapter * Ron Dunn, Murfreesboro Chapter * Dale Emblade, Soddy Daisy Chapter * Cheryl Heckler, Plateau Chapter * Levonn Hubbard, Plateau Chapter * Elliot and Evelyne Kornreich, Plateau Chapter * Diane Manas, Nashville Chapter * Terry McCoy, Jackson Chapter * Louise Miniard, Upper Cumberland Chapter * Bob McGavock, Soddy Daisy Chapter * Mike Morrison, Columbia Chapter * Jeanne Richardson, Plateau Chapter * Richard Savage, Upper Cumberland Chapter * Don Taylor, Plateau Chapter * Joy Topkin, Plateau Chapter * Marcy Tucker, Plateau Chapter * Tom Vickstrom, Nashville Chapter

COLUMBIA/FRANKLIN CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Marvin Caine 931-486-1632
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.

Dec 3 - Chapter Meeting. We will be planning hikes and other activities for the first half of 2014. Please bring suggestions for hikes and consider being a hike coordinator, even if you haven't done so in the past. We are also looking for programs for our monthly meetings so bring ideas for this too.

Dec 14 - Buggytop Trail, South Cumberland State Recreation Area, Sewanee, TN. 4.4 miles. Moderate. This park, on the Cumberland Plateau, is one of Tennessee's newer state parks and is a collection of several areas in four counties. Buggy Top Trail, with an elevation loss of 600' has rough footing, high bluffs and a steep descent to Buggytop Cave. Please be aware that this is HUNTING SEASON and wear something bright. Bring water, sturdy hiking boots, and lunch for the trail. We will meet behind McDonalds 4908 Main Street (Hwy 31) on the north side of Spring Hill at 7:15 am CT and leave promptly at 7:30 am. For more information and to register, please contact Jane Coffey at *jecoffey0644@charter.net* or 615-516-6551.

Dec 28 - Meriwether Lewis Loop, Natchez Trace Parkway (mile post 385.9), Hohenwald, TN. 3.5 miles. Easy to Moderate. This loop travels some very historic ground. The log cabin has exhibits about the Natchez Trace and we will see the stone monument to Meriwether Lewis, who died mysteriously at this site in 1809. Bring water, sturdy hiking boots, and snacks for the trail. We will meet behind McDonalds 4908 Main Street (Hwy 31) on the north side of Spring Hill at 7:45 am CT and leave promptly at 8:00 am. As an alternative, you may wish to meet at the trailhead log cabin to start hiking at 9:00 am. For more information and to register, please contact Tommy Haskins at *swissman10@hotmail.com* or 931-628-8600(cell).

COVE LAKE HIKING CHAPTER

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

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

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

No hikes scheduled for this month.

DYER COUNTY CHAPTER

Graydon Swisher

901-737-3114

westregional@tennesseetrails.org

This chapter is in the process of being reorganized.

For further information, contact Graydon Swisher at 901-737-3114 or *westregional@tennesseetrails.org*. In the interim, you are welcome to attend (14 to select from) other chapters' outings, events and meetings.

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 7 - Ace Gap Trail, GSMNP. This hike will begin where Rich Mountain Road meets the park boundary. We will use Dry Valley Road to get to the trailhead. The trail is essentially flat for the first 4.2 miles then it loses about 300 feet in the next 0.6 miles where it reaches Ace Gap and campsite #7. The total distance is 9.6 miles. Along the way we will pass campsite #4 at 2.3 miles, Kelly Gap. The end of the trail is about 0.8 miles past campsite #7, where it meets Beard Cane trail. If some want to go to the end of the trail the others can rest/relax at campsite #7. At Ace Gap an old railroad bed built in the early twentieth century by the Little River Lumber Company crosses the mountain. We will meet at Sonic at 1707 E. Lamar Alexander Pkwy, across the street from the Hardee's, near the hospital in Maryville. We will leave there at 9:00 am ET. Please bring a snack and drink and if you carpool, don't forget your money. After the hike, plan on stopping on the way back for a great meal. Pre-registration is required. Contact Rosie at *rosemary_L@hotmail.com* or 865-951-8317.

Dec 15 - Hike planning meeting for 2014. We will meet at the Panera's just round the corner from Dick's Sporting Goods off Cedar Bluff Road at 6:30 pm ET. As a "thank you" to all the wonderful hikers and hike leaders in 2013, your dinner will be free! So, come and close out the 2013 hiking year and let's plan some great hikes in 2014. Pre-register with Rosie at *rosemary_L@hotmail.com*.

HIGHLAND RIM CHAPTER

(Coffee and Franklin Counties)

CHAPTER CHAIR: Linda Hudson 931-841-0540
highlandrim@tennesseetrails.org
SECRETARY Carolyn Fitz 931-598-0597
highlandrimsecy@tennesseetrails.org
TREASURER: Marietta Poteet 931-924-7666
highlandrimtreas@tennesseetrails.org
OUTINGS & PROGRAM COORDINATOR & NEWSLETTER
CONTACT: Joan Hartvigsen 931-962-0811
highlandrimhikes@tennesseetrails.org
(contact Joan & volunteer to lead an outing)
MEETS MONTHLY: 4th Monday at 7:00 pm CT at the D. W.
Wilson Community Ctr., 501 N. Collins St., Tullahoma.

Dec 7 – Eat-Hike-Party Hike, Sewanee Perimeter Trail, Sewanee, TN. 3 miles. Easy. Meet at 9:00 am CT at the Blue Chair Restaurant in Sewanee for breakfast or 9:30 am if you just want to hike. For our third section of the Perimeter Trail around the Sewanee domain we will park shuttle vehicles at the end of Brakefield Road and start the hike from Gate 11 which leads to the King's Farm site (end of the November hike). This is an easy hike under the cliffs and then up to Armfield Bluff where we will have a snack and rest. We will then continue hiking through the woods to our vehicles on Brakefield Road. After our hike we will drive to the home of Carolyn Fitz and John Bordley, 94 Winns, Sewanee, TN for our Chapter Christmas Party. Contact Sally Hubbard at 931-598-5338 or email *sally@hubbard.net* to let her know you plan to hike.

Dec 7 – Chapter Christmas Party. Our Chapter Christmas Party begins after the Sewanee Hike about 12:30 pm CT at the home of Carolyn Fitz and John Bordley, 94 Winns, Sewanee, TN. Their phone number is 931-598-0597 and email is *cfitz@sewanee.edu*. Please bring a side dish or dessert. Baked ham and turkey will be provided. Please let Joan Hartvigsen know you plan to attend, *jhartvigs@comcast.net* or 931-962-0811.

Dec 14 –Lost Creek Trail and portion of Ray Branch Shoreline Trail, Tims Ford State Park, Winchester, TN. 7 miles. Moderate. This hike features two fun suspension bridges, many views of beautiful Tims Ford Lake and rolling hills covered in dense hardwood forest. Bring plenty of water, snacks and lunch. Bring hiking pole and wear sturdy hiking shoes. Register with Joan Hartvigsen at *jhartvigs@comcast.net* or 931-962-0811.

Highland Rim Chapter – con't.

Dec 21 – Lost Cove Cave Trail, Carter State Natural Area, Sewanee, TN. 4.5 miles round trip. Moderate but has steep, vertical ascent on way out and rough footing. We will hike along a ridgeline then descend to Crow Creek Valley where we will see Buggy Top Cave, the impressive main entrance to Lost Cove Cave. We will then backtrack to the overlook at the top of the main entrance and then on to the Peter Cave entrance. Lost Cove is a completely enclosed valley and all the water that drains into it goes underground at the Big Sink and emerges at Buggy Top. The Buggy Top Cave entrance features a gigantic rock overhang with the cave mouth at its base, from which emanates a full-fledged creek. The creek then drops 40 ft. in white froth over the span of 100 yards. Peter Cave is a higher, dry entrance to Lost Cove Cave and was inhabited by Woodland Indians. Lost Cove Cave is closed to prevent the spread of a fungus infecting bats. Bring water, snacks and lunch and hiking poles and wear hiking boots. Meet our hike leader Naullain Kendrick at 9:00 am CT at the Carter State Natural Area trailhead parking lot off TN Highway 56 (Sherwood Road). The trailhead is on the left about 6.5 miles from the intersection of US 41A and TN 56 South. Naullain can be contacted at 931-224-6225 or *naullain@hotmail.com*.

Dec 23- No Chapter Meeting.

JACKSON CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Vicky Moeller 731-668-9336
jackson@tennesseetrails.org
TREASURER: Anne Goodson 731-664-1556
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: 1st Monday at Perkins Restaurant, Vann Drive, Jackson. Socializing & dinner starts at 6:00 pm CT; meeting starts 6:45 pm

Hike information unavailable at press time.

MEMPHIS CHAPTER

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

VICE-CHAIR: Francis Ruffin 662-701-6284
memphisvice@tennesseetrails.org

Dec 7 - Meeman-Shelby Forest Chickasaw Bluff. We will meet at 9:00 am CT at the Park Visitor Center and will have to shuttle to the North Chickasaw Bluff Trailhead. The trail starts at the top of the bluff and drops quickly down about 150 feet to the flood plain. The rest of the Chickasaw Bluff Trail is quite level. This is an easy to moderate 5.5 mile hike through the forest and connects up to the Woodland Trail then hike back to the visitor center. Bring water and snack. For information call Gloria Folk at 901-277-5756.

Dec 12 - Memphis 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 6:00 with dinner at 6:30 pm CT. We will supply plates, glasses, eating utensils, soft drinks, and ice or you may bring a favorite beverage. If you would like to participate in the gift exchange, bring a \$10 gift. RSVP by Dec 6th *spikie542003@yahoo.com* or call 901-210-6097.

MURFREESBORO CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Sara Pollard 615-714-3610
murfreesboro@tennesseetrails.org

TREASURER Ann Jacobs 615-896-3935
murfreesborotreas@tennesseetrails.org

MEMBERSHIP Mary Belle Ginanni 615-895-6072
murfreesboromembership@tennesseetrails.org

PROGRAMS Valerie Galan 615-586-2882
murfreesboroprograms@tennesseetrails.org

OUTINGS COORDINATOR: Cathy Bingham 615-890-9791
murfreesborohikes@tennesseetrails.org

(Call Cathy & volunteer to lead an outing)

MEETS MONTHLY: 2nd Tuesday at 7:00 pm CT, Barfield-Crescent Park's Wilderness Station, 697 Veterans Parkway, Murfreesboro
BLOG: *www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/murfreesboro*

Dec 7 - Savage Gulf. 5 miles. Moderate. This day loop hike will include crossing a couple of suspension bridges, stops at a waterfall and overlooks. Wear good sturdy shoes and pack water and a lunch. Contact Ann Jacobs *eannjacobs@aol.com* or 615-653-6354 for meeting location and time.

Dec 10 - Chapter Holiday Party, 6 pm, Barfield Crescent Wilderness Station. Bring your family and a covered dish to share. Chapter will provide utensils, plates, napkins, and beverages. Please RSVP to Sara Pollard at *sarabpollard@gmail.com* or 615-714-3610.

Dec 14 - Radnor Lake. 4 miles. Moderate. We will hike the Ganier Ridge Trail and the South Cove Lake Trail. This is rated as a moderate hike, but there are a couple of steep climbs. There are usually deer, waterfowl and woodland bird sightings on this hike. Wear good shoes, bring water and a snack. We will eat at a local restaurant after the hike. Contact Ann Jacobs for meeting time. 615-896-3935 *eannjacobs@aol.com*.

2013 TTA ANNUAL MEETING DONORS

Individual Donors

Nancy Allen, Soddy Daisy Chapter * Anonymous, Nashville Chapter * Joan Bailey, Soddy Daisy Chapter * Al Ballenger, Sumner Trails Chapter * Jack and Suva Bastin, Clarksville Chapter * Gary Bealer, Nashville Chapter * George and Sara Bonneau, Soddy Daisy Chapter * Marge Broehl, Upper Cumberland Chapter * Pete Broehl, Upper Cumberland Chapter * Pam and Terry Brophy, Plateau Chapter * Roger Busler, Clarksville Chapter * Marvin Caine, Columbia/Franklin Chapter * Marnell and Jack Cothran, Upper Cumberland Chapter * John Cousino, Soddy Daisy Chapter * Roger Downs, Soddy Daisy Chapter * Ron Dunn, Murfreesboro Chapter * Leslie and Galal El-Sayad, East Tennessee Chapter * Libby Francis, Nashville Chapter * Dana Girrard, Plateau Chapter * Renee Grace, Soddy Daisy Chapter * Jane Hamm, Sumner Trails Chapter * Wallace Hebert, Columbia/Franklin Chapter * Cheryl Heckler, Plateau Chapter * Nancy Juodenas, Nashville Chapter * Elliott and Evelyne Kornreich, Plateau Chapter * Carolyn Linkous, Plateau Chapter * Diane Manas, Nashville Chapter * Carolyn Miller, Plateau Chapter * Mike Morrison, Columbia Chapter * Sara Pollard, Murfreesboro Chapter * John and Cookie Politte, Soddy Daisy Chapter * Jim and Marietta Poteet, Highland Rim Chapter * Ed Pyers, Soddy Daisy Chapter * Bill and Carol Quattrociocchi, Plateau Chapter * John Redmon, Cove Lake Chapter * Carolyn Reeves, East Tennessee Chapter * Mark Ritchie, Plateau Chapter * Gary Ruetenik, Plateau Chapter * Wayne Simpson, Memphis Chapter * William and Jean Smith, Soddy Daisy Chapter * Amy Sutton, Nashville Chapter * JR Tate, Clarksville Chapter * Don Taylor, Plateau Chapter * Marcy Tucker, Plateau Chapter * Nabil Wakid, Murfreesboro Chapter * Sue Waldrop, Highland Rim Chapter

NASHVILLE CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Doug Burroughs 615-283-0507
nashville@tennesseetrails.org
OUTINGS COORDINATOR: Nancy Juodenas 615-319-8811
nashvillehikes@tennesseetrails.org

(email Nancy & 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
BLOG: www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/nashville

Chapter News

This will mark the 12th year that we've been invited to wrap gifts for customers at REI in Brentwood in exchange for donations. This has been a SUCCESSFUL and FUN event because of all you wonderful volunteers! This year we will again be at REI on **Saturday, December 14th from 10:00 am till 5:30 pm**. Chapter members are needed to wrap gifts and/or talk to prospective members about hiking and outdoor activities. We will have our Display Units up and newsletters and brochures to hand out. In exchange for the gifts we wrap, customers have made very generous donations. These donations help offset some of the cost of feeding volunteers that come to TN to build the Cumberland Trail as part of the 2014 Alternative Spring Break Away Program. There are lots of hungry volunteers that participate in this program. Those of you who attended the annual meeting in October and got to hike some of the Cumberland Trail saw how much work is involved in building the trail and how BEAUTIFUL it is! So don't hesitate, call today and volunteer for a 2 hour shift of either 10-2, 2-4, or 4-5:30. This is truly a great way to FUNdraise! No experience required, just come join in the fun! And a huge THANK YOU to Diane Manas for spearheading this event for all these years. All your energy, enthusiasm, and sharing of your time is greatly appreciated! To sign up for a slot or if you have any questions, contact Amy Sutton at 615 739-5858 or amy109@gmail.com. Also, if anyone has a source for nice boxes or tissue paper or would like to donate some of these items, give me a call.

Dec 7 - Pinson Mounds State Archaeological Park, Pinson TN. 3-6 miles. Easy. This park covers more than 1,200 acres and contains at least 15 Native American mounds. In addition to Pinson Mound the group includes Ozier Mound, the Twin Mounds and Mound 31. Archaeological evidence suggests the mounds were both burial and ceremonial in purpose. Pinson Mounds is a national historic landmark and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. We will hike/explore the hiking trails which allow access to the Native American mounds and visit the Pinson Mounds museum which is designed to replicate a Native American mound. The building includes 4,500 square feet of exhibit space, an archaeological library, an 80-seat theater and 'Discovery Room' for historical exploration. Bring water, good walking shoes, snacks, binoculars (if you like). To register call Nancy Juodenas 615-319-8811 or e-mail her njuodenas@yahoo.com. For more information about this park go to www.tnstateparks.com/parks/about/pinson-mounds.

Nashville Chapter – con't

Dec 8 - Honey Creek/Big South Fork National Recreation Area, near Rugby TN. This is a strenuous hike through creeks, over boulders, and up steep and rugged terrain. But, there will also be great overviews, waterfalls, and interesting geological features. Bring water, snacks/lunch, waterproof boots with ankle support, and clothing appropriate for the weather that day. There is an option after the hike to stop for food in Rugby or somewhere along the road back to Nashville. Call Doug Burroughs at 615-283-0507 for more information and to register. Meeting Place: Kinko's parking lot on Donelson Road just north of I-40 Meeting Time: 7:30 am CT.

Dec 14 - After you've wrapped gifts at REI or gone for a hike, come to the chapter holiday party. We'll start festivities at 6 pm CT at River Plantation's Section V clubhouse, 800 Gen. George Patton Rd. in the Bellevue area of Nashville. For directions, contact Alice Cannon, acannon12@bellsouth.net. Bring a dish to share and BYOB. Bring a friend too!! Our party takes the place of the monthly meeting for December. We'll be back at REI on January 28.

Dec 25 - Mossy Ridge Trail, Warner Parks. West 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 at 9:15 am CT in the "Deep Well" area of the park. The timeframe for this outing will be from about 9:15 am until 11:30 am. Rain/ice will cancel this outing. For additional information and/or to register, call Diane Manas at 615-351-6431. **DIRECTIONS** for getting 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 will split. Take the left side split, which is for Hwy 100. Once on Hwy 100 you'll pass Harris Teeter within a quarter of a mile on the right. Go approx 1.8 miles to the traffic signal (at Vaughns Gap Rd). Two hundred feet beyond this traffic signal is a left between two grey stone walls, make this left and drive to the end/t-intersection (approx 1 mile) – you're now 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.

**WISHING YOU ALL A VERY
HAPPY AND BLESSED HOLIDAY
SEASON!!**



PLATEAU CHAPTER (Crossville)

CHAPTER CHAIR: Cheryl Heckler 931-456-6437
plateau@tennesseetrails.org
SECRETARY/TREASURER: Jan Barber 931-839-6662
Don Taylor 615-973-1814
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 or visit the Plateau Chapter Blog. Rain cancels.

Dec 7 – Leatherwood Loop/Sunset Overlook, Big South Fork, Jamestown. Leatherwood Loop/Sunset Overlook is a moderate 6 mile hike offering a variety of scenery including a couple nice overlooks. Depart from Cracker Barrel at 8 am CT. For more information and to register, contact Cheryl Heckler at *thehecklers@charter.net* or 931-456-6437 or Howard Owens at *owenshb@charter.net* or 931-484-1328. Gas cost \$6.

Dec 12 - Chapter Christmas Party. 5:30 - 8:30 pm CT at VF Outlet Mall entrance D (north side). Cover charge for room rental will be \$2 per person. Please bring an appetizer or dessert to share while socializing with your hiking buddies. Bring drink of your choice (alcohol permitted). Decaf coffee, ice, cups, plates, etc will be provided. Bring a gift valued at \$15 if you want to participate in the "dirty Santa" gift exchange. "Dirty Santa" is a Christmas gift exchange where each participant supplies one wrapped gift. The gifts are placed in a central location, and a number is put in a basket for each present that participants draw to determine what order you get a gift. The first person opens a wrapped gift and the turn ends. On subsequent turns, each person gets the choice of "stealing" any unwrapped item or choosing a wrapped one from the gift pile. When a player's gift is stolen, they can choose to steal an opened gift or select a replacement gift from the pile of wrapped presents. There is a limit of 3 "steals" per turn. Each turn ends when a gift is unwrapped. The game is over when the last person has taken their turn. For questions contact Linda Barclay at *linbarc@yahoo.com*.

Dec 21 – Roam around Rugby. Gentlemen's Swimming Hole, Meeting of the Waters, and Massengale Homeplace Loop, Rugby. Escape the pre-Christmas shopping frenzy and join us in historic Rugby. Rugby is a community established in 1880 as a utopian experiment. It remains as a town with a historic presence and Victorian architecture. We will combine a series of hikes to make a 5 – 6 mile loop within Rugby. This is a moderate hike over a variety of surfaces, including hiking trail, paved trail and road walks. Depart from Cracker Barrel in Crossville at 8 am CT. For more information and to register contact Carolyn Miller at *cardan@frontiernet.net* or 931-839-3213.

SODDY-DAISY CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: John Politte 423- 304-8327
soddydaisy@tennesseetrails.org
HIKE COORDINATOR: George Bonneau 423-842-3619
soddydaisyhikes@tennesseetrails.org
TREASURER: Bob McGavock 423-843-4646
soddydaisytreas@tennesseetrails.org
MEETS QUARTERLY: 1st Tuesday in Jan, Apr, Jul, Oct 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 – Sterchi Farm. 4 miles. Easy. Meet at Target parking lot on Highway 153 at 9 am ET. Hike Leader: George Bonneau. Mileage: 12 miles RT - \$1.

Dec 7 – Stinging Fork and Twin Rock Overlook. 5 miles. Moderate. Meet at Durham Street parking lot in Soddy Daisy at 9 am ET. Hike Leader: Bob McGavock 423-667-2960. Mileage: 100 miles RT - \$5.

Dec 10 – Lower Leggett Loop. 5 miles. Moderate. Meet at Durham Street parking lot in Soddy Daisy at 9 am ET. Hike Leader: Bob McGavock 423-667-2960. Mileage: 20 miles RT - \$1.

Dec 14 – Savage Gulf. 8 miles. Moderate. Meet at Durham Street parking lot in Soddy Daisy at 9 am ET. Hike Leader: George Bonneau. Mileage: 60 miles RT - \$3.

Dec 17 – Enterprise South. 5 miles. Moderate. Meet at Target parking lot on Highway 153 at 9 am ET. Hike Leader: George Bonneau. Mileage: 30 Miles RT - \$2.

Dec 21 – Retro Hughes to Upper Leggett. 8 miles. Slightly strenuous. Meet at Durham Street parking lot in Soddy Daisy at 9 am ET. Hike Leader: John Politte 423-304-8327. Mileage: 40 miles RT - \$2.

Dec 28 – Flipper Bend. 8 miles. Slightly strenuous. Meet at Wal-Mart in Soddy Daisy at 9 am ET. Hike leader: John Politte 423-304-8327. Mileage: 20 miles RT - \$1.

Dec 31 – River Walk. Easy. Hike Leader: Dale Elmlade 423-332-4810. Meet at Boathouse Restaurant and walk downtown.

SUMNER TRAILS CHAPTER

CHAPTER CO-CHAIRS: Jane Hamm 615-757-3331
Gayle Livingston 615-264-2940
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 - Holiday Party. We will be celebrating the holidays at The Shack Restaurant, 2420 N. Gallatin Rd. The festivities begin in the bar at 6 pm CT for cocktails and tall tales. Dinner will be at 7 pm in a separate room provided for us. An automatic gratuity of 18% will be added at dinner. If you did not sign up at the November chapter meeting and wish to join us, please call Sally Ticaric, 615-824-7294 by November 27th for reservations.

Dec 7 - Marshall Knobs and valley View Trails (loop trails), Barfield Crescent Park, Murfreesboro. 3.5 miles. Moderate. We'll start at the park's Wilderness Station and walk the paved path to the River Overlook. The pavement ends and the Marshall Knobs Trail then passes along the river, thru forest and bushy woods and over limestone outcrops. Midway thru, we'll take the Valley View Trail, a 1 mile loop, then rejoin the Marshall Knobs Trail and work our way back to the Wilderness Station. Along the trails, we'll see cedar glades, limestone outcroppings, sinkholes and a long limestone fence of uncertain origin and purpose. Hiking boots and poles are suggested due to uneven terrain and the possibility of damp trails and slippery rock if recent rains. We'll have a late lunch at a local restaurant following the hike so bring a snack for the trail if you wish. Meet at Hendersonville First Presbyterian Church, 172 Main Street, at 9:00 am CT for carpooling or at the park's Wilderness Station at 10:15 am CT. Please notify hike leaders David and Shirley Primeau at *davidprimeau@bellsouth.net* or 615-424-3991 if you are meeting the group at the Wilderness Station, and please call to confirm the hike if threatening weather.

Dec 28 - Ashland City Bicentennial Greenway. 4 miles. Easy. This is one of my favorite winter walks - 4 miles of flat paved Greenway with several bridges over creeks and a steel framed old railroad trestle over Sycamore Creek. This trail is part of the Cumberland River trail system which borders (and crosses) parts of the Cheatham Dam embankment. At one time this Greenway was a Tennessee Central Railroad track. I brought my sons and their families walking here and my granddaughters rode their little bikes while we walked - children are welcome on this one. Meet at First Presbyterian Church in Hendersonville at 9 am CT to carpool or meet us at the trailhead on Chapmansboro Road at 10 am CT. After the walk we'll shuttle the drivers back to the trailhead and then go to Riverview Restaurant for lunch. For further info contact River Rat Al at *ballallenger@aol.com* or 615-347-2623.

OFFICERS:

President	Millette Jones	615-397-9588 <i>president@tennesseetrails.org</i>
Vice-President	Carolyn Miller	931-839-3213 <i>vicepresident@tennesseetrails.org</i>
Treasurer	Ann Jacobs	615-896-3935 <i>treasurer@tennesseetrails.org</i>
Secretary	Diane Manas	615-352-7777 <i>secretary@tennesseetrails.org</i>
Past President	Don Dresser	731-668-4190 <i>pastpresident1@tennesseetrails.org</i>
Previous Past President	Rosemary Marshall	865-548-6171 <i>pastpresident2@tennesseetrails.org</i>
West TN At-Large Director	Graydon Swisher	901-737-3114 <i>westregional@tennesseetrails.org</i>
Middle TN At-Large Director	Nora Beck	615-517-6486 <i>middleregional@tennesseetrails.org</i>
East TN At-Large Director	Levonn Hubbard	931-707-1020 <i>eastregional@tennesseetrails.org</i>
Membership Director	Tim Townley	731-607-0512 <i>membership@tennesseetrails.org</i>
Cumberland Trail Conference Representative	Diane Manas	615-352-7777 <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>
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

UPPER CUMBERLAND CHAPTER

(Sparta / Cookeville)

CHAPTER CHAIR: Louise Miniard 931-528-9115
uppercumberland@tennesseetrails.org
HIKE COORDINATOR: Kathleen Sullivan 931-284-7822
uppercumberlandhikes@tennesseetrails.org

Dec 7 – Black Mountain is noted for its interesting rock formations and wonderful overlooks. We will begin from the Cox Valley trailhead and ascend to the summit of Black Mountain before returning to our starting point. You can meet us at 8:00 am CT in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville. Bring snacks, lunch, and sturdy hiking boots. For information and to register contact Louise Miniard at 931-239-5425 or *lminiard@flowserve.com*.

Dec 14 - Rock Island State Park/Christmas Social. We will hike the Upstream Trail (.8 miles moderate), the Downstream Trail (1.3 moderate), the Collins River Nature Trail (2.7 easy), the Blue Hole Trail (.5 difficult), and the Eagle Trail (1.4 moderate). The Collins River Nature Trail follows the Collins River before it runs into the Caney Fork River and is a nice walk thru the woods featuring an old cemetery and the biggest grapevine I've ever seen, anywhere! The other trails follow the banks of the Caney Fork below Great Falls Dam, which is below the confluence of the Collins and Caney Fork rivers. These trails show beautiful Twin Falls and a section of the river that is a favorite to kayakers from all over. Please wear sturdy hiking shoes and bring a lunch. After the hike we will meet at Kathleen's house for a Christmas social. If carpooling from Cookeville, meet at the west end of JC Penny's parking lot at I-40 Exit 287 in Cookeville at 7:30 am CT. Turn off of Hwy 70S onto Rock Island Road (Hwy 136) and go thru the town of Rock Island across the Caney Fork River bridge, then turn left onto Powerhouse Road. Follow Power House road to its end, which is the Downstream Trail and Upstream Trail trailhead located right across the river from Twin Falls. We will park in the upper parking lot, and will begin the hikes there around 8:30 am CT. Contact Gary Kimbrell at 931-215-9520 or email *Gary.Kimbrell@fbttn.com* for more info.

Dec 21 – TBA.

Dec 28 - Leatherwood Ford Parking Area to O&W bridge, then some elevation gain to Devil's Den (large rock shelter), and on to Eye of the Needle. The latter is a cave-like rock shelter that contains a low stone arch, a ladder down to a lower level, and a "window" through the rear wall. It is probably the most unique feature in Big South Fork. Guesstimate 9 to 10 miles round trip. Unfortunately we must traverse deeply eroded, and usually muddy, horse trails from Devil's Den to Eye of the Needle. It is suggested that Eye of The Needle be undertaken by seasoned hikers only. Those who wish may turn around at Devil's Den and return to the Leatherwood Ford Parking Area for an easy to moderate 6 mile hike. All should wear sturdy hiking boots and bring adequate water, lunch, and a flashlight. You can meet at 7:15 am CT in Cookeville at Penney's or around 9 am at Leatherwood Ford parking lot. We would like to be on the trail by 9 am if possible as it gets dark earlier now. To register or for more information contact Pete and Margaret at 931-864-7782 or *thorvald@twlakes.net*.

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 13

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,
Tim Townley 731-607-0512 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:

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

When you become a TTA member, you will receive: (1) TTA's Hiking Handbook, a reference book containing information about TTA, trail etiquette, hiker responsibilities, etc. (2) TTA's monthly newsletter, containing information on hiker safety, upcoming hikes/overnight trips, volunteer opportunities, chapter meeting announcements, as well as events occurring within TTA's Associate Organizations - C.T.C. and T.R.A.C. (3) Annual Membership Directory, listing members by chapter and how to reach them. You are invited to attend any number of monthly meetings scheduled, where you will enjoy diverse programs, socializing and refreshments. In addition, 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.