

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



SAVE THE DATE!

Mark your calendars now for the next TTA Annual Meeting - October 24-26, 2014 at Montgomery Bell State Park, about 40 miles west of Nashville.

The Nashville and Sumner Trail chapters are planning to make sure that you have a chance to explore this area's storied history and pre-history as you hike; and daytime enrichment opportunities are planned for attendees who won't be hiking on Saturday.

We'll even have some old-time music going - be sure to join us for a highlight of our hiking year!

TTA Quarterly Board Meeting May 3, 2014 1:00 pm CT to 5:00 pm CT REI Community Room 260 Franklin Rd. Brentwood, TN

Members are always welcome to attend. The meeting includes reports by each chapter and regional representative, as well as a report on the upcoming 2014 Annual Meeting.

Come See, Hear and Learn about TTA at the Quarterly Board Meeting.

TTA 2014 CALENDAR

The following dates in 2014 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.

SECOND QUARTER

- Apr 5-13 TDEC's Natural Areas Week (Statewide)
- Apr 19..... Earth Day event (Nashville)
- Apr 22 Earth Day – 44th Anniversary
- May 3 Board of Directors' Quarterly Meeting, REI, Brentwood, 1 pm – 5 pm CT
- Jun 7 National Trails Day (Statewide)

THIRD QUARTER

- Aug 2 Board of Directors' Quarterly Meeting (Location TBA)
- Sep 6..... National Planting Day – 3rd Anniversary (Organized by Keep TN Beautiful)
- Sep 14-20 Bike Ride Across TN (B.R.A.T.) – 25th Anniversary
- Sep 27 National Public Lands Day (Statewide)

FOURTH QUARTER

- Oct 24-26 TTA's Annual Meeting; Montgomery Bell State Park; hosted by Nashville Chapter



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

Please contact the CTC office for information on volunteer opportunities.

CLARKSVILLE CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: J.R. Tate 931-920-2692
clarksville@tennesseetrails.org
CHAPTER VICE-CHAIR: Ken Johnson 931-802-6343
clarksville@tennesseetrails.org
TREASURER: Chris Everett 931-494-8038
clarksvilletreas@tennesseetrails.org
SECRETARY: Pam Gadsey 931-552-2325
clarksvilleasecy@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>

Hike information unavailable at press time.

COLUMBIA/FRANKLIN CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Marvin Caine 931-486-1632
columbia@tennesseetrails.org
PROGRAM COORDINATOR: Ellen Clark 615-595-2640
columbiaprog@tennesseetrails.org
HIKE COORDINATOR: Jane Coffey 615-516-6551
columbiahikes@tennesseetrails.org
MEETS MONTHLY: 1st Tuesday at Fulin's Asian Cuisine, 1009
 Crossings Boulevard, Spring Hill. Socializing and
 dinner at 6:00 pm CT; meeting starts at 7:00pm.

Apr 1 - Chapter Meeting. One year after Hurricane Katrina, Betty Smallwood, was still striving to live in the New Orleans area. With deteriorating conditions both at home and work, Betty, decided to make a mid-life about face and apply to the Peace Corps. She was accepted and was given a two-year assignment in Armenia from 2007 - 2009. This presentation will focus on Armenia and its culture. Through photographs and anecdotes, Betty will illustrate the historical significance of Armenia, its vast natural beauty and diversity as well as the desperation and struggles of the Armenian people today. Armenian culture seems to be misplaced in time, geography and vision. A tiny county, the size of middle Tennessee, Armenia is breathtakingly stark and beautiful at the same time. It, also, provides glimpses of an enormously long history that cascades back through the Soviet era, medieval monasteries, ancient standing stones, and Neolithic petroglyphs.

Apr 5 - Twin Arches-Charit Creek Loop, Jamestown, TN. 6 miles. Moderate +. The Twin Arches are two of the largest natural stone arches in the eastern U.S! We will hike to the Twin Arches then hike the loop to Charit Creek Lodge, an electricity-free active lodge, eating lunch there. We will pass many rock overhangs/rock houses. There are some easy trail sections and at least one difficult, uphill section coming back from Charit Creek Lodge. There are also some lengthy stairs when climbing to the top of the arches. If it has been rainy, bring extra shoes because it will be very muddy on the lower elevations of the trail. Bring water, sturdy hiking boots, snacks /lunch for the trail, camera. We will meet behind McDonalds 4908 Main Street (Hwy 31) on the north side of Spring Hill at 6:00 am CT and leave promptly at 6:15 am. The drive to the trailhead is 3.5 hours and we lose an hour for the time change. Call Kevin Hahn at 615-775-4259 or email at compensate@yahoo.com for information and to register.

Apr 19 - Piney River Trail near Spring City, TN. 8.5 miles. Moderate. This trail is part of the Cumberland Trail. It starts at the Piney River trailhead and continues 8.5 miles to the Newby Branch trailhead following the Piney River and Duskin Creek. The trail has several bridges on it. We should see waterfalls, an old growth forest and likely wildflowers. We will meet behind McDonalds, 4908 Main St on the north side of Spring Hill around 6:45 am CT and leave promptly at 7:00 am. Bring water, lunch and sturdy boots. We will stop for dinner on the way back. To register, contact Marvin Caine at mlcaine@aol.com or 931-626-2754 (cell).

Columbia Franklin Chapter – con't

Apr 26 - Collins Gulf Trail, Savage Gulf State Natural Area, Tracy City, TN. 11 miles. Strenuous. Half the length of this trail is the Collins River Gorge and the other half is along the east rim. The gorge section has many beautiful geological features. We will see the spectacular triple waterfall of Rocky Mountain Creek, cross Collins River on a suspension bridge, and ford other creeks. We should see wildflowers this time of year. Bring water, sturdy hiking boots and lunch/snacks for the trail. We will meet behind McDonalds 4908 Main Street (Hwy 31) on the north side of Spring Hill at 5:45 am CT and leave promptly at 6:00 am. The drive to the trailhead will be about 2 hours. Please register with Robert Consalvo at 615-519-5584 or rconsalvo@aol.com.

COVE LAKE HIKING CHAPTER

This chapter is in the process of being reorganized.

For further information, contact Levonn Hubbard at 931-707-1020 or eastregional@tennesseetrails.org. In the interim, you are welcome to attend (13 to select from) other chapters' outings, events and meetings.

DYER COUNTY CHAPTER

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 (13 to select from) other chapters' outings, events and meetings.

EAST TN CHAPTER (Oak Ridge / Knoxville)

CHAPTER CHAIR: Rosemary Marshall 865-951-8317
easttennessee@tennesseetrails.org
VICE-CHAIR: Elise Eustace 865-201-5806
easttennessee@tennesseetrails.org

Apr 5 - Bird Mountain Loop, Frozen Head State Park. 8 miles. Moderate. We will meet at 9:00 am ET at Big Cove Campground and hike along the Tower Road for 3 miles and reach Bird Mountain. We will then go left at the junction and hike along the Cumberland Trail (along the ridges of Bird Mountain). We will then see Castle Rock and lots of scenic bluffs. We will then begin our descent after taking a lunch break. The descent includes several switchbacks down to the intersection of Tower Road. At that point, we are 1/4 mile from Big Cove Campground where we began our hike. Preregister with Carolyn Reeves at 865-717-3528.

Apr 12 - Fall Creek State Park Scotch and water(fall) hike, Pikeville, TN. Joint hike with Nashville Chapter. Join former membership director, Ron Dunn, as once again he dons his kilt, this time for a hike at Fall Creek Falls State Park. (For those of you who may not have been at the 2012 TTA Annual Meeting, Garnett Rush outbid the competition at the live auction to win this unique event.) Our plan is to hike the Gorge trail out to the trail to the base of the falls before returning via the Woodland trail. After a little lunch break we'll walk the Paw Paw trail. If you've got a kilt of your own, feel free to wear it! Meet at 9:00 am CT at the Nature Center. For more information or to sign-up, contact Ron Dunn at trekkingtn@comcast.net or 615-483-6055 or Garnett Rush at rushga01@yahoo.com or 615-210-0660.

Apr 26 - House Mountain. At 2064 feet, House Mountain is the highest point in Knox County. The 4 mile loop is rated moderate to strenuous due to rocky terrain and 1,000 feet change in elevation. We will meet at 10:00 am ET in the trailhead parking area. Wear sturdy boots, bring water and snacks. For more information and to register contact Garnett Rush at 615-210-0660 or e-mail rushga01@yahoo.com.

HIGHLAND RIM CHAPTER (Coffee and Franklin Counties)

CHAPTER CO-CHAIRS: Linda Hudson 931-841-0540
Naullain Kendrick 931-224-6225
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SECRETARY Carolyn Fitz 931-598-0597
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TREASURER/MEMBERSHIP: 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.

Apr 5 – Reuben Creek Hike, near Sherwood, TN. 6 to 8 miles. Moderate. Joette Carter will lead us through this beautiful area of creeks, waterfalls and wildflowers. Be prepared for numerous creek crossings. Bring water, snacks and lunch. Meet Joette at 9:00 am CT at Cowan First Baptist Church parking lot, 316 Cumberland St. W, Cowan, to carpool. Cowan First Baptist Church is located on the right side of Cowan Highway (Hwy 41A) driving toward Sewanee. Contact Joette for more information 256-776-3551.

Apr 6 – Collins Gulf Loop, Savage Gulf State Natural Area, Gruetli-Laager, TN. 13 miles. Very difficult. 840 ft. elevation change. This is a joint hike with the Friends of South Cumberland State Park, Hike #10, of Hike All 14 in 2014. Meet our leader Naullain Kendrick at 9:00 am CT at the Collins West Trailhead located on 55th Ave. off TN Hwy 108 in Gruetli-Laager. Bring water, snacks, lunch, sturdy hiking boots and hiking poles. This spectacular hike features Rocky Point Overlook, rock overhangs, Suter Falls, Horsepound Falls, wildflowers, creeks and the Collins River. Be prepared for boulder fields, rocky footing and creek crossings. Contact Naullain at *naullain@hotmail.com* or 931-224-6225.

Apr 12 thru 13 – Trails & Trilliums, Monteagle Sunday School Assembly, Monteagle, TN. This is a fund raising event benefitting South Cumberland State Park. Registration opens at 8:30 am CT on Saturday. Saturday hikes include Fiery Gizzard Trail led by Professor Bran Potter, Shakerag Hollow Wildflower Hikes, Buggy Top Trail Hike led by Tennessee State Naturalist Randy Hedgepath, Grundy Lakes Hike. Sunday hikes include Ranger Creek Falls, Big Creek Gulf by way of Stone Door led by Randy Hedgepath, Collins Gulf Wildflowers and Waterfalls Hike led by Mary Priestley, Foster Falls Hike. The weekend also includes workshops on photography, native plants, birding and backpacking. Consult the Trails & Trilliums Website for more information or email Joan Hartvigsen, *jhartvigs@comcast.net*.

Apr 18 – Good Friday Hike on the Roaring Creek Segment of the Cumberland Trail, Graysville, TN. Joint hike with Murfreesboro Chapter. 8 miles. Moderate due to climb up to top of bluff. Sara Pollard will lead us on this beautiful trail which follows Roaring Creek and then turns uphill to an overlook of East Tennessee Mountains, Sequoyah Nuclear Power Plant and

Highland Rim Chapter, April 18 hike– con't

Chickamauga Lake (aka Tennessee River). The trail is somewhat rocky. Bring water, snacks, lunch, hiking poles and sturdy hiking boots. Contact Joan Hartvigsen for carpool information, *jhartvigs@comcast.net* or 931-962-0811.

Apr 19 – Eat-Hike-Eat Hike, Sewanee Perimeter Trail, Sewanee, TN. 4 miles. Easy. Meet our leader Carolyn Fitz at the Blue Chair Restaurant in Sewanee at 9:00 am CT for breakfast or 9:30 am if you just want to hike. We will hike from The University Gates to the Memorial Cross where we will enjoy a beautiful overlook of the valley. From the Memorial Cross we will hike the Tennessee Williams Trail and end our hike back at the Blue Chair Restaurant. We may take a side trip to Lake O'Donnell on our way to the Memorial Cross. Bring water and snacks. Let Carolyn know you are coming: *cfitz@sewanee.edu* or 931-598-0597.

Apr 26 – Hike to Raven Point on the Fiery Gizzard Trail, South Cumberland State Park, Grundy Forest State Natural Area, Tracy City, TN. 9 plus miles round trip. Moderate. Trail is rocky with exposed tree roots. Bring plenty of water, snacks, lunch, hiking poles and sturdy hiking boots. Marietta Poteet will lead us on this trail along Fiery Gizzard Creek which is a beautiful creek with lovely flowing water and beautiful rock faces. The Dog Hole Trail ascends up the ridge to Raven Point which is a wonderful bluff with a great view looking over the gorge of Gizzard Cove. Please email Marietta at *nannietta@blomand.net* or 931-924-7666 for further information.

Apr 26-27 – Backpacking Trip, Lower Cane Creek Overnight Loop, Fall Creek Falls State Park, Spencer, TN. 12.4 miles. Moderate. Creek crossings, steep descent and ascent, rocky footing. Linda Hudson will lead us on this beautiful overnight hike into the depths of Cane Creek Gorge where we will camp overnight. Highlights of this hike include Piney Creek Falls, Millikans Overlook, Fall Creek Falls and Cane Creek Cascade. Contact Linda Hudson at *lyndalehudson@gmail.com* or 931-841-0540.

Apr 27 – Sunday Afternoon Stroll at Tims Ford State Park, Winchester, TN. 5 miles. Easy. We will hike the Lost Creek Trail and a portion of Ray Branch Trail. This hike features suspension bridges, beautiful views of Tims Ford Lake and hardwood forests. Bring water and snacks, hiking poles and sturdy hiking boots. If the hikers are interested we will have dinner in Winchester. Contact Joan Hartvigsen at *jhartvigs@comcast.net* or 931-962-0811.

Apr 28 – Chapter Meeting. We will have dinner at 5:00 pm CT at Applebee's, 1957 N. Jackson St., Tullahoma, TN. Our meeting is 7:00 pm at D. W. Wilson Community Center. Randy Hedgepath, Tennessee State Naturalist, will present his slide show The Tennessee River: A Journey.

JACKSON CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Vicky Moeller 731-668-9336
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SECRETARY: Don Dresser 731-668-4190
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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

Apr 12 - Natchez Trace SP Red Leaves Trail

Apr 26 - Big Hill Pond

Planning Ahead:

May 10 - Camping trip to the Smokies

Jun 7 - National Trails Day

Jun 21 - Cummins Fall State Park (hike and swim)

MEMPHIS CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Charlie Bright 901-829-4434
memphis@tennesseetrails.org
VICE-CHAIR: Francis Ruffin 662-701-6284
memphisvice@tennesseetrails.org

Apr 5 - Meeman-Shelby Forest, Woodland Trail Wildflower Walk. Join us for a leisurely 2-3 mile hike to discover the colorful wildflowers in Shelby Forest. Wear sturdy shoes and bring a bottle of water and meet us at the Shelby Forest Visitor's Center at 9:00 am CT. If you have any questions, please call Tricia at 901-488-4844 or *bestarmymom@gmail.com*. Hike canceled if raining.

Apr 12 - Village Creek State Park, Wynne, AR. Carpoolers will meet at the Tennessee Welcome Center on Riverside Drive at 8:00 am CT or meet at the Park Visitor Center at 9:30 am. We will hike a 5-6 mile trail rated easy to moderate with some hills and rolling terrain. Wildflowers should be in bloom. We will lunch at the campground area. Bring lunch and water. The trail could be muddy so wear sturdy shoes or boots. For carpool information contact Freddi Felt at *fjfelt@att.net*.

Apr 13 - Natchez Trace Waterfall. Preregistration Required. Bring your camera for a day-long outing of great scenery and waterfalls along the Natchez Trace Parkway! We'll meet at 7:30 am CT on Sunday, April 13 in the parking lot between the Quick Stop gas station and Kroger Store on Highway 64 in Lakeland and carpool to the Natchez Trace parkway. We'll hike to three different waterfalls, each hike is approximately 1 mile or less in length and moderate in difficulty. We'll return to Memphis late Sunday afternoon. Bring plenty of water, snacks, sack lunch, and money for carpooling. Registration is required. Space is limited. Canceled if raining. To register contact Tricia Kennedy at 901-488-4844 or *bestarmymom@gmail.com*.

Memphis Chapter – con't

Apr 19 – Collierville/Arlington to Houston Levee Bridge. This is an out and back hike along the north side of the Wolf River. The hike will begin at the parking lot off Collierville-Arlington Rd. which is also Highway 205. The entrance we will park at is about a half mile north of the Collierville-Arlington Bridge over the Wolf River near a farmhouse. This is a wide graveled trail with practically no elevation change. We will walk at least to Bethany Rd, which is 6.4 miles round trip. Depending on trail conditions and hiker preference, we may hike all the way to the Houston Levee Bridge, which is another 3 miles one way. Since the trail is well marked and not a loop, others can choose to turn back at any time. The hike begins walking promptly at 9 am CT. Depending on your intended hiking distance bring lunch and plenty of water. Questions contact *ttamemphis.com*.

Apr 25-27 - Buffalo National River Wilderness Area, Jasper, AR – Preregistration Required. To register contact Wayne *w.simpson1@comcast.net*.

- **Friday:** Leave in the morning and drive to Jasper. In the afternoon we will hike on the Pedestal Rocks Trail and the Kings Bluff Loop. These two trails are located next to one another and total 4.3 miles They are rated moderate.
- **Saturday: Option 1:** We'll hike 2.5 miles to Hemmed-In-Hollow Falls using the Center Point Trail. From there we will take the 5.4 mile Compton Trail. There is a short spur trail called the Goat Trail off this trail. Those who aren't afraid of narrow ledges above a 500 foot drop will enjoy great views. Note that the hike to the falls descends about 1,200 feet and the hike back out climbs a like amount. This hike is rated difficult due to the steep descent to the falls and the elevation gain on the return. **Option 2:** A morning and an afternoon hike will be offered. Each hike will be approximately three miles and will be rated easy to moderate. Hikers can choose to do either or both.
- **Sunday:** Before returning to Memphis, we will hike up Roundtop Mountain, a 3.5 mile loop just south of Jasper with great views of the surrounding area. The peak is about 200 feet above the trail head, but most of the climb is gradual. It is rated moderate.

MURFREESBORO CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Sara Pollard 615-714-3610
murfreesoroboro@tennesseetrails.org
TREASURER Ann Jacobs 615-896-3935
murfreesorobrotreas@tennesseetrails.org
OUTINGS COORDINATOR: Cathy Bingham 615-890-9791
murfreesorobohikes@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

Apr 5 - Bowling Farm Spring Wildflower Walk and Potluck Social, Monterey, TN. 4 miles. Moderate. Join us for our annual wildflower walk at the country home of the Bowlings, where we will have a short easy wildflower hike. The hike will continue across the creek and up the side of the hill for about 4 miles total. Those that just want the wildflower portion can turn around and go back the way they came. We will then enjoy a potluck social after the hike. Please bring a covered dish to share. Tim Bowling will lead this hike. For information or to register contact Tony Jones at awj1968@comcast.net or 615-397-4463.

Apr 8 - Monthly Meeting. Come join us for a fascinating mind's eye journey to the Galapagos Islands as Harold Baldwin, retired MTSU professor of photography, shares photos and information from his trip in February of 2014. See the Islands and its inhabitants as they are discovered firsthand thru the eye of his camera. What you will see is how the Islands and inhabitants are today....not years ago, plus listen as he spins a magical story of what he experienced-the next best thing to being there! Harold was one of only 30 photographers included in the 10-day boat trip guided by a National Geographic photographer. Contact Sara Pollard for more information at 615-714-3610 or sarabpollard@gmail.com.

Apr 12 - Celebration of Spring at Edgar Evins State Park. 8 am to 4 pm CT. A free day of outdoor fun for individuals and families. A guided wildflower/nature hike led by State Naturalist and Ranger Randy Hedgepath will start at 8:30 a.m. At 10:30 am Tony Jones, (awj1968@comcast.net or 615-397-4463) from the Murfreesboro Chapter of TTA, will lead an easy 3 mile hike on the Millennium Trail. This will give people time to do both hikes if so desired. **NOTE: Registration will start at the Visitors Center at 8 am for Randy's hike and the boat rides, as both activities have a limited number of allowed participants.** In addition, there will be live entertainment and activities all day, including wild animal exhibitions, kite flying, face painting, camp cooking demonstrations by the Boy Scouts, face painting, cookie decorating, and more. Bring your lunch and stay for the day if you can. The schedule for the activities will be posted on the Facebook Page for Friends of Edgar Evins State Park. For other information, contact Fount or Anna Bertram: (email preferred) at fwbertram@dtccom.net or phone 615-765-5357.

Apr 18 - Good Friday Hike. Cumberland Trail, Roaring Creek Segment. 8 miles. Moderate. Located in Graysville, this hike is rated moderate due to the climb to the top of the bluff. For more information and to register, contact Sara Pollard at 615-714-3610 or sarabpollard@gmail.com.

Apr 26 - Greeter Falls, Savage Gulf State Natural Area. 7 miles. Moderate. We will be using a shuttle for this hike. We will start from The Stone Door Ranger Station, hike to the door and then along the Big Creek Rim to the Alum Campsite where we will have lunch. The hike then continues to Greeter Falls, and if weather permits, we can play in the water some. We will have a car at Greeter to shuttle back to the other cars at Stone Door. For information or to register contact Tony Jones at 615-397-4463 or awi1968@comcast.net.

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

Apr 5 - Bells Bend Outdoor Center, 4th Annual Nashville Outdoor Recreation Festival and Expo. 9:00 am to 3:30 pm CT. Guided hikes, music, food, workshops, hayrides, and booths from retailers such as REI, and outdoor groups such as TTA. The Nashville chapter will have display booth all day and we are looking for people who would like to share their hiking experiences with the attendees. Contact Libby Francis, libbyslibbys@comcast.net or 615-889-5718 if you would like to volunteer for an hour or so to help with the booth. We also need people to help set up and take down the booth. If you can't help out, we hope to see you there enjoying the festivities. Additional information can be found at https://www.facebook.com/bellsbendpark?ref=tn_tnmn#!/events/1403779576545336/.

Apr 5 - Cub Lake Trail, Natchez Trace State Park, Wildersville, TN. 5 miles. This will be a scouting hike to check out the length and terrain of this trail for the annual meeting. If you have an adventurous spirit and would like to help me to explore this area please contact Nancy Juodenas at 615-319-8811 or njuodenas@yahoo.com.

Apr 12 - Fall Creek State Park Scotch and water(fall) hike, Pikeville, TN. Joint hike with East Tennessee Chapter. See East Tennessee Chapter listing for hike information and contact information to register for the hike.

Apr 13 - Foster Falls, part of Trails and Trilliums. Stephen Bryant of Cookeville and Nora Beck will co-lead. This moderate hike is less than four miles but is packed with beautiful bluffs and of course, the beautiful Foster Falls. Go to the Trails and Trilliums web site for details that will be available closer to the event: <http://www.trailsandtrilliums.org>.

Apr 22 - Chapter Meeting. Grassy Cove in Cumberland County is one of the largest sinkholes in North America and is a National Natural Landmark. A sizable part of the land surface in Grassy Cove overlies the Run to the Mill Cave, which collects the waters that percolate through the soil above it to form the headwaters of the Sequatchie River. The new Run to the Mill Cave Preserve represents a great collaborative effort, and Brian Krebs will be describing this effort and the work of the Southeastern Cave Conservancy, Inc. An avid caver himself, Brian will be accompanied by the first cave explorer of Run to the Mill Cave. Please let your caving friends know about this opportunity to hear about some unique experiences. Bring them with you!

Apr 26 - Short Springs State Natural Area, Tullahoma, TN. 3 miles. Moderate. Join us for waterfalls and wildflowers as we travel to one of the best hiking destinations in Middle Tennessee. We will pass by clear streams that form Busby Falls and the 60 foot drop at Machine Falls. Our next stop is the Wildflower Loop, home of two rare state-listed flowers, nestronia and the broad-leaved bunchflower. It is always interesting to see what is in bloom! If there is time and interest, we will stop at nearby Rutledge Falls on the return trip home. Bring sturdy hiking boots, snacks, water, and lunch. A hiking stick is useful on the steep hill down to the falls. Email Libby Francis at libbyslibbys@comcast.net or call 615-889-5718 to register and get carpool and meeting time info. Come join us!!

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

TREASURER: June Parker 615-945-7462
Bill Quattrociochi 931-484-4230
plateautreas@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.

Apr 5 – Cumberland Trail, Piney River Segment, Spring City. This trail winds along streams and the Piney River for most of its 7.5 mile length. The trail is not difficult, but the hike should be undertaken only by hikers that can complete 7.5 miles. This hike offers a wide variety of wildflowers. Sites of interest along the trail include a picturesque 100 foot suspension bridge and the remains of an old dinky railroad bed. If there is enough interest, a visit to the Spider Den will be included. A shuttle is required for this one way trail. Wear good hiking shoes or boots; bring water, lunch and snacks. Depart from Trinity Tabernacle Church at 8 am CT. For more information and to register, contact: Carolyn Miller by email at cardan@frontiernet.net or call 931-839-3213 or 931-260-6674.

Apr 10 - Chapter Meeting. Meet for dinner at 4:45 – 5:00 pm CT at Gondola Restaurant in Woodmere Shopping Center. Chapter meeting at 6:00 pm. Program: Friends of Crossville Trails by John Conrad. Contact Chapter Chair, Cheryl Heckler at thehecklers@charter.net or 931-456-6437 for additional information.

Apr 26-27 - NE Georgia Waterfall Extravaganza Overnight Trip, Helen GA. Pre-registration is required. Deadline for pre-registration is Monday, April 21. Hikes are scheduled to 6 waterfalls. All hikes are 1/3 mile to 1 ½ miles in and out and rated easy. Bring water, snacks and hiking boots. Meals will be at local restaurants or on your own. Hopefully, some time will be available to explore Helen, Georgia. Hotel and lodging information will be on the Plateau chapter blog. Depart from Trinity Tabernacle Church at 7 am CT. Contact Bruce Whitehead at trailwalker80@gmail.com or 941-716-3620 to register or for additional information.

SODDY-DAISY CHAPTER

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soddydaisy@tennesseetrails.org

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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>*

Apr 1 – Rainbow Lake. Approximately 3 miles. Moderate. Meet at Bi-Lo parking lot in Red Bank at 9 am ET. Hike leader: George R. Bonneau 423-842-3619 or george.r.bonneau@gmail.com. Mileage: 15 RT - \$1.

Apr 5 – Falls Creek Falls wildflower walk. Approximately 4-5 miles. Moderate. Meet at Durham Street parking lot in Soddy Daisy at 9 am ET. Hike leader: George R. Bonneau 423-842-3619 or george.r.bonneau@gmail.com. Mileage: 90 miles RT - \$5.

Apr 8 – Heiss Mountain to Possum Creek and back. Approximately 3 miles. Moderate. Meet at Durham Street parking lot in Soddy Daisy at 9 am CT. Hike leader: John Politte 423-304-4282 or johnpolitte@gmail.com. Mileage: 14 RT - \$1.

Apr 12 – Signal Mountain to Signal Mountain High School. Approximately 8 miles. Strenuous. Meet at Bi-Lo parking lot in Red Bank at 9 am ET. Hike leader: George R. Bonneau 423-842-3619 or george.r.bonneau@gmail.com. Mileage: 15 RT - \$1.

Apr 15 – Falling Water Falls. Approximately 4-5 miles. Moderate. Meet at Walmart parking lot in Soddy Daisy at 9 am ET. Hike leader: George R. Bonneau 423-842-3619 or george.r.bonneau. Mileage: 14 RT - \$1.

Apr 19 – Surprise hike. Approximately 4-5 miles. Moderate. Meet at Durham Street parking lot in Soddy Daisy at 9 am ET. Hike leader: Donna Pyers 423-344-9271 or pyersd@yahoo.com. Mileage: 90 RT - \$5.

Apr 22 – Sterchi Farm. Approximately 5 miles. Easy. Meet at Target parking lot on Hwy 153 at 9 a.m. Hike Leader: George R. Bonneau 423-842-3619 or george.r.bonneau@gmail.com. Mileage: 12 RT - \$1

Apr 26 – North Chickamauga Loop. Approximately 5 miles. Moderate. Meet at Walmart parking lot in Soddy Daisy at 9 am ET. Hike leader: Bob McGavock 423-667-2960 or kopperkritters@yahoo.com. Mileage: 6 RT - \$1.

Apr 29 – Harrison Bay State Park. Approximately 4-1/2 mile. Easy. Meet at Target parking lot on Hwy 153 at 9 am ET. Hike Leader: Donna Pyers 423-344-9271 or pyersd@yahoo.com.

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

Apr 1 - Chapter Meeting. Come listen to 2013 Appalachian Trail thru-hiker Drew "Twigs" Beeler as he relays stories about his six month hike from Georgia to Maine. Twigs is a native of Hendersonville, TN who graduated from MTSU in 2012 and spent the next year preparing to hike the Appalachian Trail. The Appalachian Trail covers 2,185.9 miles from Springer Mountain in Georgia to its northern terminus at Mt. Katahdin in Maine. Twigs will cover everything from gear needed to hike the trail to the physical limitations of some hikers as well as the community of hikers and trail angels that come together to make up the entire Appalachian Trail experience. He will also be sharing stories of hardships along the trail and what it takes to overcome these problems. There will be a question and answer session at the end of the presentation for any questions you might have about the trail.

Apr 5 - Taylor Hollow State Natural Area, Sumner County. 2 miles. Moderate. This hike will take approximately 3 hours. Roger McCoy, Director, Tennessee State Division of Natural Areas, will guide us on a "wildflower walk" of Taylor Hollow State Natural Area, the first property acquired by the Tennessee Chapter of the Nature Conservancy. Taylor Hollow is renowned for its floral display and number of state-listed plant species. We hope to see a great display of spring wildflowers as Roger, a trained botanist, shares information about their ecology and the forest types and trees within the natural area. The pace will be slow to allow participants to enjoy the sights and Roger to share details about many of the species we encounter. Dress appropriately for the weather, and bring water and snacks as desired. Following the hike, we will stop for lunch in Gallatin. Because the trail is narrow and to minimize adverse impact upon the environment, the hike is limited to 20 participants. **ADVANCE REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.** Contact David and Shirley Primeau at *davidprimeau@bellsouth.net* or 615-424-2948 to register and obtain carpooling /meeting information. Once the participation limit has been reached, interested persons will be placed on a waiting list, to be contacted if cancellations occur. Please contact the Primeaus to confirm the hike if threatening weather. Also notify the Primeaus ASAP if you had registered but are unable to attend, so they can contact persons on the waiting list.

Sumner Trails Chapter – con't.

Apr 10 - Richland Creek Greenway. 3.8 miles. Easy paved greenway. The Richland Creek Greenway is a beautiful trail located in the Belle Meade area of Nashville. There are several boardwalks, benches, and bridges that go over the creek. Along the trail is the memorial to the Great Train Wreck of 1918. Two passenger trains collided head-on, killing 101 people and injuring an additional 171. It is considered the deadliest rail accident in US history. We will park at McCabe Golf Course and start the hike at the marked trailhead, and follow the paved path around the greenway. The golf course will be on your right and can be easily seen throughout most of the trail. Trail maps and benches are available along the trail. Bathrooms, water and snacks are available at the McCabe clubhouse. Dogs are welcome but doggie stations do not exist. This is a nice walk for your dog and people of all ages. We plan on lunch at Local Taco which we can walk to from the golf course parking lot. Meet at the First Presbyterian Church in Hendersonville at 9 am CT to car pool or at the trailhead at 9:45. For further information contact Sally Ticaric at *sallytic@aol.com*, 615-218-1086 or Barbara Krawchuk at *tnbeachbumr@aol.com*, 615-513-6059.

Apr 19 - Stone's River Greenway East. 3 miles. Easy. Paved walk along the river from Kohl's trailhead on Lebanon Rd. to the base of Percy Priest dam. Meet at Hendersonville First Presbyterian Church at 9 am CT or at the trailhead at 10 am. For further information contact Bill Bowman at *BOWMED@aol.com* or 615-824-7356 or cell 615-351-0122.

Apr 26 - Old Trace - Garrison Loop. 4 miles. Moderate. After a scenic overlook and ascending a ridge our trail merges with the historic Natchez Trace for a mile or so before descending to Garrison Creek on the loop. Our hike takes us along the creek and through some pasture land and forest with about 200 ft. elevation change. The trail crosses Garrison Creek for a wet crossing. You can either get your boots wet or take off your shoes and wade across. You might want to bring some shoes to change to after the crossing or after the hike. My son Paul Ballenger who is familiar with this trail, will be leading the hike with me. Meet at the Presbyterian Church in Hendersonville at 9 am CT to carpool or at the Garrison Creek rest stop on the Natchez Trace Parkway (Milepost 427.6) at 10:15 am CT. After the hike we'll have lunch at Puckett's Grocery in Leipers Fork. For further info contact Loopy AL at *ballallenger@aol.com* or 615-347-2623.

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 ARE LISTED WITHIN EACH CHAPTER'S HEADER

Newsletter Editor
 LouAnn Partington 931-393-4835
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Newsletter Deadlines:

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

<u>Due</u>	<u>For Newsletter Dated</u>
Apr 10	May 1
May 10	Jun 1
Jun 10	Jul 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

Apr 5 - Across the Gulf, Savage Gulf State Natural Area, Beersheba Springs, TN. 17 miles. Strenuous.

We will start at the Stone Door Ranger Station and cross the gulf to Hobb's Cabin. We will then hike the length of the North Rim Trail and end our hike at the Savage Gulf Ranger Station. The North Rim Trail features more overlooks than any other trail in the South Cumberland area. The trails vary between level, steep, and rocky. Sturdy hiking boots are required. Bring headlamp, water, snacks, and lunch. We will meet at the Stone Door Ranger station at 8 am CT. For hike and carpool information, and to register, contact Gary Kimbrell at 931-215-9520 or Gary.Kimbrell@fbitn.com.

Apr 12 - Savage Gulf Waterfalls, Savage Gulf SNA, Altamont, TN. 14.5 miles. Strenuous.

Highlights of this hike include seven of the major waterfalls of Savage Gulf and spectacular spring wildflower displays. The hike begins at the Greeter Falls parking lot. We will see upper and lower Greeter Falls and lower and upper Boardtree Falls before descending into the gulf and taking the side trip to Ranger Falls. We will then continue along the Big Creek Gulf and Connector Trails before ascending from the gulf along the Collins Gulf Trail past Horsepound and Suter Falls. Bring hiking boots, water, snacks, and lunch. You can meet us in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville at 7:00 am CT or at the US Bank across from McDonald's in Sparta at 7:30 am. For information and to register contact Richard Savage at 931-526-2035 or savage_richard@hotmail.com.

Apr 19 - Middle Creek Loop Trail, connector trail to Slave Falls loop trail.

This is a fairly easy hike with little elevation gain. There are two large rock shelters on this circuit. Slave Falls can be very impressive, or disappointing, depending on the season and rainfall. Meet at 8:30 am CT at the Middle Creek Trailhead which is on Divide Road and about a mile from 154. To register or for more information contact Pete and Margaret at 931-864-7782 or thorvald@twlakes.net.

Apr 26 - Pickett State Park, Jamestown, TN. 6 miles. Easy.

We will hike a collection of short but scenic trails: Natural Bridge, Hazard Cave, Lake View, Lake, Ladder, and Island Trail. Highlights include two natural bridges and Hazard Cave. Camping is an option with a hike in Big South Fork on Sunday. You can meet us at 8:00 am CT in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville. Bring hiking boots, water, snacks, and lunch. For information and to register contact Kathleen Sullivan at 931-284-7822 or ksully@frontiernet.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

Apr 14

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.