

# 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



## HIKING AND HISTORY - TTA 2014 ANNUAL MEETING

October 24-26, 2014 are the dates for our next annual meeting, headquartered at historic Montgomery Bell State Park. This storied location was the scene of events that affected the course of the future for much of Tennessee, and the hikes we'll take there and in other areas nearby have a wealth of lore as well. Read about some of the hikes we're planning and make your plans to be there!

**Beaman Park. Combination of Henry Hollow loop, 2 miles, Highland Trail, 4 miles, and Sedge Trail, .7 miles.** Features a rugged landscape of Highland Rim forest, steep slopes, narrow hollows, streams, waterfalls and drier ridge tops.

**Bicentennial Mall State Park.** With just a simple walk in the 19-acre park visitors can experience many facets of Tennessee's history including a 200-foot-long granite map of the state that you can walk on, a World War II Memorial, a 95-bell carillon, a Pathway of History and the Rivers of Tennessee Fountains. The 11 planters along the Walkway of Counties show native plants species from different regions of the state.

**Bowie Nature Park, 8-mile loop.** Within the park are 17 miles of winding trails which move the traveler through several ecosystems including wetlands, grasslands, pine forest, oak/hickory forest, riparian and lowland bottomland wetlands. The nature center offers the opportunity for park visitors to learn more about Bowie Nature Park itself with nature exhibits, brochures and art.

**Cumberland River Bicentennial Trail. (1)** Bring your bike and ride on this 4-mile paved rail/trail which follows a converted rail bed and features hardwood forests, old railroad bridges over creeks and marshland. A highlight is a long steel framed trestle bridge that spans Sycamore Creek. **(2)** Eagle Pass section, 5 mile round trip hike is a continuation of the paved trail, becoming compacted gravel and passing an eagle's nest. Terminus is the Cheatham Dam campground.

**Downtown Nashville historical and urban hike. 4 miles.** This will include the state capitol, civil war sites, honky tonk district, river views, new convention center and various architectural gems.

**Fort Donelson Battlefield Loop. 6 miles.** The tour at Fort Donelson National Battlefield is self-guided. A park brochure explains the six-mile, tour. The visitor center contains a museum with Civil War artifacts, an exhibit about the Underground Railroad in America, and new exhibits, exploring the legacy of the Civil War. The orientation film *Fort Donelson: Gateway to the Confederate Heartland* engages visitors with a storyline that draws on the lifelong friendship between Union General Ulysses S. Grant and Confederate General Simon B. Buckner.

**Long Hunter State Park, Volunteer Day Loop. 4 miles.** A walk in the woods, with bluffs overlooking the shores of J. Percy Priest Lake.

**Montgomery Bell State Park. Combinations of overnight trail, 10.5-mile loop, Ore Pit, Wildcat, and Creech Hollow trails.** This park has a great combination of history, wooded terrain, and lakes. And you're close to your lodgings – easy commute!

**Mousetail Landing. Overnight Trail, 8 miles.** Traverses hillsides, crosses gullies, streams and wooden bridges. Passes through open cedar glades, and deciduous forests, paralleling the Tennessee River for stretches, with some breathtaking views.

**Natchez Trace Historical and Waterfall Outing.** Includes Devil's Backbone State Natural Area: 3 mile moderate loop with a great variety of trees in autumn dress; Meriwether Lewis Monument and gravesite. 1 1/2 mile loop of original Natchez Trace. Fall Hollow, walk a short distance to two waterfalls; Jackson Falls hike - 1/2 mile on a paved walkway; and the Gordon House a short hike to a historical house and ferry crossing.

**Natchez Trace State Park. Cub Lake Trail, 4-mile loop.** This is a pleasant lakefront stroll, and a good trail for viewing the fall colors. It circles Cub Creek Lake with several short hills and flatter areas.

**Nathan Bedford Forrest State Park. 10-mile loop** which includes Pilot Knob, the highest point in west Tennessee and great views of Kentucky Lake. Includes a visit to the park's Folklife Center.

**Percy Warner Park. Nashville. Warner Woods Trail, 2.5-mile loop.** This trail is in the heavily wooded interior section of the park, with some lowland sections and rolling hills. We'll also hike on the Mossy Ridge Trail 4.5 mile loop. It winds up and down wooded hills and hollows, crossing springs and open meadows, hardwood forests and cedar ridges.

**Shelby Bottoms. 4 to 8 miles.** This oasis in the city with paved and unpaved trails offers a landscape of rich river bottom land, boardwalks over streams and wetlands and overlooks of the Cumberland River. Migrating birds make this area one of their waystops.

**COME HIKE WITH US!**



Office Location 409 Thurman Avenue, Ste 102  
 ..... Crossville, TN 38555  
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 Website: [www.cumberlandtrail.org](http://www.cumberlandtrail.org)

Contact the CTC office for activities and volunteer opportunities.

## CLARKSVILLE CHAPTER

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**OUTINGS COORDINATOR:** Paul Schwab 931-645-9068  
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*(call Paul & volunteer to lead an outing)*

**MEETS MONTHLY:** 3<sup>rd</sup> 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>

**May 3 - Brady Mountain Trail, Grassy Cove Segment of the Cumberland Trail. 7.8 miles. Difficult.** Suva Bastin 931-645-2849. Meet 7:00 am CT, I 24 Exit 11 commuter parking lot. 161 miles to trailhead.

**May 10 - Garrison Creek Trail off the Natchez Trace Parkway. 6.3 miles. Moderate.** Paul Schwab. 931-801-9484. Meet 8:00 am CT, I 24 Exit 11 commuter parking lot. 70 miles to trailhead.

**May 17 - Ashland City Rails to Trails, paved section. 3.7 miles one way. Easy.** Bob Lyon 931-648-2354. Meet 8:00 am CT, Madison Street Kmart parking lot, Clarksville. 29 miles to trailhead.

**May 20 - Monthly Meeting.**

**May 31 to Jun 1 - Overnight Outing, Edgar Evans State Park.** We must pre register to reserve a campsite: tent campsites \$8.00/night; RV campsites \$20/night. On the 31st we will hike Millennium and Merritt Ridge Trails, 7.9 miles, difficult. On June 1st we will float the Caney Fork River: canoe rental 2 persons, \$45.00. Paul Schwab 931-801-9484. Meet 8:00 am CT, I 24 Exit 11 commuter parking lot. 101 miles to trailhead.

## COLUMBIA/FRANKLIN CHAPTER

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**HIKE COORDINATOR:** Jane Coffey 615-516-6551  
[columbiahikes@tennesseetrails.org](mailto:columbiahikes@tennesseetrails.org)  
**MEETS MONTHLY:** 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday at Fulin's Asian Cuisine, 1009 Crossings Boulevard, Spring Hill. Socializing and dinner at 6:00 pm CT; meeting starts at 7:00pm.

**May 6 - Chapter Meeting.** "Exploring Great Middle Tennessee Hiking Spots". Sandy Obodzinski, Associate Director of Philanthropy with The Nature Conservancy and Tennessee Naturalist in-training, will facilitate an interactive presentation that explores wonderful hiking spots in Middle Tennessee. Get reacquainted with forgotten gems and discover a few new places to explore! Sandy will share detailed information about the many hiking options in the mid-state, including the best time of year to visit certain places, family-friendly hikes, difficulty ratings plus safety tips, all while featuring beautiful photographs of these special places. Intertwined with these featured places, she'll also share some updates about The Nature Conservancy's work throughout the state to protect and restore healthy forest systems, combat invasive pests and pathogens, and partner with other organizations to develop healthy water plans throughout Tennessee.

**May 16, to 18 - Weekend in the Smokies.** We will travel (car pool) on Friday morning and plan to stay in a Newport, TN hotel. If you prefer to camp, we can meet at the trailhead each day. Bring water, sturdy hiking boots, and lunch for the trail. For more information and to register, please contact Laura Barber at [lbarber@earthlink.net](mailto:lbarber@earthlink.net) or by cell phone at 931-797-4450. Hikes may be altered depending on weather and group interest.

- **May 16 - Maddron Bald Trail to Albright Grove Loop and return. 6.8 miles. Moderate.** The first 2.3 miles of Maddron Bald trail are along an old road and offer pleasant, easy walking beside Buckeye Creek. There is an elevation gain of 1,500'. The highlight of this hike is virgin forest, where Tuliptrees, Fraser Magnolias and maples have grown into giants.
- **May 17 - Boogerman Loop Trail (includes Caldwell Fork Trail). 7.4 miles. Moderate.** Highlights of this trail are old-growth forests, stone walls and views of Cataloche Divide. It crosses Cataloche Creek on a long foot bridge over 25' in length - reputedly the park's longest log bridge. The trail is noteworthy for its many stream crossings (most via foot bridges). Good boots and careful foot placement will keep you dry on most days. Caldwell Fork trail is also a horse trail so it may be muddy. Elevation gain is 1,100'.
- **May 18 - Porters Creek Trail - 3.6 miles to Fern Branch Falls and back (600' elevation gain) - or 7.2 miles to Campsite #31 and back (1500' elevation gain). Moderate.** This trail is famous for its wildflower displays in April and May. There is a grove of old growth hemlock forest at Campsite #31.

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## COVE LAKE HIKING CHAPTER

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This chapter is in the process of being reorganized.

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

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## DYER COUNTY CHAPTER

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This chapter is in the process of being reorganized.

For further information, contact Graydon Swisher at 901-737-3114 or, [westregional@tennesseetrails.org](mailto:westregional@tennesseetrails.org). In the interim, you are welcome to attend (13 to select from) other chapters' outings, events and meetings.

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## EAST TN CHAPTER (Oak Ridge / Knoxville)

**CHAPTER CHAIR:** Rosemary Marshall 865-951-8317  
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**WEBMASTER:** Sherry Barber 865-209-6189  
[sbarber6189@comcast.net](mailto:sbarber6189@comcast.net)

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**May 10 - White Oak Sinks via Chestnut Top Trail, GSMNP. 7.5 miles. Moderate.** This hike will start at the Townsend Wye parking lot entrance to the Park. We'll begin ascending Chestnut Top Trail for 1200' over a distance of 2.7 miles before intersecting School House Gap Trail at 4.3 miles and turning right. At the picnic tables at the park boundary we begin the off-trail descent into White Oak Sinks. While in the "Sinks" we'll check out the Bat Cave, sinkholes, the disappearing waterfall, and the abundance of wildflowers. We exit White Oak Sinks via a sometimes steep, well-worn path that leads back to School House Gap Trail near the Turkey Pen Ridge Trail intersection. It's then just 1.1 miles down to Laurel Fork Rd. Wear sturdy hiking boots and bring lunch and water. Meet at 9:00 am ET at the Townsend Wye. To pre-register, contact Rosie at [rosemary\\_L@hotmail.com](mailto:rosemary_L@hotmail.com) or 865-951.8317.

**May 17 - East Lakeshore Trail** We will meet at the Glendale Branch Trailhead at 10:00 am ET and head out to connect with the Coytee Loop Trail for a total of approximately 6.0 miles. The trail basically follows the shoreline of Tellico Lake, is relatively flat with a few small hills but nothing difficult. 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](mailto:rushga01@yahoo.com).

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## HIGHLAND RIM CHAPTER (Coffee and Franklin Counties)

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**OUTINGS & PROGRAM COORDINATOR & NEWSLETTER CONTACT:** Joan Hartvigsen 931-962-0811  
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(contact Joan & volunteer to lead an outing)

**MEETS MONTHLY:** 4<sup>th</sup> Monday at 7:00 pm CT at the D. W. Wilson Community Ctr., 501 N. Collins St., Tullahoma.

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**May 3 – Savage Day Loop with Savage Falls Spur, Savage Gulf State Natural Area, Palmer, TN. 5 miles. Easy.** We will hike along cascading Savage Creek lined with Mountain Laurel and Hemlock Trees on the South Rim Trail to visit Savage Falls. Then we will backtrack to rejoin the Savage Day Loop, where another spur leads to an awesome overlook of Savage Falls. Next we will hike along the edge of Savage Gulf to Rattlesnake Overlook, where we can see the length of Savage Gulf. Bring water, snacks, lunch, hiking sticks and hiking boots. Meet our hike leader, Volunteer Naturalist Joan Hartvigsen, at the Savage Gulf Ranger Station at 9:00 am CT or contact her at [jhartvigs@comcast.net](mailto:jhartvigs@comcast.net), 931-962-0811, for carpool information. This hike includes two of the introductory hikes for the Friends of South Cumberland Hike 14 hiking program.

**May 10 – “Hike ‘Em All in 2014”. Sewanee Natural Bridge and Buggy Top.** Sewanee Natural Bridge, a geologist's delight, and Buggy Top Cave hikes will be led by Volunteer Naturalist Marietta Poteet. Because Buggy Top is 4 miles round trip and has a steep ascent/descent please wear good hiking boots and bring water and a snack. Meet Marietta at 9:00 am CT at the parking lot of Natural Bridge off of Highway 56. Call Marietta at 931-924-7666 for further information.

**May 11 – Old Spann House Trail, 4 miles easy, Clifton Doyle Trail, 1 mile easy, plus a Picnic, Tims Ford State Park, Winchester, TN.** This Sunday afternoon hike features oak/hickory forests, gently rolling hills, thick stands of mature Eastern Red Cedar and towering Pine Trees. The trail follows the shoreline of beautiful Tims Ford Lake on the “lollipop” section of the Old Spann House trail. Along our way we will see the stone fireplace and foundation of the Spann House. The only things this trail lacks are dead trees and rocks. The Clifton Doyle Trail is named in memory of Clifton and Doyle Snell who lost their lives near this trail in 1952. This trail offers views of Leatherwood Island and Wiseman Bend area of Tims Ford Lake. Meet our hike leader, Joan Hartvigsen, at 2:00 pm CT at the Tims Ford State Park Visitor Center parking lot. Bring water and snacks. Contact Joan Hartvigsen at [jhartvigs@comcast.net](mailto:jhartvigs@comcast.net) or 931-962-0811 to let her know you are coming. We will share a Sunday picnic dinner in the park after our hike. Tell Joan what food you want to bring to the picnic.

**May 17 – Mountain Goat Hike from Sewanee to Cowan, 6 miles gentle downhill plus a rocky two miles on the valley floor from the mountainside into the town of Cowan.** Car shuttle is required. Meet our hike leader Sally Hubbard at the Blue Chair Restaurant in Sewanee at 9:00 am CT. At 9:30 am we will begin. On the hike we will pass by Cumberland Mountain Tunnel where we will clamber up to look into three airshafts and have our snack while looking across into the Sherwood Valley. At the time of the tunnel's completion in 1852 it was the longest railroad tunnel in the world. The ceiling of the tunnel was raised about fifty years ago to accommodate double-decker truck trailers on flat-bed railroad cars. The highest point on the railway between Nashville and Chattanooga is in the tunnel and "Pusher" engines are attached to heavy trains to push them through the tunnel. We will have lunch at the Fiesta Grill Mexican Restaurant in Cowan. Wear good hiking boots and bring hiking sticks, water and snacks. Sally asks that we please walk any dogs on short leashes behind the other hikers. Let Sally know you are coming at 931-598-5338.

**May 19 – Chapter Meeting.** We will have dinner at 5:00 pm CT at Ruby Tuesday, 1936 N. Jackson St., Tullahoma. Our meeting is 7:00 pm at D. W. Wilson Community Center. This is a joint meeting with the Friends of Short Springs State Natural Area. Our speaker is Fount Bertram, President of The Friends of Tennessee State Parks Coalition. The Coalition was formed to provide a source of information, encouragement and support for all the Friends of Tennessee State Parks groups.

**May 24 - Raven Point Loop, South Cumberland State Park, Tracy City, TN. 10.4 miles. Difficult. 550 ft. elevation change. This is a joint hike with the Friends of South Cumberland State Park.** Hike #13 of the "Hike all 14 in 2014" program. Bring a lot of water, snacks, lunch, hiking poles, a light and wear sturdy hiking boots. Meet our hike leaders Marietta Poteet and Naullain Kendrick at 9:00 am CT at the Grundy Forest picnic shelter. On this beautiful hike we will see massive hemlocks, cascading Fiery Gizzard Creek, wildflowers, Blue Hole, Black Canyon and Sycamore Falls. We will visit Raven Point, a wonderful bluff with a great view looking over the Gorge of Gizzard Cove. This hike is difficult because the trail is rocky with exposed roots and there are several boulder fields to hike through. For more information contact Marietta at 931-924-7666 or [nannietta@blomand.net](mailto:nannietta@blomand.net) and Naullain Kendrick, [naullain@hotmail.com](mailto:naullain@hotmail.com), 931-224-6225.

**May 26 – Memorial Day Lake Party and Picnic.** Joette Carter has invited us to her home on Keith Springs Mountain off of TN Hwy 16 for Memorial Day. The fun begins at 11:00 am CT and includes hiking, swimming, canoeing, kayaking and picnicking. Bring a meat to grill and a side dish or dessert to share. We will eat around 12:30 pm. Our hike begins at 1:30 pm and is about four to five miles. Directions: Take TN Highway 16 South up Keith Springs Mountain toward the Walls of Jericho State Natural Area and Alabama. Travel about ten miles on Hwy 16 South and turn left onto Jehovah Jireh Lane between mile marker 23 and 24 and follow the paved driveway to the lake. For more information contact Joette at 256-776-3551.

**May 31 – Overlook Trail, Waterfalls Trail and West Rim Trail, Cloudland Canyon State Park, Trenton, GA. 7 miles. Strenuous.** This beautiful park is located on the western edge of Lookout Mountain. The park straddles a deep gorge cut into the mountain by Sitton Gulch Creek and offers many spectacular overlooks of the mountain gorge and awesome Cherokee Falls and Hemlock Falls. The Rhododendron should be in bloom. Wear sturdy hiking boots and bring hiking poles, water, snacks and lunch. Email Joan Hartvigsen at [jhartvigs@comcast.net](mailto:jhartvigs@comcast.net) or call 931-962-0811 for more information.

**Planning Ahead**

**Jun 20-22 – Camping at Elkmont Campground, Hiking in The Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Joint activity with the Murfreesboro Chapter.** Register early with Joan Hartvigsen, [jhartvigs@comcast.net](mailto:jhartvigs@comcast.net) or 931-962-0811. We will leave for the GSMNP early Friday morning to set up camp and then go on our Friday hike. Contact Joan Hartvigsen, Highland Rim, and Sara Pollard, Murfreesboro, for carpool information. We will camp two nights and hike three days. Friday: Chimney Tops Trail, 4 miles round trip, rocky, strenuous, 1,650 ft. elevation change. At the top we will enjoy a 360-degree view of the surrounding mountains, including Mt. LeConte. Alternate hike: Cove Hardwood Nature Trail. Old Growth Forest. Saturday: Charles Bunion, 8 miles round trip, moderate, 1,000 ft. elevation change. Spectacular views. Sunday: Gregory Ridge Trail to Gregory Bald, 11 miles round trip, strenuous, 3,000 ft. elevation change. Old Growth Forest, blooming Flaming Azaleas on grassy Gregory Bald, great views into Cades Cove, 360-degree view of mountain peaks. We will share a picnic lunch Friday evening at Elkmont Campground. Saturday evening we will have dinner in Gatlinburg. Bring food for breakfasts and lunches and our Friday evening picnic.

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**JACKSON CHAPTER**

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**OUTINGS COORDINATOR:** Glen Rognstad 731-217-5966  
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*(call Glen & volunteer to lead an outing)*  
**MEETS MONTHLY:** 1<sup>st</sup> Monday at Perkins Restaurant, Vann Drive, Jackson. Socializing & dinner starts at 6:00 pm CT; meeting starts 6:45 pm

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**May 5 - Chapter Meeting.** Rick Lausten from the Columbia/Franklin TTA chapter will speak on the Sea to Sea Hike hiking trip that he recently took across England. We will meet for dinner at Perkins Restaurant at 6 pm and Rick will speak and show pictures beginning about 6:45 pm. We hope that everybody can come.

**May 15 - Friends of the Library event.** At the Jackson Main Library, Jennifer Pharr Davis will talk about her record breaking walk on the Appalachian Trail and the book that she wrote on the experience "Called Again". The presentation is scheduled to begin at 6:15 pm.

**May 17 - Camping Trip.** A camping trip originally planned for May 10 is being planned instead for May 17. If you are interested in knowing more about this trip, please contact Glen Rognstad at 731 217-5966 or [glenrognstad@gmail.com](mailto:glenrognstad@gmail.com).

**Planning Ahead:**

**Jun 7 - National Trails Day**

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

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## MEMPHIS CHAPTER

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

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**May 3 - Chickasaw State Park.** This popular park features a pretty lake surrounded by ridges, and is situated on some of the highest terrain in West Tennessee offering over 100 miles of hiking! We will hike 3-4 miles through the forest and for additional distance there is optional hiking along dirt roads in the state forest. Other options are to paddleboat or row on the lake. For lunch, we will meet and eat at the park restaurant, which serves home style country cooking, so bring water and snack, but leave the lunch at home! Meet at the Park Visitor Center at 9:45 am CT or for carpooling meet at 8:15 am behind Sears Auto at Wolfchase Mall. To register for carpool or questions contact Freddi Felt at *fffelt@att.net* or 901-737-8882. Directions: Take US-64 E and TN-100 E/Hwy 100 E. The park is located on Hwy 100 E about 55 miles east of Wolfchase Mall. [www.tnstateparks.com/parks/about/Chickasaw](http://www.tnstateparks.com/parks/about/Chickasaw).

**May 10 - Hike & Annual Picnic, Herb Parsons Lake State Park.** Join us for an easy 6-mile hike around the lake and through the woods. Meet at 9:30 am CT at the lake and bring water. After the hike we will celebrate a great hike season at Herb Parsons Lake. We will grill hotdogs. Please bring your favorite potluck dish, salad, or desert and lawn chair. We hike to eat! The chapter will provide hotdogs, buns, relish, ketchup, mustard, paper plates, flatware, napkins, drinks, and ice. Activities include horseshoes, fishing (bring your rod) and hiking or just conversation. Bring a friend. Rain will cancel hike and picnic. Please register in advance so that we will know how many hikers plan to eat. Register by email *ttamemphis@gmail.com* or call Carolyn Pierce at 901-755-5695.

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## MURFREESBORO CHAPTER

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

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

**MEETS MONTHLY:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at 7:00 pm CT, Barfield-Crescent Park's Wilderness Station, 697 Veterans Parkway, Murfreesboro

**BLOG:** [www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/murfreesboro](http://www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/murfreesboro)

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**May 10 - Nashville City Walk. 5 miles. Easy.** I'm bringing this hike back by popular demand. This is a beginner hike and suitable for all family members. We will enjoy views along the Cumberland River starting at the Metro Center Levee and walking the greenway to lower Broadway in downtown Nashville. We will explore the Riverfront, along with Fort Nashboro, and then take in a lunch at the Hard Rock Café before retracing our steps back to Metro Center. Contact Tony Jones at 615-397-4463 or *awj1968@comcast.net*.

**May 13 – Monthly Meeting. 6:00 pm. NOTE TIME CHANGE.** This will be our planning meeting for July-December hikes. Bring your calendar to schedule hikes you want to lead or ideas for hikes you would like to experience. Bring a finger food to share and drinks will be provided. If you want to lead a hike and cannot attend the meeting, contact Cathy Bingham at *corgylover@bellsouth.net* or 615-890-9791(home) leave a message if before 4 pm.

**May 17-18 – Walls of Jericho Backpack. 7 miles total round-trip. Difficult due to rocky terrain and elevation.** After we hike in about 3 miles, we will set up tents at Clark Cemetery on Turkey Creek. Then we will hike an additional half-mile into the "Walls". We'll take our time hiking out Sunday morning. Meet at 10:00 am CT Saturday morning at the Sam's Club parking lot in Murfreesboro to carpool. To register, contact Sara Pollard at *sarabpollard@gmail.com* or 615-714-3610.

**May 31 - Foster Falls Area Hike, S. Cumberland State Park near Tracy City. 4.5 miles. Moderate.** We will hike down to the river to view the falls, then skirt along the bottom of famous cliffs known to rappel climbers as the White Walls and the Dihedrals. A steep climb precedes our way back along the top of the cliffs. You will need sturdy boots and plenty of water. After the hike we will have lunch in Tracy City. Register with Nabil Wakid at *nwakid@bellsouth.net* or call 615-893-7942.

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## NASHVILLE CHAPTER

**CHAPTER CHAIR:** Doug Burroughs 615-283-0507  
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**OUTINGS COORDINATOR:** Nancy Juodenas 615-319-8811  
*nashvillehikes@tennesseetrails.org*  
*(email Nancy & volunteer to lead an outing)*

**MEETS MONTHLY:** 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday at 7:00 pm CT in the REI  
Community Room, 261 Franklin Road, Brentwood. For  
directions, visit: [www.tennesseetrails.org/nashville.php](http://www.tennesseetrails.org/nashville.php)  
**BLOG:** [www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/nashville](http://www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/nashville)

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**May 10 - Downtown Nashville Urban hike. 4 miles. Easy.**  
We will walk from the Farmers Market, south, across  
downtown to Rutledge Hill and return by a different route.  
The hike will pass points of interest that include the state  
capitol, civil war historical sites, the honky tonk district, a  
river view, the new convention center, and various  
architectural gems downtown. Meet at the north end of the  
Farmers Market at 10 am CT. Free parking is nearby. For  
more information and to register call or e-mail Tom  
Vickstrom, 615-405-6713 or  
*tvickstrom@thehermitagehotel.com*.

**May 17 - Piney River section of the Cumberland Trail,  
near Spring City, TN. 8.46 miles. Moderate.** Starting from  
the picnic area on Shut-in Gap Road the trail climbs steeply.  
The Twin Rocks Nature Trail takes off to the left about .1  
miles from the picnic area. The trail continues up the slope,  
then follows the side of the mountain for another 3/4 miles,  
where a trail branches off to descend to the river. After  
hiking another 2.2 miles the hiker encounters the  
picturesque 100 foot suspension bridge. Then the trail  
follows an old dinky railroad, almost level, crosses a 20 foot  
bridge over Pine Branch, then a 45 foot bridge over Rock  
House Branch. A side trail leads 1/2 mile to the "bathtub", a  
7 foot deep basin in the stream. The trail continues, winding  
up and down the slope as it continues upstream, through a  
beautiful stand of large hardwoods called Big Cove. Spider  
Den Bluff is the next interesting feature. Then the trail winds  
past White Pine Cascades to cross the road. The trail  
parallels the road generally uphill to Newby Forest Camp  
trailhead. This trail is known for its abundance of spring  
wildflowers which should be in full swing by this time in May.  
Sturdy hiking boots are a must on this hike. Along with  
these bring water, snacks, lunch and money for carpooling.  
This hike will require a car drop so we will need at least two  
cars making the trip. For more information and to register  
call Nancy Juodenas at 615-319-8811 or e-mail  
*njuodenas@yahoo.com*.

**May 18 - Sewanee Perimeter Loop, Sewanee, TN. 9  
miles. Moderate to Difficult (due to distance and  
elevation changes).** We will start at Greens View and hike  
counter-clockwise to a nice overlook before crossing over  
the plateau on a forest road that passes by the equestrian  
center. On the other a side of the plateau, we'll hike down to  
Bridalveil Falls and then across to the War Memorial at  
University View. From there, we walk across the University  
campus back to the start. Bring lunch/snacks, water, good  
hiking boots, and clothing appropriate to the weather.  
Option: Stop by the newly re-opened Shenanagins for post-  
hike nourishment. Call Doug Burroughs at 615-587-0085 for  
more information and to register. Meet at Exit 62 on I-24 at  
the Truck Stops of America at 7:30 am CT. We should be  
at trailhead around 9:30 am.

## Nashville Chapter – con't.

**May 28 - Annual Chapter Picnic.** Shelter 10 at Edwin  
Warner Park, Nashville, TN. 4:00 pm CT until sunset.  
Following a pot luck meal at 6:00 pm, we'll take a twilight  
hike. The chapter will provide tableware, napkins, and ice.  
But we encourage you to bring your own non-disposable  
"mess kits" as a more sustainable alternative. If you have  
camping lantern, it will be welcome since the shelters  
aren't lighted. For the twilight hike, you will want a  
flashlight or headlamp. Bring friends! This is the only  
chapter meeting that also includes a hike, so bring along a  
friend who's been thinking about hiking. Directions from  
Nashville: Drive west on West End/Harding. Turn left at  
the "split" in Belle Meade. You will be on Highway 100.  
Continue on Highway 100 for 3.2 miles and turn left on  
Old Hickory Blvd. Drive 0.7 miles over the ridge and turn  
right on Vaughn Road at the traffic light. In about 0.3  
miles, turn right into the Edwin Warner Park Picnic Area.  
Shelter #10 is almost at the end. When you see a  
permanent rest room building, turn left and then left again  
at the fork immediately following. For more information,  
contact Doug Burroughs at  
*dougburroughs@tennessee.usa.com* or 615-587-0085.

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## Second Quarter TTA Board Meeting

May 3  
1:00 pm to 5:00 pm CT  
REI, Brentwood

- Annual Meeting Update
- Formation of Working Committees

***All members are welcome to attend!***

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## 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:** 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

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## PLATEAU CHAPTER (Crossville)

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

**TREASURER:** June Parker 615-945-7462  
Bill Quattrociocchi 931-484-4230  
*plateautreas@tennesseetrails.org*

**MEETS MONTHLY:** 2nd Thursday at 6:30 pm CT  
**BLOG:** [www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/plateau](http://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.

**May 3 – Greeter Falls, Savage Gulf State Natural Area. 7 miles. Moderate.** A shuttle will be required. The hike will start at Greeter Falls and then continue along the Big Creek Rim. We will end at the Stone Door Ranger Station. Depart from Tractor Supply at 8 am CT. To register or for additional information, contact Bill Harris at 931-484-9152 or Jim Lamb at 931-484-5991 or [jameslamb@frontier.com](mailto:jameslamb@frontier.com).

**May 8 - Chapter Meeting. Potluck dinner at Meadow Park Lake.** Meet for dinner at 5:00 pm CT. If there is enough interest, we will explore the new area of trail that is under construction. To register or for additional information, contact Cheryl Heckler at 931-456-6437 or [thehecklers@charter.net](mailto:thehecklers@charter.net).

**May 10 – Brady Mountain Trail Maintenance, Crossville. 8 miles possible. Moderate.** The Plateau Chapter has adopted the Brady Mountain section of the Cumberland Trail. Bring gloves, water, snacks, and tools to trim back brush and briars. The trail across Brady Mountain is 8 miles, so be prepared for a hike of that length. Depart Trinity Tabernacle Church at 7:30 am CT. For more information and to register, contact Bruce Whitehead at [trailwalker80@gmail.com](mailto:trailwalker80@gmail.com) or 941-716-3620.

**May 17 - Maude's Crack via River, Big South Fork NRR. 7 miles. Moderate.** The hike will begin at the junction of Watson Cemetery Rd and Terry Cemetery Rd, and proceed down Watson Cemetery Rd. to the cemetery where we pick up a little known trail down to the John Muir Trail. Then, we follow the trail along the South Fork of the Cumberland River to an old homestead and natural spring along Parched Corn Creek. We will retrace our path back past Watson Cemetery trail to Maude's Crack, a large crack in the side of the cliffs. The trail goes through the crack and allows access to the top of the bluff where there is a wonderful overlook of No Business Creek valley below. The last mile or so of the hike will follow Terry Cemetery road back to the vehicles. Depart from the back of Cracker Barrel in Crossville at 8:00 am CT. Contact Curt Thomas at [curtthomas@frontiernet.net](mailto:curtthomas@frontiernet.net) or 931-260-2140 to register or for additional information.

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## SODDY-DAISY CHAPTER

**CHAPTER CO-CHAIRS:** Ed & Donna Pyers 423-344-9271  
*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>*

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**May 3 – Laurel Falls to overlook. Approximately 6 miles. Moderate to strenuous with a water crossing.** Meet at Durham Street parking lot in Soddy Daisy at 8 am ET. Hike leader: George Bonneau.

**May 6 – Lower Leggett loop. Approximately 5 miles. Moderate.** Meet at Durham Street parking lot in Soddy Daisy at 8 am ET. Hike leader: Gail Stokes 973-632-7463.

**May 10 – Retro Hughes Road to Imodium Falls and back. Approximately 10 miles. Strenuous.** Meet at Durham Street parking lot in Soddy Daisy at 8 am ET. Hike leader: Roger Downs [rdowns@bledsoe.net](mailto:rdowns@bledsoe.net).

**May 13 – Cedar Mountain if open. Approximately 5-6 miles. Moderate.** Meet at Bi-Lo parking lot in Red Bank at 8 am ET. Hike Leader: George Bonneau.

**May 17 – Nickajack Connector Trail. Approximately 6-8 miles. Moderate.** Meet at Bi-Lo parking lot in Red Bank at 8 am ET. Hike Leader: George Bonneau.

**May 20 – Enterprise South. Approximately 6-6.5 miles. Easy to moderate.** Meet at Target parking lot on Hwy 153 at 8 am ET. Hike leader: John Nelson 423-488-4843.

**May 24 – Booker T Washington State Park. Approximately 7 miles. Easy to moderate.** Meet at Target parking lot on Hwy 153 at 8 am ET. Hike leader: Ed Pyers 423-344-0271.

**May 27 – Mowbray Pike to Sluder Lane. Approximately 5 miles. Moderate.** Meet at Durham Street parking lot in Soddy Daisy at 8 am ET. Hike leader: John Politte 423-304-8327.

**May 31 – Retro Hughes Trailhead to Upper Leggett Road Trailhead and back. Approximately 10 miles. Strenuous.** Meet at Durham Street parking lot in Soddy Daisy at 8 am ET. Hike leader: John Politte 423-304-8327.

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## SUMNER TRAILS CHAPTER

**CHAPTER CO-CHAIRS:** Jane Hamm 615-757-3331  
Gayle Livingston 615-264-2940  
*sumner@tennesseetrails.org*

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

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**May 6 - Chapter Meeting.** Pat Cummins, President of the Native History Association will speak about the efforts of the association to research and document the Trail of Tears through Middle Tennessee. He will tell us about the Old Jefferson Trail of Tears pedestrian hiking trail which was discovered in 2012. Pat will also tell us about the recent research and discovery of the 1823 Nashville Covered Toll Bridge abutment in downtown Nashville along the Nashville Riverfront Greenway at Victory Memorial Bridge. The bridge was used by 11,000 Cherokee to cross the Cumberland in 1838 and after 1851, the site was completely lost to history until its discovery in 2012. Pat is a Cherokee descendant and Nashville resident. He holds a degree in Mortuary Science from Kansas City Community College. He has served as President of the Alliance for Native American Indian Rights from 1998 to 2009. A passion for history and historic research led him to study anthropology at MTSU, and he has worked as a professional archaeologist and previously served on the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Council for Professional Archaeology. Pat was appointed to the Governors Archaeological Advisory Council in 2004 as a Native American representative and continues to serve in that capacity today. Pat was a Men's Northern Traditional Dancer for many years and remains actively involved with a number of regional Native American Powwows and other cultural events as an educator on matters of Native American historical importance.

**May 17 - Trail of Tears segment at Old Jefferson in Murfreesboro. 2.5 miles. Easy.** Old Jefferson is the site of a town that was founded in 1802 at a fork in the Stones River. Several detachments of Cherokee passed through the town in 1838. Pat Cummins, President of the Native History Association will lead this hike. The trail is mostly level ground, but there is a slight incline in one section. The trail can be rough in places and muddy after a rain. You will want to wear suitable hiking shoes. Bring water, a snack and bug spray if the weather is warm. We will eat at a local restaurant after the hike. Meet at 9:00 am CT in the Kroger parking lot (Glenbrook Shopping Center, Hendersonville) or at 10:15 at the trail parking lot just beyond the East Fork Recreation Area sign. Call 615-403-0002 or email *Judy\_Jenkins@comcast.net* for more information. Please let hike leaders Ron and Judy know if you will be meeting them at Old Jefferson and call to confirm hike if threatening weather.

**May 24 - White House Greenway. 4 miles. Easy.** This is a paved greenway; boots not required. We will begin our hike at the White House High School trailhead located at 508 Tyree Springs Rd. The trail will take us along Honey Run Creek where we will encounter beautiful trees and wildlife. We'll hike to the 31W trailhead, then return to the high school. Afterwards, we will eat lunch at a local restaurant. Meet at First Presbyterian Church, Hendersonville at 9:00 am CT or at the White House High School trailhead at 9:45. Please contact hike leaders Jane Hamm at *janetntrails@gmail.com* or 615-757-3331 or Gayle Livingston at *gayleerose@comcast.net* or 615-264-2940 for more information, if you plan to meet at the White House High School trailhead, or to confirm hike if threatening weather.

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## 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*

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**May 3 - Charlie's Bunion, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Gatlinburg, TN.** Our hike begins at Newfound Gap and will follow the Appalachian Trail to Charlie's Bunion, a huge rock outcrop with views all around. There will be an optional side-trip to the Jump-Off. The hike is 8 miles (9 with the Jump-Off) and is rated moderate to strenuous due to the uneven and rocky terrain. Bring snacks, headlamp, water, and lunch. You can meet us in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville at 7:00 am CT. For information and to register contact Gary Kimbrell at 931-215-9520 or *Gary.Kimbrell@fbttn.com*.

**May 10 - Chimney Top Trail, Frozen Head State Park, Wartburg, TN.** We will hike to Chimney Top from the ranger station via the Chimney Top Trail. The view from the top is wonderful. We will lunch at the top and those who want a shorter hike can then retreat along the ridge top to the Spicewood Branch Trail for a total distance of about 9.1 miles. Those wanting a longer hike can proceed to the Lookout Tower for some more great views from atop Frozen Head mountain returning via the North Old Mac trail for a total distance of 12 miles. Bring lunch, water, snacks, headlamp, and wear good hiking boots. Elevation changes and the distance covered make both routes strenuous. You can meet us in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville at 7:30 am CT. We will leave from the ranger station about 9:30 am CT. For information and to register contact Gary Kimbrell at 931-215-9520 or *Gary.Kimbrell@fbttn.com*.

**May 17 - Walls of Jericho Wilderness and Recreation Area, Winchester, TN- Jackson Co., AL.** The Walls of Jericho is a massive unique natural geological rock formation featuring 150-200 foot vertical limestone walls at the closed end of the half-mile long narrow wooded canyon. The hike is about 9 miles total and is mostly downhill going into the gorge so the return trip is mostly uphill. The trail is often muddy after rains. There is a tricky descent from the trail to the stream, which can be hazardous, with several stream crossings. The hike will begin at the TN trailhead, and return to the TN trailhead. This hike is rated strenuous. There is an option to backpack in and camp. All dogs must be on a leash at all times. Bring hiking shoes, snacks, water, and lunch. You can meet us in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville at 6:30 am CT, at the US Bank across from McDonald's in Sparta at 7:00 am, or at the trailhead at 9:00 am. For more information and to register contact Cindy Watson at 931-247-1459 or *cgrwatson@gmail.com*.

**May 24 - Virgin Falls, DeRossett.** Virgin Falls is one of the most interesting falls in Tennessee. Virgin Falls flows out of one cave, and into another. Reaching it requires a rugged 9 mile round trip hike that passes by three other waterfalls and lots of beautiful scenery. There is a stream crossing and some difficult footing on this hike, including the need to cross a rock field at Big Laurel Falls. Bring snacks, water, lunch, and hiking boots. You can meet us in Cookeville at JC Penney's at 8:00 am CT or the US Bank across from McDonald's in Sparta at 8:30 am. For information and to register contact Marnell Cothran at 931-738-5874 or *leron@blomand.net*.



## OFFICERS:

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**TN Rails To Trails Advisory Council Representative**  
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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 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

May 3 ..... Board of Directors' Quarterly Meeting, REI, Brentwood.  
 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

## Newsletter Deadlines:

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

<u>Due</u>	<u>For Newsletter Dated</u>
May 10 .....	Jun 1
Jun 10 .....	Jul 1
Jul 10 .....	Aug 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**

May 14

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](mailto:membership@tennesseetrails.org)

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

**PLEASE, PRINT CLEARLY.**

\_\_\_ Individual \$25.00  
\_\_\_ Family \$35.00  
\_\_\_ Student (FULL TIME) \$15.00  
\_\_\_ Supporting (\$50.00, \$100.00 or more)  
\_\_\_ Life Member (Individual) \$500.00  
\_\_\_ Life Member (Family) \$750.00

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ -- \_\_\_\_\_  
Work Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

- Please do not list my e-mail address in the TTA Annual Membership Directory  
 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](http://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.**