

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.

SUPPORTING THE CUMBERLAND TRAIL



2020 TTA Annual Conference Save the Date

The Nashville and Sumner Trails Chapters will host the conference October 23 - 25, 2020 at Montgomery Bell State Park in Burns TN, about an hour west of Nashville.

Attendees will have the option of newly renovated rooms at the Park's Inn or the campground inside the State Park. There is also commercial lodging in Dickson and other nearby towns.

In addition to Montgomery Bell, our hikes will include other nearby State and Municipal Parks and urban hikes in Nashville.

Members of the Nashville and Sumner Trails Chapters are looking forward to hosting hikers from across Tennessee!

Registration information for INN ROOMS: Phone the Inn & Conference Center directly to make your reservation (615-797-3101 or 800-250-8613). Provide our GROUP CODE 9880 to receive special discount pricing on the Inn Rooms. Inn Rooms (some have 1K; some have 2Q) do not require a 2-night minimum but a deposit of one full night's stay is required (\$143.44/night; includes the tax). Any remaining group rate rooms will be released for general reservation on 9/8/20, so don't wait until the last minute! Discounts for Seniors, Veterans, and Tennessee State Employees are available only when booking separately from our group rate.

For the CAMPGROUND, contact the Park Office at 615-797-9052 or <https://tnstateparks.com/parks/campground/montgomery-bell>. All sites come with a grill, fire ring, picnic table, and access to the bath house (showers with hot water). Campground sites are \$15-35*/night, before taxes.

President's Corner

I'm a little uncomfortable writing this "corner" as I'm uncertain at this time if we will be out of COVID-19 quarantine when the May newsletter comes out. On the news I heard VUMC say it may be June before we can let our guard down. Hope springs eternal. I've always loved this time of year as the grass is greener, songbirds are singing and the bees are buzzing. This time of year also provides me with a sense of optimism and excitement as it's a great time to hike and explore.

During my quarantine I watched a 2009 PBS series which I highly recommend entitled "beautiful Tennessee" which included 3 episodes: beautiful Tennessee, beautiful Tennessee Our Scenic Waterways and beautiful Tennessee Parks & Preservation (yes, it's with a lower case "b"). Of interest to many of us the third episode had interviews with Mack Prichard, Randy Hedgepath, Bobby Fulcher and Mary Priestley et al. Wonderful series. You don't have to be a kayaker, a hiker, a poet, a caver, a limnologist, or a birder to enjoy Tennessee's breathtaking views of waterfalls, woodlands, mountains and rivers. You just have to be alive and take the time to soak it all in. Hopefully we can now enter the stress-free zone of the mountain as I think we are all ready for a new adventure. Get to know your state park rangers and volunteer your time. Check out State Naturalist courses. Go play.

To quote Henry David Thoreau "The question is not what you look at, but what you see." The next time you are with nature, see what you can see.

Also, remember to thank those who came before us and secured our parks and natural areas. Do your part to preserve our environment for the next generation. Keep hiking and hope to see you on the trails.

Mary Etta Ward
President



**Cumberland
Trails
Conference**

Office Location: 409 Thurman Avenue, Ste 102
Crossville, TN 38555
Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday
10 am – 3 pm CT
Phone: 931-456-6259
Office Staff: Teresa Kemmer
Email: ctcoffice2014@gmail.com
Website: www.cumberlandtrail.org

The Cumberland Trails Conference hosted Alternative Spring Break 2020 in March. Although scheduled for 5 weeks with lodging at The Head of the Sequatchie, ASB only lasted 2 weeks due to the Covid-19 virus. Ball State University, NOVA Southeastern University and Michigan State University students participated for week 1 as well as many volunteers. These participants were able to remove duff from 2640 feet of trail and remove countless stumps. Week 2 consisted of students from The University of Pittsburgh. Students and volunteers worked to remove 1150 feet of duff plus stumps as well as completing 1100 feet of the Cumberland Trail.

The Cumberland Trails Conference crew have taken off for several weeks to ensure the safety of the crew and their families during this crisis in our country. Trail work is expected to begin again soon.

The Cumberland Trails Conference has been working hard to update our website. Please go check out the changes with more to come at www.cumberlandtrail.org.

For amazing photos and up to date information go to [@cumberlandtrailsconference](https://www.instagram.com/cumberlandtrailsconference) on Instagram and look up The Cumberland Trails Conference page on Facebook and like it.

A passing of note to the CTC community and the Tennessee hiking community:

Gary L. Grametbauer, age 75, of Kingston, TN, died January 29, 2020, after a short illness. Gary was born in Canton, Ohio, and was a graduate of Hoover High School and the University of Akron. From the time he was a child, Gary had an abiding passion for and curiosity about the outdoors and the natural world, and with his move to Tennessee that grew into a great zeal for hiking. He was never happier or more at peace than when he was on the trail, always eager to know what might lie around the next bend. He was for many years an active volunteer with the Cumberland Trail Conference, which he served at one point as acting president. When indoors, he enjoyed doing genealogy research for himself, family members, and friends. He was a classical music lover and an accomplished pianist.

Be safe and stay healthy.

CLARKSVILLE CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Philip Anderson 931-561-0925
clarksville@tennesseetrails.org
VICE-CHAIR and CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVE:
Paul Schwab 931-801-9484
clarksville@tennesseetrails.org
TREASURER: Mary Schwab 931-645-9068
clarksvilletteas@tennesseetrails.org
SECRETARY: Mary Ann Harris 931-647-9321
clarkvillesecy@tennesseetrails.org
OUTINGS COORDINATOR: Paul Schwab 931-801-9484
clarkvillehikes@tennesseetrails.org
(call Paul & volunteer to lead an outing)
MEETS MONTHLY: 3rd Tuesday at 6:00 pm CT,
Crow Community Center, 211 Richview Rd.

No hikes scheduled.

COLUMBIA/FRANKLIN CHAPTER

CHAPTER CO-CHAIR: Jane Coffey 615-516-6551
columbia@tennesseetrails.org
CHAPTER CO-CHAIR AND BOARD REPRESENTATIVE:
Marvin Caine 931-486-1632
HIKE COORDINATOR: Jane Coffey 615-516-6551
columbiahikes@tennesseetrails.org
MEETS QUARTERLY: Meets quarterly at the Barnabas Center
at 506 Fair Street, Franklin, TN 37064. The Barnabas
Center is located behind St. Paul's Episcopal Church.
Social hour from 6:00 - 7:00 pm. Meeting at 7:00 pm.

Please check the TTA website for updates on our hikes.

LEAVE NO TRACE PRINCIPLES

- ✓ Leave what you find
- ✓ Minimize Campfire Impacts
- ✓ Respect wildlife
- ✓ Be considerate of other visitors
- ✓ Plan ahead and prepare
- ✓ Travel and camp on durable surfaces
- ✓ Dispose of waste properly.

EAST TN CHAPTER (Oak Ridge / Knoxville)

CHAPTER CHAIR: Rosemary Marshall 865-985-9144
easttennessee@tennesseetrails.org
WEBMASTER: Sherry Barber 865-209-6189
sbarber6189@comcast.net

May 2 - Abrams Falls in GSMNP. We will meet at Browns Creek Shopping Center in Maryville at 9:00 am ET to carpool to Cades Cove. We'll start the loop and be at Abrams Falls parking area about 10 am ET. The trail is rocky with lots of "ups and downs" for the 2.5 mile hike to the Falls. Abrams Falls is only 20 feet but the water volume more than makes up for the falls shortness. There will be swimming, rock climbing, and picnicking for our enjoyment. This hike will be about 4 to 5 hours and we may stop at the visitor center before exiting Cades Cove loop and heading back to Maryville. Any questions, call Rosie 865-985-9144 or email *rosemary_1@hotmail.com*. Pre-registration is advised since the park may or may not be open.

May 16 – Fairy House. Hoping the Smokies are open!! The Fairy House is one of the best kept secret spots in the Smokies. It was part of the Voorheis Estate around 1928-1944. We will take this easy 5 mile hike starting at Bud Ogle's Cabin off Cherokee Orchard Road close to Gatlinburg. The Fairy House is about a mile down the Twin Creeks trail, so some could head back to the cabin for a two miler. If the water is up, there will be a stream crossing that is not a rock hop. After visiting the Fairy House, we will continue to the end of Twin Creeks and back out the same way to make it about a 5 miler. There are several ways to do this hike. This trail could be a little mucky if it rained recently. We could stop on the way out at the Log Cabin Pancake Restaurant and eat. A Senior Breakfast with coffee is about \$8; they serve lunch items as well. If the weather is not cooperative, I will cancel, so be sure to sign up! Bring your water, snack, and water shoes. We will meet at 8:00 at Brown's Creek Shopping Center past Blount Memorial Hospital at the Sonic End on Hwy 321. If you meet us at the trailhead at Bud Ogle's Cabin, let me know. Karen Towle, Hike Leader, 865-254-2044.

HIGHLAND RIM CHAPTER (Coffee and Franklin Counties)

CHAPTER CHAIR: Tom Bentley 931-455-5849
highlandrim@tennesseetrails.org
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.

May 2 - TTA Board Meeting.

May 12 – Old Stone Fort State Archaeological Park, Manchester, TN. Joint Hike with the Soddy-Daisy Chapter. About 4 miles. Moderate because of steep ascent and eroded in places. Bring water, snacks, hiking sticks. Wear sturdy hiking boots. Please register with Joan Hartvigsen, *jhartvigs@comcast.net* or 931-962-0811. Meet at 9:00 am CT in front of the park's museum/visitor center. This hike will take us on the Enclosure Trail, Forks of the River Trail, Backbone Trail and Moat Trail. If we want, we can also hike the new Chumbley Woods Trails, which adds another mile. We will see Blue Hole Falls, Big Falls and Step Falls. We will hike along the cascading Duck and Little Duck Rivers. We will see where the Little Duck River joins the Duck River on its way downstream to Normandy Dam. We will climb up on a ridge line and look down on the tops of a hardwood forests.

May 16 - Normandy Lake Paddle to Ovoca Falls and Machine Falls. 9.2 miles. Meet at 9:30 am CT at the River Forge Road Boat Launch on Normandy Lake at the Firelake Public Use Area near Manchester, TN. The ramp is also known as Ward's Chapel Boat Ramp. We will paddle toward Ovoca Falls and leave our kayaks to walk in about ¼ mile to Ovoca Falls. After leaving Ovoca Falls we will paddle to Short Springs State Natural Area, leave our kayaks and walk in about ¼ mile to Machine Falls. Bring sun protection, snacks, lunch, hydration, water shoes and DO NOT FORGET PADDLE AND LIFE VEST. Contact Kathy Williams at *takeahiketwo@hotmail.com* or 931-434-0367.

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Highland Rim Chapter – con't.

May 18 – Chapter Meeting and Friends of Short Springs Membership Meeting. Dinner is 5:00 pm at Los Trojas Mexican Restaurant, 1905 N. Jackson Street, Tullahoma. The restaurant is near Kroger. The meeting is 7:00 pm at D. W. Wilson Community Center. Nancy Juodenas, Linda Latter and friends will present a program about a month-long adventure through Alaska and British Columbia taken by them and four other TTA members. Part of the adventure was to hike the 30 mile infamous Chilkoot Trail from Skagway, Alaska to Bennett, British Columbia. This trail has been designated a National Historic Trail because of its rich history associated with the Klondike Gold Stampede of 1898. Come follow the group's trek in the footsteps of the gold seekers, along with photos of bear sightings, glaciers and pristine wilderness. You will not be disappointed and you might even be inspired.

May 20 - Denny Cove Overlooks & Waterfall, South Cumberland State Park, Sequatchie, TN. 2.9 miles, moderate due to rocks, with the option to add 1.7 strenuous miles. We'll start off with an easy hike to two overlooks of Denny Cove to the left and the lower Fiery Gizzard Cove to the right, then continue on to the double-drop cascade of Denny Falls. On the way to the falls, we'll pass another nice overlook into the heart of Denny Cove and we'll navigate through rocks and boulders, which can be a bit strenuous at times, but it's worth it to view the splendor of Denny Falls. After a short break, we'll retrace our steps to complete the hike. If we wish, we can add another 1.7 miles out & back on the Denny East trail. While the Denny East trail is primarily used as climber access, it is a beautiful hike with dramatic, close-up views of the cliff-line that has made this area such an attraction for climbers. This trail includes significant rock scrambles, a short tunnel, loose rock and some narrow trail sections directly adjacent to significant drop-offs. Meet at 9 am at the Denny Cove trailhead at 5949 Highway 150, Sequatchie, TN. Please call or text Dawn Quarles at 423-443-7602 to register. Directions to trailhead: Drive south on US 41 past Tracy City and the turn off to Foster Falls on your right. The Denny Cove turn off is on your right about 1.6 miles south of Foster Falls. If you reach Jasper, TN you have gone too far. TN Hwy 150 and US Hwy 41 are the same road.

May 23 – Walls of Jericho State Natural Area, Belvidere, TN. 7.5 miles, out and back. Moderate. 1,427 foot elevation change. Marietta Poteet will lead this beautiful hike which features a waterfall and fascinating geological formations. We will hike from the Alabama trailhead. Bring water and lunch and hiking sticks. Wear sturdy hiking boots. Might need to bring water shoes. Please register with Marietta Poteet, email nannietta@blomand.net or call 931-924-766,

Highland Rim Chapter – con't.

May 30 – Short Springs State Natural Area, Tullahoma, TN. Fifth Saturday Work Day. Please meet at 9:00 am in the parking lot, 2250 Short Springs Road, TN. Register with Joan Hartvigsen, jhartvigs@comcast.net or 931-962-0811. Bring pruners or loppers, water, work gloves. Specific tasks will be announced closer to the date.

Planning Ahead:

Aug 31 - Sep 3 - Devils Fork State Park on Lake Jocassee, Salem SC near Cashiers NC. Camping at Devils Fork State Park, kayaking Lake Jocassee and hiking in nearby state parks. Also, take a power boat ride to view waterfalls of Lake Jocassee too far to paddle. The park has a boat ramp restricted to kayaks and canoes. Nearby state parks with great hiking trails are Keowee-Toxaway State Park, Table Rock State Park and Caesars Head State Park, Raven Cliff Falls. Also, the hike to the Lower Whitewater Falls on the Bad Creek Foothills Trail is a spectacular hike as well as the Chau Ram County Park hike along the Chauga River featuring several waterfalls. Two reserved tent campsites are lakeside with spectacular views of the lake and Blue Ridge Mountains. We have also reserved one RV campsite with 30 amp electricity and water. Contact Joan Hartvigsen to reserve a spot in one of these campsites, jhartvigs@comcast.net or 931-962-0811.

In Memorium

We lost our dear friend Sidney Sexton March 15, 2020 from complications of a stroke suffered March 4. Sidney was a long-time member of the Highland Rim Chapter of Tennessee Trails Association. We enjoyed hiking, camping and kayaking with him and his fiancée Jacquelyn Frazier Ewart. Sidney was a kind, soft spoken man born in Alexander City, Alabama. Sidney graduated from Auburn University. He began his career with IBM in Huntsville as part of the U.S. Space Program. He worked on the Apollo, Spacelab and Skylab programs for many years prior to his retirement. Later Sidney was employed by Intergraph Corporation until his second retirement. Sidney is survived by his daughter Pamela Sexton and fiancée Jacquelyn Ewart. Sidney was 75 years old. We will miss him.



JACKSON CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Melinda Pearson 731-225-4293
jackson@tennesseetrails.org

TREASURER: Anne Goodson 731-664-1556
jacksontreas@tennesseetrails.org

SECRETARY: Terry McCoy 731-535-0625
jacksonsecy@tennesseetrails.org

HIKE & FACEBOOK COORDINATOR:
Glen Rognstad 731-217-5966
jacksonhikes@tennesseetrails.org
(call Glen & volunteer to lead an outing)

MEETS MONTHLY: 1st Monday at Panera Bread, Vann Dr.,
Jackson. Dinner 6:00 pm CT; Meeting 6:45 pm

Hike information unavailable at press time.

MEMPHIS CHAPTER

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

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

No hikes scheduled.

MURFREESBORO CHAPTER

CHAPTER CO-CHAIRS: Jeanne Conatser 615-971-8894
Sara Kennedy 615-692-9057
murfreesboro@tennesseetrails.org

TREASURER/HIKE COORDINATOR/BOARD REP:
Sara Pollard 615-714-3610
murfreesborotreas@tennesseetrails.org

MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR: Jennifer Zahn 615-943-8853
murfreesborohikes@tennesseetrails.org

BLOGMASTER Craig McBride 615-394-6121
murfreesboroblog@tennesseetrails.org

MEETS MONTHLY (except Jan, Feb, Jul, Aug): 2nd Tuesday at
7:00 pm CT, Barfield-Crescent Park's Wilderness Station,
697 Veterans Parkway, Murfreesboro

BLOG: www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/murfreesboro

May 2 - "Pick a Park" series. 4 miles. Easy. Two for one - Montgomery Bell State and Narrows of the Harpeth State Parks. Bring your State Park Passport book. We'll hike the Ore Pit Trail Loop that passes the historic church site by the Visitors' Center. Meet at the Visitors Center at 10:00 am, or email Jeanne if you are interested in carpooling or be part of a caravan from Smyrna. Then on to the Narrows of the Harpeth to hike 2 miles out and back on the bluff trails and by the old tunnel. Both are rated easy, natural surface trails, about 2 miles each for a total of 4 miles. This is a family friendly hike and a chance to visit two state parks in one day. Bring snacks and water. Please RSVP by email to Jeanne Conatser at djconatser@comcast.net in case we cancel for weather.

Murfreesboro Chapter – con't.

May 12 – Chapter Meeting. This is our hike planning meeting for July through December. Bring your calendars to schedule hikes you want to lead or ideas for hikes. If you cannot attend and want to lead a hike, contact hike coordinator Sara Pollard at 615-714-3610 or sarabpollard@gmail.com.

May 16 - Normandy Lake Paddle to Ovoca Falls and Machine Falls. 9.2 miles. Joint paddle with the Highland Rim chapter. Meet at 9:30 am CT at the River Forge Road Boat Launch on Normandy Lake at the Firelake Public Use Area near Manchester. The ramp is also known as Ward's Chapel Boat Ramp. We will paddle toward Ovoca Falls and leave our kayaks to walk in about ¼ mile to Ovoca Falls. After leaving Ovoca Falls we will paddle to Short Springs State Natural Area, leave our kayaks and walk in about ¼ mile to Machine Falls. Bring sunscreen, snacks, and lunch. To register, contact Kathy Williams at 931-434-0367 or takeahiketwo@hotmail.com. If interested in carpooling from Murfreesboro, contact Wayne Yancey at 615-887-0212 or wayne.yancey@gmail.com.

May 16 – Cumberland Trail. Soddy Creek Gorge Section, Soddy-Daisy. 8 miles. Moderate to Strenuous. Joint hike with the Plateau chapter. We'll start from the Soddy Gulf trailhead at Back Valley Road near Highway 111. This access trail follows Big Soddy Creek to the main Cumberland Trail. On this section of the Cumberland Trail we will encounter low-hanging bluffs and wooden and rock steps along Board Camp Creek. Along the creek the undergrowth is lush among hemlock and pine trees. After an ascent to reach a stile crossing to reach Highway 111, the trail parallels the highway to merge at the exit ramp for Jones Gap Road. There's a shorter option of 4 miles round *trip on the access trail and is rated moderate. Bring water, snacks and lunch. To register contact Sara Pollard at 615-714-3610 or sarabpollard@gmail.com.*

May 30-31 – Big South Fork Backpacking Trip. This is a 2 day, 1 night backpacking trip. Start on Saturday for a 8.6 mile hike at Sawmill down Salt Pine Ridge Trail, Laurel Fork Creek Trail, Black House Branch to Charit Creek Lodge (camp at the island). Water shoes will be required for the Laurel Fork Creek as there are several stream crossings and some hiking in the stream sections. Sunday for 6.1 mile hike to Twin Arches, Jakes Place, Slave Falls and back to our cars at Sawmill trail head. Bring food, hiking boots, water shoes and camping gear. For information and to register, contact Sara Pollard at 615-714-3610 or sarabpollard@gmail.com.

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

May 26 - Annual Nashville Chapter Picnic. Tentative pending the lifting of any Safe at Home Order applicable to Davidson County. Edwin Warner Park, Nashville TN. Shelter 10, 4:00 pm CT until sunset. Following a potluck meal at 6:00 pm, we'll take a twilight walk on the park roads. 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 a camping lantern and folding chair, you may want to bring those also. The shelters aren't lighted. For the walk, 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 going beyond walking in the neighborhood. Directions from Nashville: Drive west on West End/Harding. Turn left at the "split" in Belle Meade to go on Highway 100. Continue on Highway 100 for 3.2 miles and turn left on Old Hickory. 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. We will be at Shelter #10, almost at the end. When you see a permanent rest room building, turn left and then left again at the fork immediately following. Contact Doug Burroughs at dougburroughs@tennessee.usa.com or 615-587-0085 (leave a message) for more information.

May 30 - Tentative pending the lifting of any Safe at Home Order applicable to Davidson County. Bells Bend Park, Nashville TN. 8 am. Contact Doug Burroughs at dougburroughs@tennessee.usa.com for updated and more complete information.

GO GREEN

Electronic Newsletter Available

This is reminder that you can now receive your monthly newsletter via email. If interested please contact Cheryl Heckler at membership@tennesseetrails.org and please include your email address.

PLATEAU CHAPTER (Crossville)

CHAPTER CHAIR: Norm Brinsley 931-202-2338
plateau@tennesseetrails.org

TREASURER: Clark Zedric 217-520-9889
plateautreas@tennesseetrails.org

BOARD REPRESENTATIVE: Bob Obohoski 931-456-4282
boardplateau@tennesseetrails.org

MEETS MONTHLY: 2nd Thursday at 6:00 pm CT
BLOG: www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/plateau

Come take a GUIDED hike with us. We offer a short 5 miles or less and a long 8+/-mile hike every Wednesday and two Saturday's a month. For additional information or to register contact the hike coordinator plateauhikes@tennesseetrails.org or text/call 931-267-2243 unless otherwise noted.

For a list of monthly hikes, visit the Plateau Chapter Blog. Check the blog one hour prior to hike time for cancellation or for any other updates/changes to our schedule before hiking.

Instead of carpooling to trailheads our hikers may opt to drive themselves.

May 1-3 - Spring Getaway to Tallulah Gorge, Clayton, GA. We will depart Crossville at 7:30 am CT from Trinity Tabernacle Church on Hwy 127 South, Crossville. If we carpool, gas cost is \$20 each.

May 6 - CT Devils Breakfast Table to Turkey Creek, Catoosa Wildlife Management Area, Hebbetsburg, TN. SHORT HIKE: 4-5 mile in/out hike to Morgan Overlook. The trail is difficult due to the elevation change and lots of rock steps. From the trailhead, the trail proceeds down "a thousand steps" through Daddy's Creek gorge under sheer bluffs. After a mile, the trail rises out of the canyon and remains on the top of the bluff. There are a couple of overlooks that provide a view of the gorge before the trail goes back down into the gorge on the way to the junction of Daddy's Creek and the Obed River. **LONG HIKE:** Devils Breakfast Table to Turkey Creek is a thru hike of 7 strenuous and difficult miles into the Daddy's Creek Gorge. There is a 1 mile car shuttle. Wear orange and good hiking shoes or boots; bring water, lunch and snacks. Depart from Southwest parking lot of the VF outlet mall on Interstate Drive at 7:30 am CT. Gas cost is \$3. Those in the Fairfield Glade area may join the caravan at 7:45 am at the 4-way stop at the intersection of Peavine Road and Stonehenge Drive. Don't forget tick/bug spray and sunscreen.

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Plateau Chapter – con't.

May 13 - Big South Fork, Sheltowee Trace to Parker MT to Buffalo Arch, Jamestown, TN. SHORT HIKE: 4.4 moderate in/out miles to the Rock Creek crossing. **LONG HIKE:** 9 mi moderate hike to Buffalo Arch and back. Water shoes are needed to wade across Rock Creek. There is a half mile climb up Parker Mt where the 2 mi trail to Buffalo Arch is flat. Depart 7:30 am CT from Cracker Barrel SW corner of rear parking lot. Carpool cost is \$6. Don't forget tick/bug spray and sunscreen. Pack water, snacks and lunch.

May 14 - Chapter Spring Picnic and Meeting. Bring your own meat for the grill plus a potluck dish and your own beverage. Plates and plastic utensils will be provided. Grilling starts at 5 pm CT at Meadow Park Lake, Crossville. The lake is a right turn off Lantana Rd. For info contact Norm Brinsley plateau@tennesseetrails.org or 931-202-2338.

May 16 - CT Soddy Creek Gorge, Soddy-Daisy, TN. Start from the Soddy Gulf Trailhead at Back Valley Rd and Hwy 111. This access trail follows Big Soddy Creek to the main CT trail along the banks of Board Camp Creek. **Short Hike:** 4 moderate mile round trip on the access trail. **Long Hike:** 8 moderate to strenuous miles following Big Soddy and Board Camp Creeks ending at Jones Gap Rd. Short hikers will return to cars then pick up the thru hikers on Hwy 111. Depart 7:30 am from Crossville Trinity Tabernacle Hwy 127S. Carpool cost is \$6. Don't forget tick/bug spray and sunscreen. Pack water, snacks lunch. For additional information contact the hike leaders, Deb Westervelt, text/call 931-267-2243 or Cheryl Heckler 931-200-7436.

May 20 - CT Brady MT, Grassy Cove, TN. We will hike 6 mi in/out to the overlook, mushroom rocks and Arch cleaning and clearing the trail as we go. This will fulfill our obligation for one of our adopted CT trails. Bring swing blades, loppers, clippers, hand saws, water, lunch and snacks. Depart 7:30 am CT Trinity Tabernacle Church on Hwy 127 South, Crossville. For additional information contact Tim Case text/call 218-591-1125 or the hike coordinator, Deb Westervelt, email plateauhikes@tennesseetrails.org or text/call 931-267-2243.

May 27 - Big South Fork, Honey Creek to Eye of the Needle, Helen, TN. We will start from Honey Creek Loop Entrance 2 for a new to us trail to eye of the needle. **SHORT HIKE:** 4-5 mi in/out easy to moderate. **LONG HIKE:** 7-8 mi easy to moderate in/out hike. We will have lunch at the picnic area above the eye of the needle. Depart 7:30 am CT from Cracker Barrel. Pack water, snacks and lunch. Carpool cost is \$6.

SODDY-DAISY CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Jean Smith 423- 596-7681
soddydaisy@tennesseetrails.org

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

HIKE COORDINATOR: Patricia Appleton 423-332-6517
soddydaisyhikes@tennesseetrails.org

MEETS QUARTERLY: Tuesday of the week following the TTA Board Meetings in Feb, May, Aug and 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>

May 2 - White Oak Mountain Loop. 5.4 miles. Moderate. Meet at the Trailhead on Morningside Drive at 9:00 am. Trail is in Collegedale, on the Southern Adventist University grounds. Hike leader is Tammy Hendrick at 315-949-8187.

May 5 - Big Soddy Gulf to the Bridge and back. About 5 miles. Meet at Durham St. Soddy Daisy at 8:30 am. Hike leader Gloria Nelson, 423-645-9008.

May 9 - South Chickamauga Creek Greenway from near Amnicola to the trails end and back. 9.4 miles total in & out. Moderate. Meet at Northgate Shopping Center near old Sears store at 8:30 am or trailhead at 9:00 am. Hike leader is John Politte at 423-304-8327.

May 12 - Old Stone Fort State Archaeological Park, Manchester, TN. 5 miles. Moderate. Joint hike with Highland Rim Chapter. We will hike along the Duck River where we will see Bluehole Falls and Big Falls, which is 30 feet high. We will hike the Forks of the River Trail, where we will see the confluence of the Duck and Little Duck Rivers, and the Backbone Trail, a ridge where we look down onto the tops of the hardwood forest. We will hike along the Little Duck River to view Step Falls, which has a series of tiered waterfalls cascading along the perimeter of the prehistoric site. And we will hike the park's newest trail, the Chumbley Woods Trail, which features ridges and the Little Duck River in a beautiful hardwood forest. Contact Joan Hartvigsen, jhartvigs@comcast.net or 931-962-0811. Bring water, lunch, hiking sticks and wear sturdy hiking boots. Meet at 9:00 am CT in front of the park's visitor center/museum or if you are coming from Chattanooga, we will meet at the parking area at the Brown's Ferry exit at 8:30 am ET. Contact Trish Appleton if you have questions. 423-240-3443.

May 16 - South Chickamauga Creek Greenway to Camp Jordan Park and back. 9.4 miles total in & out. Moderate. Meet at Northgate Shopping Center near old Sears store at 8:30 am or trailhead at 9:00 am. Hike leader is John Politte at 423-304-8327.

Con't. on next page

Soddy-Daisy Chapter – con't.

May 19 - Johnston Farm Trail in McDonald . About 3 miles. Easy. Hike leaders: Donna and Eddie Pyers, 352-812-4845. Meet at the Food City at the Ooltewah exit (N on 75) at 8:30.

May 23 - Frog Mtn Trail, Ocoee area. 11.2 miles; in and out. Strenuous. Meet at the Ooltewah Food City at 8:30 am. Hike leader is Tom McElhone at 805-208-3400.

May 26 - West half of Gahuti Loop at Fort Mountain State Park. Moderate because of some rocks. Mostly downhill. About 4 miles. Meet at East Ridge Exit off I-75 behind the closed Wendy's at 8:30 am. Will stage cars. Hike Leader is Joan Hartvigson-931-636-2914.

May 30 - Beech Bottom Trail, near Dalton, GA. 9.1 miles. Strenuous. Meet at the Ooltewah Food City at 8:30 am. Hike leader is Betsy Darken at 423-718-2060.

Joining TTA as a New Member? Membership Up For Renewal? Your Generosity Benefits All!

When you join or renew your Tennessee Trails membership, you have the opportunity to become a Supporting Member by donating a little (or a lot) above the regular dues.

Supporting Member donations support the Evan Means Small Grants Fund. Your tax-deductible Supporting Member donations will now directly benefit trail projects throughout the state of Tennessee. We thank you all for your support of TTA at any membership level, but we hope you will enrich Tennessee's trail system by joining or renewing as a Supporting Member.

SUMNER TRAILS CHAPTER

CHAPTER CO-CHAIRS: Marcia Powell 217-855-3013
Jenny Fitzgerald 615-517-8185
sumner@tennesseetrails.org
TREASURER: John Jones 615-533-0127
sumnertreas@tennesseetrails.org
BOARD REPRESENTATIVE: Duane Frichtl 309-830-9720
boardsumner@tennesseetrails.org

Sumner Trails will meet again
Upon the dusty road
When distance rules, away they go
and miles we will behold

Our steps will join together soon
Earth's beauty calls us near
Wait with baited breath you see
To join with those so dear

So soon we will break free of this
Uncharted strife and strain
For miles of trail with air so sweet
Are ours to find again

=====

Pop-Up hikes for May will be announced pending quarantine timing. In the meantime, know that we miss being together with each of you and we look forward to lots of wonderful hikes this season!

UPPER CUMBERLAND CHAPTER (Sparta / Cookeville)

CHAPTER CHAIR: Cynthia Karrington 931-303-3409
uppercumberland@tennesseetrails.org
HIKE COORDINATOR: Cathy Moran 931-544-2764
uppercumberlandhikes@tennesseetrails.org

Hike information unavailable at press time.

OFFICERS:

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Mary Etta Ward 931-581-9906
president@tennesseetrails.org

Vice-President

Linda Latter 615-419-4845
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Treasurer

David Bowling 931-273-4202
treasurer@tennesseetrails.org

Secretary

Melinda Pearson 731-225-4293
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East TN

Garnett Rush (2021) 865-268-5181
eastregional@tennesseetrails.org

CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVES ON THE BOARD
ARE LISTED WITHIN EACH CHAPTER'S HEADER

Newsletter Editor

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

2020 TTA Board of Directors Meetings

Saturday, May 2: 11 AM Hermitage Library
3700 James Kay Lane
Hermitage

Saturday, Aug 8: 11 AM Hermitage Library
3700 James Kay Lane
Hermitage

Sunday, Oct 25 Time and Location to
be announced.

TWO EVAN MEANS GRANT APPLICATIONS THIS QUARTER

The Friends of Old Stone and the Friends of Henry Horton State Park have applied for Evan Means Grants. The Friends of Old Stone Fort have applied for a grant to create a certified arboretum on the Garrison Road Trail and the Nature Trail. The monies will be used for fifty tree markers and the Arboreta Certification Application Fee. The Friends of Henry Horton State Park have applied for a grant for four footbridges with hand rails and two sets of staircases on the new Spring Creek Trail. The monies will be used for pressure treated lumber, concrete, equipment and tools. The Evan Means Grant Committee recommends that both grant applications be fully funded. The full TTA Board will review the grant applications May 2 during the TTA Board Meeting. Please contact Joan Hartvigsen, Chair of the Evan Means Grant Committee, jhartvigs@comcast.net, if there are any questions.

Newsletter Deadlines:

Deadlines for Chapter announcements and articles of special interest are due on the 10th of each month for the following month's newsletter.

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

Please note: Newsletter submissions to the "editor" address are automatically copied to the webmaster for inclusion on the TTA website.

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 20

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,
Cheryl Heckler 931-200-7436 membership@tennesseetrails.org

PLEASE, PRINT CLEARLY.

___ Individual	\$25.00	Name _____
___ Family	\$35.00	Address _____
___ Student (FULL TIME)	\$15.00	City _____ State _____
___ Supporting (\$50.00, \$100.00 or more)		Primary Phone (___) _____ Zip _____ -- _____
___ Life Member (Individual)	\$500.00	Alternate Phone (___) _____
___ Life Member (Family)	\$750.00	Primary e-mail _____
		Alternate e-mail _____

For privacy, please do not list the following in the TTA Annual Membership Directory

- E-mail addresses
 Mailing address
 Telephone numbers

I would like to receive my newsletter by mail.

Please list me with the following chapter:

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

When you become a TTA member, you will receive: (1) TTA's Annual Membership Directory and Hiking Handbook, listing members by chapter and how to reach them and including 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. 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 hikes or functions.
Not a member yet? Please check out one of our hikes or meetings soon!