

TENNESSEE TRAILS



THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE TENNESSEE TRAILS ASSOCIATION

*We are hikers and advocates that have helped to build, maintain,
and promote the responsible use of Tennessee trails since 1968.*

SUPPORTING THE CUMBERLAND TRAIL

President's Report

Thanks to all attending the October Annual Meeting at Natchez Trace State Park. The Memphis and Jackson Chapters hosted this year's meeting jointly, and they did a wonderful job. Thanks! This year, membership has increased by more than 10% to over seven hundred members. Thanks to the recruiting efforts of several chapters and targeted emails to lapsed members to rejoin. This was a joint effort of the Membership & Communication Committees. Tennessee Trails' direct mission is to build, maintain, and promote responsible use of the state's trails. The Evan Means Grant Program is one of the ways TTA supports that. I encourage Chapters to apply for a grant and get the word out to the park's Friends groups in your area to apply for a grant. It would be great to have an application from each of the 12-chapter areas in 2024! Check out "Grants" under the "About Us" drop-down area on the website. Thanks to June Callahan and the Finance Committee, Tennessee Trails finances are in great shape. We recently received a very favorable audit of last year's financial records. As of September 30th, 2023, our net worth is \$160,055.74, which includes \$21,353.82 set aside for Evan Means Grants. They continue to be excellent stewards of TTA's funds. Volunteers are crucial to the health and functioning of an organization such as Tennessee Trails. I want to thank all the Board members, Chapter Representatives, Chapter Chairs, Chapter Treasurers, Outings Coordinators, and Hike Leaders. I encourage all those volunteers to continue their magnificent work and hope other members will consider volunteering. Lastly, plan on attending the next Annual Meeting at Fall Creek Falls State Park on October 25-27, 2024, co-hosted by the Murfreesboro and Highland Rim Chapters. There will be some wonderful social activities and beautiful hikes. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Duane Frichtl



Save the Date!



Make your reservations NOW!

When: October 25-27, 2024

Where: Fall Creek Falls State Park

VIDEO DEVELOPMENT HELP NEEDED

We are working to enhance our outreach efforts and would like to produce a short video about the Tennessee Trails Association and what we do.

If you or someone you know has experience and expertise in this area and would like to help, please contact:

Duane Frichtl
TTA President
duane5505@icloud.com



Office Location:	409 Thurman Avenue, Ste 102 Crossville, TN 38555
Office Hours:	Monday - Thursday 8 AM – 3 PM CT
Phone:	931-456-625
E-mail:	ctcoffice2014@gmail.com
Website:	www.cumberlandtrail.org

CLARKSVILLE CHAPTER

CHAPTER CO-CHAIRS: Paula Sanders - 954-993-5541 and Suva Bastin - 931-645-2849
ttaclarksville68@tennesseetrails.org

OUTINGS COORDINATOR: ttaclarksvillehikes68@tennesseetrails.org

MEETS MONTHLY: 3rd Tuesday at 6:00 pm CT, Wade Bourne Nature Center, 2308 Rotary Park Dr., Clarksville, TN 37043.

Monday, January 1 – Montgomery Bell State Park, Montgomery Bell Trail, 5.4 Miles, Moderate.

We will have a potluck lunch near 'The Birth of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church'. Black-eyed peas, Cornbread - bowls, cups, and plasticware will be provided. Meet at 9 A.M. CT, Big Lots Parking Lot, Riverside Drive, Clarksville, TN. 33 Miles to the Trailhead. Hike Leader – Steve Turner – 931 220 0927

Wednesday, January 3 – Clarksville Greenway – 4 Miles, Easy, Out and Back. Meet at 9 A.M. CT at Mary's Oak Trailhead – Mary's Oak Drive, Clarksville. Hike Leader – Suva Bastin – 931 216 0325

Saturday, January 6 – Hike with another Chapter
Saturday, January 13 – No Hike due to MLK Day Hike

Monday, January 15 – Land Between the Lakes, Canal Loop Trail, 8.8 Miles, Difficult due to Length and a couple of steep slopes. The trail is in the woods on natural turf. We hike along both Kentucky and Barkley Lakes and may see a bald eagle. Dogs are permitted if on a leash. There is a privy at the trailhead. Meet 7:00 am CT, Kroger parking area, Dover Crossing Road, Clarksville. 73 miles to the trailhead. Hike Leader – Philip Anderson 931 561 0925

Tuesday, January 16 – Clarksville Chapter Meeting, Rotary Park. Meet at 6:30 P.M. CT at the Wade Bourne Center

Saturday, January 20 – Percy Warner Park, Mossy Ridge Trail, 5.1 Miles, Moderate

This is a well-marked and maintained trail in the Woods. Hard to believe that you are hiking in Nashville. Some short but occasionally challenging inclines. Meet at 8 A.M. CT, I-24 Exit 11 Park and Ride. 51 Miles to the Trailhead. Hike Leader – Steve Turner 931 220 0927

Saturday, January 27 – Cumberland River Bicentennial Trail, 5 Miles, Easy. Meet 8 A.M. at Food Lion Parking Lot, Madison Street, Clarksville, TN. 18 Miles to the Trailhead. We will take the gravel trail from the Eagle Pass Trailhead towards Cheatham Dam. Total is 5 miles out and back. Hike Leader – Ed Oliver 931 561 9946

COLUMBIA/FRANKLIN CHAPTER

CHAPTER CO-CHAIRS: Jane Coffey - 615-516-6551 and Marvin Caine - 931-486-1632, ttacolumbia68@tennesseetrails.org

OUTINGS COORDINATOR: Jane Coffey - 615-516-6551, ttacolumbiiahikes68@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 P.M. Meeting at 7:00 P.M.

Monday, January 1. New Year's Day Hike at Preservation Park in Thompson's Station. 3.0 miles. This hike is moderate, some ascents may be steep, but the hike is mostly moderate. A good way to start the New Year's resolutions. Hike Leader: Chris Hoffman - chrishoffman51@gmail.com

Saturday, January 27. Chilly Chili Hike – 3.5 miles, moderate. Joint Chapter Hike with Murfreesboro Chapter. Jim and Marietta Poteet will host their 22nd annual Chilly Chili hike. We will meet at the trailhead of Shakerag Hollow in Sewanee at 10:00 A.M. CT. We will hike Shakerag Hollow and Beckwith's Point for a total of about 3.5 miles rated moderate. More details to follow.

EAST TN CHAPTER (Oak Ridge / Knoxville)

CHAPTER CHAIR: Rosemary Marshall - 865-985-9144 - ttaeasttennessee68@tennesseetrails.org

OUTINGS COORDINATOR: Carolyn Reeves - ttaeasttennesseehikes68@tennesseetrails.org

Monday, January 1 - Twin Creeks Trail, GSMNP. Located off Cherokee Orchard Road in Gatlinburg. 5 miles, moderate. We will meet at 10:00 at Mynatt Park, 634 Asbury Lane, up past the Glenstone Lodge. We will hike uphill to Bud Ogle's Cabin, take the Nature Trail around the back, and then hike back downhill, stopping at the Twin Creeks Resource Center where we will then visit the Fairy House and then return to Mynatt Park. Afterward, we plan to visit the Log Cabin Pancake Restaurant. Bring a snack, and water, and wear appropriate shoes and clothing. If the weather is bad, we will cancel! Register with Karen Towle (865-254-2044) or delicadeze@aol.com

January 20, 2024 - Knoxville Urban Wilderness-Ijams Quarries. The hike is about 6 miles. It is mostly through the woods, with rolling hills, one or two are steep but not very long. The hike is rated as moderate difficulty. You can view the map of the hiking area by going to www.outdoorknoxville.com, selecting Urban Wilderness at the top of the page, and then in the South Loop Route selecting the printable map for Ijams Nature Center/Ijams Quarries. The hike will be on the trails around Ross Marble Quarry and Mead's Quarry. The hike will include Imery's, Turnbuckle, Burnett Ridge, Ross Marble, and Sharp Trace trails.

We will meet at the Meads Quarry parking lot on Island Home Avenue, on the right not far past the entrance to Ijams Nature Center (see the map referred to above), and leave at 9:30 A.M. We recommend hiking poles, and shoes to wear to and from the hike plus sturdy hiking shoes, other weather-appropriate clothing, a snack, a drink and a camera. After the hike plan on stopping on the way back for a meal and refreshments, perhaps at Calhoun's or somewhere in South Knoxville. For specific information about the hike please call Tom at 865-588-5622, leave a message, or send an email to cressler@retiree.utk.edu before January 20th.

HIGHLAND RIM CHAPTER (Coffee and Franklin Counties)

CHAPTER CHAIR: Patricia Deen - 760-703-8115 - ttahighlandrim68@tennesseetrails.org

OUTINGS COORDINATOR: Tom Hartvigsen - 931-962-0811 - jhartvigs@comcast.net (contact Tom & volunteer to lead an outing)

MEETS MONTHLY: 4th Monday

Highland Rim Chapter, continued

Monday, January 1 – Multi-Chapter New Year's Day Hike, Bryant Grove Trail. Long Hunter State Park, Hermitage, TN. 8 miles, easy. The Bryant Grove Trail is an easy eight-mile "out and back" flat, winding trail connecting the Couchville Lake area to the Bryant Grove Recreation Area and follows the shoreline of Percy Priest Lake. The trail crosses a wooden bridge above Bryant Grove Creek, where herons might be seen wading and feeding. We will meet at 9:30 A.M. CT at the kiosk near the playground in the Couchville Lake area. We will enjoy lunch in the Bryant Grove Recreation Area. Bring lunch, water, and snacks. Please register with Joan Hartvigsen, jhartvigs@comcast.net, or 931-636-2914. **Pets are not permitted on the Bryant Grove Trail.**

Friday, January 5 - Edgar Evins State Park, Silver Point, TN. All Day. 8 miles rated challenging due to rocky terrain and steep ascents/descents with a total 1400-foot elevation gain. We'll start on the John C. Clayborn Millenium loop passing old rock walls, a rock-in spring, an old limestone chimney, and an old foundation. In the middle of the loop, we'll pick up a connector trail through a moist hollow and ascend steeply to a ridgeline, following this until Center Hill Lake comes into view and we descend to parallel the lake. We then join another loop and head steeply up to the top of Merritt Ridge where we'll see some lovely old rock walls with awesome lake views before descending to continue around the peninsula close to water level to complete the loop and trace our steps back on the connector to finish the Millenium Trail loop. Bring lunch, water, sturdy hiking boots, and hiking sticks or trekking poles. We will meet at the John C. Clayborn Millenium Trailhead in Edgar Evins State Park. To register or for more information contact Jim Barritt, at jsbarritt@gmail.com or 931-492-3212.

Sunday, January 7 - Chumbley Woods, Eagle and Powerline Trails. Old Stone Fort State Park, Manchester, TN. 4.5 miles. Easy to Moderate. Meet at the Chumbley Woods Trailhead on Powers Bridge Road at 12:30 pm. Register with Joan Hartvigsen, at jhartvigs@comcast.net or 931-636-2914. Bring water and a snack. These are the newest trails in Old Stone Fort. These trails feature the Little Duck River, beautiful mature hardwoods, and rolling hills.

Saturday, January 13 - South Rim Trail, Savage Gulf State Natural Area, Savage Gulf Ranger Station 3157 TN Hwy 399, Palmer, TN. About 10 miles out and back. Moderate. There is little elevation change. growth forest. Bring water and lunch. Meet at the Savage Gulf Ranger Station. Time TBD. Contact Joan Hartvigsen, at jhartvigs@comcast.net or 931-636-2914 for more information and to register.

Monday, January 22 - Highland Rim Chapter Meeting. 7 P.M., DW Wilson Community Center, 501 N Collins Street, Tullahoma. Patty Deen, Chapter Chair, will present a program on her recent trip to Iceland. Before the meeting, we will gather at 5:30 P.M. for dinner at La Fiesta Bar & Grill, 1410 N. Jackson Street, Tullahoma, next to the Quality Inn. Please contact Highland Rim Chapter Chair Patty Deen if you plan to attend dinner so I can confirm the number for the reservation. Contact Patty at pdeen@palomar.edu or 760-703-8115 for more information.

Saturday, January 27 – Poteet's Chilly Chili Hike. Shakerag Hollow and Beckwith's Point Trails. Sewanee, 3.5 miles, moderate. Jim and Marietta Poteet will host the 22nd annual Chilly Chili hike. We will meet at the trailhead of Shakerag Hollow in Sewanee, Tennessee at 10:00 CST. We will hike Shakerag Hollow and Beckwith's Point for a total of about 3.5 miles. There is a steep rocky downhill on Shakerag and a rocky uphill at Greens View on the trip, but generally a very pleasant hike down into the hollow and along the golf course with several very nice views. Afterward, we will adjourn to the Poteet's house for chili, brownies, cornbread, and fixings. Feel free to add a side if you wish. We will have some soft drinks, beer and wine. If you do not want to hike, please meet at the house at noon. Respond to Marietta at nannietta@benlomand.net if you will be able to make it. I will have a gate code and directions for you. It's fun and very sociable.

Friday, April 19-Sunday April 21 – 20th Anniversary Trails & Trilliums Naturalist Rally. Beersheba Springs, adjacent to Savage Gulf State Park and Stone Door. Guided hikes, presentations, and workshops by top Naturalists and Rangers. For more information contact Marietta Poteet, at nannietta@benlomand.net or 931-924-7666.

May 14-16, 2024 – Camping at Cosby Group Campsite, Great Smoky Mountains National Park. We will hike to the Mount Cammerer Lookout via the Low Gap and Appalachian Trails. Other hikes include Porters Creek Trail or Ramsay Cascades Trail and Gabes Mountain Trail to Hen Wallow Trail. Joint outing with the Murfreesboro Chapter, Sara Pollard. Register with Joan Hartvigsen, jhartvigs@comcast.net or 931-636-2914.

JACKSON CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Melinda Pearson - 731-225-4293 - ttajackson68@tennesseetrails.org
OUTINGS COORDINATOR: Glen Rognstad - 731-217-5966 - ttajacksonhikes68@tennesseetrails.org
MEETS MONTHLY: 1st Monday at 6:00 P.M. CT

Saturday, January 13. Eagle Loop Trail, Mousetail Landing State Park, Linden TN. 8 miles, 1335 ft. elevation gain, rated moderate. Text 731-217-5966 or email glenrognstad@gmail.com, to register with hike leader, Glen.

MEMPHIS CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Nancy Wark- ttamemphis68@tennesseetrails.org
OUTINGS COORDINATOR: Wayne Simpson - w.simpson1@comcast.net

Monday, January 1 – W.C. Johnson Park, Collierville TN. We will hike a 4-mile loop along the Wolf River in the woods and along a mile of boardwalk. The park is located at the end of Byhalia Road, 419 Johnson Park Drive. It is a lovely forest trail with some deep ravine crossings and several overviews of the Wolf River. We will park in the parking lot at the first stop sign. A nice restroom is available in the center of the park. Please register for the start time and include your name and phone number or email. Contact: Nancy Wark – nhwark@bellsouth.net

Saturday, January 6 – Lucius Burch South – Germantown Road entrance. This is a 5 – 6-mile hike in the woods along the Blue/White and Yellow trails. The terrain is relatively flat with a few steep ravine crossings. Plan to hike 3 hours. We will meet in the paved Shelby Farms parking lot off Germantown Road across from Lowe's. Bring water and a snack. Heavy rain will cancel the hike. Registration is required at which time you will receive a start time. Contact: Lynne Witherington – withlynn@aol.com (no texts)

Saturday, January 13 – Meeman Shelby Forest – Horse Trail. This is a moderately strenuous 6.5-mile hike over a mixture of hills and flat areas. Meet at the parking lot at the trailhead where there are restrooms. Plan to hike 3.5-4 hours. Bring water and a snack. Registration is required at which time you will receive a start time. Leave your name and contact info. Contact: Janet Sheahan – janet.n.sheahan@gmail.com

Saturday, January 20 – Tour de Wolf – Shelby Farms Park. This is a 5.6-mile moderate hike in the forest. Along the way, we will pass several lakes. Meet at the parking lot across from the playground. Bring water and a snack. If it has rained there could be some mud. Registration is required. Contact: Katie Gecewich – kgecewich@yahoo.com

Saturday, January 27 – Herb Parsons Lake, Fisherville TN. This is an easy 6-mile hike around the lake and through the woods. Meet at the lake parking lot and bring snacks and water. Please register and include your name and contact info. Contact: Susan Hillebert – s.hillebert@me.com

MURFREESBORO CHAPTER

CHAPTER CO-CHAIRS: Jeanne Conatser - 615-971-8894 - djconatser@comcast.net
Sara Kennedy - 615-692-9057 - ttamurfreesboro68@tennesseetrails.org
OUTINGS COORDINATOR: Sara Pollard - 615-714-3610 - ttamurfreesborohikes68@tennesseetrails.org
MEETS MONTHLY: 2nd Tuesday at 7:00 pm CT, Barfield-Crescent Park's Wilderness Station, 401 Volunteer Road, Murfreesboro
BLOG: www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/murfreesboro

Monday, January 1 – New Year's Day Hike – Long Hunter State Park. Bryant Grove Trail. 8.0 miles rated moderate. Joint event with the Highland Rim and Nashville chapters. The adage is what you do on the first day of the year, you will continue to do all year long. The Bryant Grove Trail is an "out and back" flat, winding trail connecting the Couchville Lake area to the Bryant Grove Recreation Area and follows the shoreline of Percy Priest Lake. The trail crosses a wooden bridge above Bryant Grove Creek, where herons might be seen wading and feeding. If you don't want to hike the entire 8 miles, there is a turn-around point halfway or a car shuttle can be set up to hike 4.0 miles. All chapters are invited to attend. We will meet at 9:30 A.M. CT at the kiosk near the playground in the Couchville Lake

Murfreesboro Chapter continued

area. We will enjoy lunch in the Bryant Grove Recreation Area. Bring lunch, water, and snacks. Pets are not permitted on the Bryant Grove Trail. For more information or to sign up, contact Sara Pollard at 615-714-3610 or sarapollard@gmail.com.

Tuesday, January 9 – No chapter meeting this month. Next meeting is Tuesday, February 13, 7:00 P.M. CT.

Saturday, January 13 – “Pick a Park” series. Chickasaw State Park and Pinson Mounds State Archaeological Park. At Chickasaw, we will hike two trails: Fern Creek Trail, .65 miles rated easy, and the Lakeshore Trail, 1.75 miles rated easy. The Fern Creek Trail begins and ends at Brewer Cabin, a one-room log cabin built in the 1870s. This trail passes through both lowland areas as well as upland hardwood forests. Ferns are plentiful all along this route which gives the trail its name. The Lakeshore Trail is 1.75 miles and rated easy. This is the most popular trail at Chickasaw State Park. This trail follows the entire shoreline of Lake Placid and connects several of the recreation areas including the tent campground, swimming area, and boat dock. The signature feature of this trail is the 640-foot footbridge that crosses the middle of Lake Placid connecting the tent campground with the main recreation area. Meet at the Visitors Center at 10:00 A.M. CT. Next, we'll visit Pinson Mounds State Archaeological Park which is about 20 minutes north of Chickasaw State Park. We'll hike about 3 miles to see the highlights, plus climb to the top of 72' Saul's Mound. We'll also visit the nice park museum. Please text or email RSVP by Thursday, January 11 in case of inclement weather. For more information or to sign up, contact Jeanne Conatser at 615-971-8894 or djconatser@comcast.net.

Saturday, January 20 – Cumberland Trail - Black Mountain Section. Crab Orchard. 8.0 miles rated moderate. We will start the hike at the trailhead on Highway 68 and hike to the top of Black Mountain taking a spur trail to Windless Cave along the way. We'll have lunch at the South Overlook with a spectacular view of Grassy Cove. At the top, we'll hike the short loop trail and stop at the North Overlook with views of Crab Orchard. We'll also pass a campsite and go through a rock gateway. Bring lunch and water. For carpool information from Murfreesboro or to register, contact Sara Pollard at 615-714-3610 or sarapollard@gmail.com

Saturday, January 27 – Chilly Chili Hike - Jim and Marietta Poteet will host their 22nd annual Chilly Chili hike. We will meet at the trailhead of Shakerag Hollow in Sewanee at 10:00 A.M. CT. We will hike Shakerag Hollow and Beckwith's Point for a total of about 3.5 miles rated moderate. There is a steep rocky downhill on Shakerag and a rocky uphill at Greens View on the trip, but generally a very pleasant hike down into the hollow and along the golf course with several very nice views. Afterward, we will adjourn to the Poteet's house for chili, brownies, cornbread, and fixings. Feel free to add a side if you wish. The Poteets will provide some soft drinks, beer, and wine. If you do not want to hike, please meet me at the house at noon. RSVP to Marietta at nannietta@benlomand.net if you will be able to make it. The Poteet's home is in a gated community, and Marietta will have a gate code and directions for you. It's fun and very sociable. For more information, contact Sara Pollard at 615-714-3610 or email sarapollard@gmail.com

NASHVILLE CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Doug Burroughs - 615-587-0085 - ttanashville68@tennesseetrails.org

OUTINGS COORDINATOR: Barbara Bennett - 202-236-0880 - ttanashvillehikes68@tennesseetrails.org
(email Barbara & volunteer to lead an outing)

MEETS MONTHLY: 4th Tuesday 6:00 P.M. CT in the REI Community Room 261 Franklin Rd, Brentwood TN.
Optional Pre-Meeting Activity if posted on the TTA website calendar.

Monday, January 1 -- The Bryant Grove Trail, Long Hunter State Park, Hermitage, TN. 8 miles total. Easy to Moderate for length. This is a multi-chapter hike for New Year's Day! Bryant Grove is an “out and back” flat, winding trail connecting the Couchville Lake area to the Bryant Grove Recreation Area and following the shoreline of Percy Priest Lake. The trail crosses a wooden bridge above Bryant Grove Creek, where herons might be seen wading and feeding. We will meet at 9:30 A.M. CT at the kiosk near the playground in the Couchville Lake area. We will enjoy lunch in the Bryant Grove Recreation Area. Bring lunch, water, and snacks. Pets are not permitted on the Bryant Grove Trail. Contact Sarah Pollard TTA Middle Tennessee Regional Director, Cell: 615-714-3610 (call or text).

Every Wednesday -- Radnor Lake Standing Hike (January 3, 10, 17, 24, 31), Radnor Lake State Park, Nashville TN. 5 miles. Moderate. Meet at the Visitor Center, West Parking Lot off Granny White, 1160 Otter Creek Road. Arrive 5-10

Nashville Chapter continued

minutes early to be ready to hike at 7 A.M., or earlier if everyone has arrived. This hike has elevation gains on both Ganier Ridge and South Cove Trails. We usually walk at a moderate pace and finish up around 9 A.M. There are several opportunities to take shorter and flatter alternatives if you want to make it an easier hike. Text Doug Burroughs at 615-587-0085 to register.

Friday, January 12 -- Bridgestone Firestone Centennial Wilderness WMA, White County, near Sparta, TN. 6-7 miles depending on trail conditions. Moderately difficult for terrain and length. Our loop will include segments of the Chestnut Mountain Ranch, Polly Branch Falls, and Caney Fork River trails. We'll enjoy unique winter views of waterfalls and cascades, scenic overlooks, and other natural features. Bring plenty of snacks, water, and lunch for the trail. We'll likely encounter muddy sections and creek crossings so plan accordingly. Register with Mark for updates: midtn@tnhiker.net or (615) 669-3221. Alternate date for inclement weather: Friday, January 19th.

Saturday, January 24 -- Meriwether Lewis and Devil's Backbone Loops, Hohenwald TN. 6 miles total. Moderate. Two separate hikes are adjacent to the Natchez Trace Parkway. First, the Meriwether Lewis Loop - 3.5 miles with wooded rolling terrain. Next, a few miles north on the Parkway, we'll hike the Devil's Backbone Loop: 2.5 miles, again with wooded rolling terrain. Bring sturdy boots, snacks, and clothing appropriate for the weather that day. There is the option to hike just the first loop. Post-hike dining options in Mount Pleasant or Leipers Fork. For more information on the hike & trailhead, and to register, contact Doug Burroughs at 615-587-0085 (text or leave a message). Also, be sure to check the TTA website listing of this hike for possible updates.

PLATEAU CHAPTER (Crossville)

CHAPTER CHAIR: Bill Wisniewski - 931-335-9360 - tplateau68@tennesseetrails.org
OUTINGS COORDINATOR: Deb Westervelt - 931-267-2243 - tplateauhikes68@tennesseetrails.org
MEETS MONTHLY: 2nd Thursday at 6:00 P.M. CT

All of our hikes can be found in the Chronicle Scene Section calendar, on our website <https://tennesseetrails.org/chapters/plateau-chapter/> or Facebook Group page: TTA PLATEAU CHAPTER CROSSVILLE. We look forward to Walking in the Woods with you.

Deb Westervelt, Vickie Carpenter, Cyn Hartlieb, Peggy Duncan, Peg Valentine, and Kathy Stutts played cowgirl for 3 days riding and moving cattle. We checked in on Wednesday, Oct 4, and checked out Sunday, Oct 8th after breakfast. The ranch is built like an old western town including a saloon. On Thursday morning we were assigned our horses and had to go round up in the corral or pasture and then saddle them ourselves, which they taught us how to do. We rode one of many trails each morning and again in the afternoons. After our ride, we had to brush down our horses and take them for a cooling-down walk before returning them to their corral, barn, or pasture.

On Friday was the highlight of our trip, which everyone enjoyed, the cattle drive. We moved the cattle through the woods and two large pastures to a pen near the French Broad River where the cook had prepared our lunch on the open fire. After lunch, we drove the cattle back. A couple of the cows broke ranks at various times and had to be rounded up.



Meals were served family-style in the Whistle Stop Cafe. At night we met in the saloon and played cards. Hmmmm I'm thinking dude ranch in Montana next year!



Plateau members ready for a cattle drive.

SCENIC CITY CHAPTER (Greater Chattanooga Area)

CHAPTER CHAIR: Lucy Cahill - ttasceniccity68@tennesseetrails.org

OUTINGS COORDINATOR: Betsy Darken - 423-718-2060 - ttasceniccityhikes68@tennesseetrails.org

MEETS QUARTERLY: Thursday of the week following the TTA Board Meetings in Feb, May, Aug and Oct at 5:30 P.M. ET

Tuesday, January 2 – White Oak Mountain trails, approximately 4.5 miles, moderate, about 630' el. gain. We'll hike Dogwood, Krebs Cycle, Black Bear, and parts of Big Red and Christmas Top trails. Enjoy these beautiful trails, which are part of the Southern Adventist University campus but open to the public. We will encounter lots of footbridges and small streams with overlooks of the Collegedale area. Check the weather forecast and choose appropriate layers; wear hiking shoes or boots; bring food and water; and gather up hiking poles, rain jackets, and sunscreen as needed. For carpooling/caravanning, meet at 8:30 am ET in the parking area near the gas station at Food City in Ooltewah, right (east) off I-75 exit 11. <https://bit.ly/3dwmbxn> Please register with hike leader Tim Booth, (423) 400-2011, or tcebooth@epbfi.com. Carpool costs \$1.00.

Saturday, January 6 — Hinch Mountain Section of the Cumberland Trail, 8 to 9 miles, out-and-back, moderately strenuous. Starting at Stinging Fork Falls trailhead, we will explore this new section of the Cumberland Trail that turns off Stinging Fork trail and heads north towards Hinch Mountain. We will cross Stinging Fork Creek and Little Soak Creek, descend a rock stairway, walk through a pine forest, and ascend the gorge. We will return by retracing our steps. Check the weather forecast and choose appropriate layers; wear hiking shoes or boots; bring food and water; and gather up hiking poles, rain jackets, and sunscreen as needed. We can probably get by without water shoes or micro spikes but keep an eye on the weather. Meet at Durham Street in Soddy-Daisy at 8:30 ET. Please register with Tammy Hendrick at 315-949-8187. Carpool costs \$6.00.

Tuesday, January 9 — Walden's Ridge Park trails, 4 to 5 miles, loops, moderate. This is yet another new set of trails in the Chattanooga area, located on the side of Signal Mountain/Walden Ridge. We will start our hike at the bottom of the ridge, using the trailhead off Mountain Creek Road. We'll proceed to meander through the woods in a generally uphill fashion, then wander more or less downhill to complete a loop or two. Rocks and boulders will be encountered. Crazy mountain bikers will be avoided. Check the weather forecast and choose appropriate layers; wear hiking shoes or boots; bring food and water; and gather up hiking poles, rain jackets, and sunscreen as needed. For carpooling/caravanning,

meet at 8:30 am ET at Food City on Signal Mountain Road, the near back corner of the parking lot. <https://bit.ly/3pk0suY>
Please register with hike leader Tom McElhone, 805-208-4654 or sarmitta@yahoo.com Carpool cost \$1.00.

Scenic City Chapter continued

Saturday, January 13 — South Rim Trail, Savage Gulf State Natural Area, About 10 miles, out and back, moderate, little elevation change. Highlights include Savage Creek, Savage Falls, six overlooks with outstanding gorge views, and old-growth forest. Check the weather forecast and choose appropriate layers; wear hiking shoes or boots; bring food and water; and gather up hiking poles, rain jacket, and sunscreen as needed. For carpooling/caravanning, meet at 8.30 am ET at the Durham Street parking lot (ball fields) off Dayton Pike in Soddy-Daisy. <https://bit.ly/3Qjdc0S>
Please register with Joan Hartvigsen, 931-636-2914 or jhartvigs@comcast.net Carpool cost \$3.00.

Tuesday, January 16 — Five Points trails, 4 to 5 miles, loop, easy. Starting at the Ascalon trailhead, we will take the Cloudland Canyon Connector Trail northeast into the maze of trails known as Five Points. Assuming we can plow our way through the can-full-of-worms junction of at least seven trails at the center of this maze, we'll keep heading NE on Windy Shot. Then we will wander back to the start via Slickenside and North Hogsback Trails, or whatever trails that are going in the general SW direction. Check the weather forecast and choose appropriate layers; wear hiking shoes or boots; bring food and water; and gather up hiking poles, rain jackets, and sunscreen as needed. For carpooling/caravanning, meet at 8:30 A.M. ET at Food City in St. Elmo, in the parking lot straight ahead off TN Ave. <https://bit.ly/3C3Um9L> Please register with hike leader Will Latham, (704) 365-8889. Carpool costs \$2.00.

Saturday, January 20 —Collins Gulf in the Savage Gulf, 12.3 miles, strenuous with rocks, el. gain 1700'. We will head to the Collins Gulf Trail, then down down down. Next, we'll follow the Collins River until we swing around to the east, then make our way up Stagecoach Road, up up up to the top of the plateau. Shifting into cruise control, we'll follow the Collins Gulf rim for several miles. Then we plunge into the gulf again, cross an impressive bridge, and putter slowly up the other side, with the parking lot not far off (but not as close as we may like). Then we may all pat ourselves on the back. Check the weather forecast and choose appropriate layers; wear hiking shoes or boots; bring lots of food and water; and gather up hiking poles, rain jackets, and sunscreen as needed. For carpooling/caravanning, meet at Food City on Signal Mountain Road, the near back corner of the parking lot, at 8:30 am ET. <https://bit.ly/3pk0suY> Please register with hike leader Betsy Darken, 423-718-2060. Carpool costs \$4.00.

Tuesday, January 23 — River to Clouds Trail, about 5 miles, moderate. There are only a few new pieces of this freshly designated 34-mile trail from the Tennessee River to Cloudland Canyon, including the first mile or so at the beginning of our hike. We will start at the northern terminus in St. Elmo, off Old Wauhatchie Pike near Church St. We'll be passing by some of the domesticated climbing boulders that have been corralled into this corner of Lookout Mountain. Then we will make our way up to Guild Trail, which has taken over the bed of an abandoned narrow-gauge railway, along with its classy bridges. Guild Trail busts through several Ruby Falls parking lots to make its way around the nose of Lookout Mountain and up to Cravens House, but we won't get this far. The mystery of this hike is the location of the turnaround point. Check the weather forecast and choose appropriate layers; wear hiking shoes or boots; bring food and water: and gather up hiking poles, rain jackets, and sunscreen as needed. Please meet at 8:30 am ET at Food City in St. Elmo, in the parking lot straight ahead off TN Ave. <https://bit.ly/3C3Um9L> There will be no carpooling because we are going to walk the three blocks from the parking lot to the trailhead. Please register with hike leader John Prescott, at (352) 496-0977.

Saturday, January 27 — Graysville Mountain, 9 miles, moderate with rocky terrain, 900' el. gain. Shuttle required. On this section of the Cumberland Trail, we will hike through the woods to the top of Graysville Mountain, then continue to Hwy 30, with the last bit just recently completed. Highlights include an old mining area, a seasonal waterfall, and a spectacular view overlooking Roaring Creek, the town of Graysville, and Cranmore Valley. We will start at the Roaring Creek Trailhead and travel along the creek before heading up rocky switchbacks. At the top of the plateau the trail levels out into a pine forest. We will enjoy several overlooks and maybe a few waterfalls before reaching our destination on Hwy 30, Dayton Mountain Road. For carpooling/caravanning, meet at 8.30 am ET at the Durham Street parking lot (ball fields) off Dayton Pike in Soddy-Daisy. <https://bit.ly/3Qjdc0S> Please register with hike leader Randy Medley, at (423) 667-0975. Carpool costs \$2.00.

Tuesday, January 30 —Perimeter Trail in Sewanee: Roakes Cove Road to the Forestry Cabin, easy to moderate, out-and-back, 6.2 miles with a 200' elevation gain. Roakes Cove is scenic with water often streaming from the top of the ridge and enhancing the beauty of the area. We will access the Perimeter Trail from the road via a short climb that is rocky in places. The trail quickly turns into rolling terrain with a couple of minor creek crossings. Along the way we will

take a side trail to KA Point, one of the prominent lookout spots on the Perimeter. We will then continue to the 50-year-old cabin, which sits on the edge of a bluff well-situated for a breathtaking view. There are picnic tables and even a

Scenic City Chapter continued

porch swing that is perfect for stopping a bit. As always be weather aware and bring appropriate clothing layers, hiking shoes, snacks, water, rain jacket, and hiking poles. There is limited parking at the trailhead, so we will be meeting to carpool at the parking lot just past the LaQuinta Inn, off I-24 Exit 175 at 8:30 AM EST. Register with hike leader Delores Ladd at 214-422-7206 (text only) or ladddelores@gmail.com. Carpool costs \$5.00.

SUMNER TRAILS CHAPTER

CHAPTER CO-CHAIRS: Donna & David Hobbs - 803-634-3470 - tsumnertrails68@tennesseetrails.org

OUTINGS COORDINATOR: Donna Hobbs - 803-634-3470 - tsumnertrailshikes68@tennesseetrails.org.

Wednesday, January 17–Triple Creek Park, Gallatin. 3.5 miles. Easy. Paved. Meet at the Gallatin Civic Center outer parking lot, 210 Albert Gallatin Av, at 10:30 a.m. We will walk from the Civic Center into Triple Creek Park (.85m), then follow the park's perimeter loop trail (1.80m) and return to the Civic Center (.85m). Mostly flat with one gentle uphill section. Restrooms at the Civic Center. Lunch to follow in downtown Gallatin if you so desire. Contact Donna at 925-759-0518 or John at 925-759-0517.

Tuesday, January 23 – Long Hunter State Park's Volunteer Trail. 4-mile loop. Moderate difficulty. Join us on the beautiful Long Hunter State Park's Volunteer Trail. We will do the 4-mile Day Loop section of the Volunteer trail. This takes us along a natural surface wooded trail and follows the Percy Priest Lake shoreline for part of the hike. Wear sturdy hiking shoes and hiking poles are recommended. The trail is mostly flat but expect slight inclines, natural rock steps, and roots occasionally along the trail. Carpool leaves Glenbrook Kroger, 1010 Glenbrook Way, parking lot at 9 a.m., or meet us at the trailhead parking lot for the Volunteer Trail at 10 a.m. Please call if you are meeting at the trailhead. Important to note that this trailhead is at 1600 Bakers Grove Road, Hermitage, TN, and is not accessible from the main Long Hunter State Park office area. Contact Jenny at mrzfitz@gmail.com or text/call 615-517-8185 with questions.

UPPER CUMBERLAND CHAPTER

(Sparta / Cookeville)

CHAPTER CHAIR: Cathy Moran 931-544-2764 tauppercumberlandhikes68@tennesseetrails.org

OUTINGS COORDINATOR: Cathy Moran 931-544-2764 tauppercumberlandhikes68@tennesseetrails.org

Check the website for hikes or updates.



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Will Latham (2024) 704-365-8889
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CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVES ON THE BOARD

ARE LISTED WITHIN EACH CHAPTER'S HEADER

Newsletter Editor

Mary Lewis Tims 731-780-5550
ttaeditor68@tennesseetrails.org

2023 TTA Board of Directors Meetings

All members are invited to attend board meetings.
Contact Duane Frichtl for the link to join Zoom meetings!

Feb 6, 6:30pm CST via Zoom

May 7, 6:30 pm CST via Zoom

Aug. 6, 6:30 pm CST via Zoom

Oct. 27, at 8:00 am at Fall Creek Falls Lodge

Newsletter Editor Needed

Would you like to help us get the word out about TTA hikes and activities and make a little extra spending money? We are looking for a new Newsletter Editor for TTA's monthly newsletter. The newsletter is currently edited using Microsoft Word and the current editor will help you get started. A stipend is provided. Typically, the position involves 5 to 10 hours each month, depending on hike submissions and additional activities such as the annual meeting. If you are interested and would like to learn more, please contact the Communications Committee Chair - Will Latham at wlatham@lathamconsulting.com.

Newsletter Deadlines:

Deadlines for Chapter announcements and articles of special interest are due on or before 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:

ttaeditor68@tennesseetrails.org

Please note: Newsletter submissions to the "editor" address are automatically copied to the webmaster.

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☐

A NEW MEMBER

☐

RENEWING MY MEMBERSHIP

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 ttamembership68@tennesseetrails.org

Please Mail This Form To:

Membership Director

P.O. Box 41446

Nashville, TN 37204-1446

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY.

___ Individual \$25.00

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___ Supporting (\$50.00, \$100.00 or more)

___ Life Member (Individual) \$500.00

___ Life Member (Family) \$750.00

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Phone () _____ Zip _____ -- _____

E-mail (required) _____

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

☐ E-mail addresses

☐ Mailing address

☐ Telephone numbers

Please list me with the following chapter:

___ Clarksville

___ Columbia/Franklin

___ East TN (Oak Ridge/Knoxville)

___ Highland Rim (Manchester/Tullahoma)

___ Jackson

___ Memphis

___ Murfreesboro

___ Nashville

___ Plateau (Crossville)

___ Scenic City (Greater Chattanooga Area)

___ Sumner Trails (Sumner County)

___ Upper Cumberland (Sparta/Cookeville)

___ At Large

When you become a TTA member, you will have access to the Members Area of our website (www.tennesseetrails.org) which includes the Membership Directory listing members by chapter and how to reach them. You will also receive our monthly newsletter which contains information on upcoming hikes, events, chapter meetings, and volunteer opportunities. We encourage you to review the Hiking Handbook (under the Hikes & Events section), a reference containing information about TTA, trail etiquette, and hiker responsibilities. We invite you to attend any number of monthly meetings where you will enjoy diverse programs, socializing and refreshments. Also, we hold our annual meeting 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.

Not a member yet? Please check out one of our hikes or meetings soon!