

## TENNESSEE TRAILS

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The next TTA activity will be a hike on Saturday, Feb. 13, from Hinch Gap to the point where Highway U.S. 127 drops into the Sequatchie Valley. This will be an exploratory hike, partly on existing trails, to pick a route for the Cumberland Trail. In addition to the cave at the head of the Valley, and the big spring that is the source of the Sequatchie River, there is a cascade called the "Hell Hole" and numerous views of the valley if it is clear.

The hike will be made jointly with members of the Sierra Club. The meeting place is the entrance to Cumberland Mountain State Park at 9:00 a.m. CST. There will be a meeting of the Tennessee Trails Association and a Dutch treat supper at the Park dining room at 6:00 p.m. Feb. 13, following the hike.

The main business will be to discuss plans for getting the Tennessee Trails System Bill passed, including a publicity campaign. If you can't come to the meeting, contact your legislator anyway. If you can come, bring him with you.

The Tennessee Trails System Act, House Bill No. 44, was introduced in the 87th General Assembly on Jan. 15 by Rep. Robert J. Bible of Kingsport. The bill was co-sponsored by Reps. James E. Williams, Alvin M. King, C. R. Ashford and Wm. V. Lawson, all of Memphis; Bruce Hurley, Surgoinsville; Victor Ashe, Tom Jensen, and Richard W. Krieg, all of Knoxville; Mike Murphy and Harold W. Bradley, both of Nashville; Frank Garner, Ripley; Dale M. Engstrom and R. Allan Egan, both from Chattanooga, and Mrs. John M. Fleming of Bristol.

Vice-president Bob Brown reports that Sen. Douglas Henry, Jr. of Nashville is interested in introducing the bill in the Senate, but he insists on some financing provisions, such as an annual license for users of the trails. If he can't be talked out of that idea, another Senate sponsor will be sought.

Corresponding Secretary-treasurer Susan McIntyre reports that three more ballot cards have been received since last month, but we are still short of the two-thirds vote needed to amend the constitution to provide for local chapters of TTA. If you have lost your card, write in your vote anyway.

Susan reminds members who haven't paid dues for 1971 that they will be dropped after the March issue of Tennessee Trails. Again she reminds us that the mailing address is Tennessee Trails Association, P. O. Box 733, Oak Ridge, Tenn. 37830.

John McIntyre reports continued progress on the Walden's Ridge section of the Cumberland Trail. A disturbing development is the building of a private residence astride our route. This necessitates dropping down the side to pass. John hopes isn't the beginning of a "Keeping up with the Joneses" trend.

Recording Secretary Robbie Hassler missed the January hike and meeting last month. She and husband, David were vacationing in Florida. Bob Brown will appear on the program of the Tennessee Outdoor Writers Association Feb. 20 to discuss the Trails System Bill.