

## TENNESSEE TRAILS

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Activity is increasing along the trail. The spring flower walks at Fontana Village Resort the week following Easter were well attended in spite of rainy weather. Every day we saw hikers on the Appalachian Trail, including one young man who was on his way from Georgia to Maime. The Smoky Mountains Hiking Club will have work trips on the AT May 12-13 and 19-20.

The May activity of Tennessee Trails Association will be a maintenance hike from Tristates Peak to Baptist Gap on the Cumberland Trail. We plan to mark the trail and trim back the brush that has grown the past year. If we have enough people, one party will start at Baptist Gap to complete the short section we missed last summer.

Early arrivals will meet for coffee at the grill across from the LMU Campus on U.S. 25E in Harrogate. There is an excellent campground in Cumberland Gap National Historical Park. The work party will start from the parking area for Tristates Peak in the Gap at 9:30 a.m. EDT.

The dedication hike for the North Ridge National Recreation Trail in Oak Ridge was held Sunday, April 15. Lily Rose Claiborne, trail chairman for TCWP, reports that 70 people were present. Mayor A. K. Bissell of Oak Ridge gave the dedication address and walked part of the trail. State Trails Administrator Joe Gaines and TTA President David Rhyne attended the dedication.

TTA member R. G. Orrison of Oak Ridge is working with Donald Todd, Sr. on the Cumberland Trail. Scout Troop 128 of St. Stephens Episcopal Church in Oak Ridge worked on the section between Arms Gap and the Frozen Head Fire Tower April 7 and 8. They hope to build trail all the way to the tower.

The Dept. of Conservation announced the names of the first five trails in the State Recreation Trails System last month. They are the Honeysuckle Nature Trail in T. O. Fuller State Park; Memphis Historical Trail; University of Tennessee Arboretum Trail in Oak Ridge; Laurel-Snow Trail near Dayton, and Stinging Fork-Twin Rocks Trail near Spring City. The last two are on Bowaters land.

Trails selected for the State Recreation Trail System must show significant natural, historical, educational or cultural values. Trail developers must show that the trail will be open to the public and operated in such a way as to keep the high standards that merit its designation as a State Recreation Trail.

State Senator Charles Taylor told the members of the Southeastern Outdoor Press Ass'n at Sapphire Valley April 14 that the State of North Carolina will begin proceeding this year to condemn land for the Appalachian Trail in the Tarheel State.

In Congress bills have been introduced calling for study of the Daniel Boone Trail in Kentucky from Cumberland Gap to Boonesboro and the Bartram Trail in Florida for inclusion in the National Scenic Trails System.

Included with this issue of Tennessee Trails is the program for the National Trails Symposium. We hope you can go.