

## TENNESSEE TRAILS

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The Fifth Annual Meeting of the Tennessee Trails Association will be held at Cumberland Mountain State Park Saturday, Dec. 15 at 9:00 a.m. Central Standard Time.

The agenda will include the President's report, Treasurer's report; reports of committees, and election of officers. Joe Gaines, State Trails Administrator, will give a progress report. The luncheon speaker had not been confirmed as we "went to press". After lunch, Bob Brown will lead a short hike on a newly-completed section of the Cumberland Trail.

At the Nov. 17 Board meeting, Pres. Rhyne appointed Grimes Slaughter of Oak Ridge, Bill Stutz of Chattanooga, and Bob L. Brown of Nashville to serve on the nominating committee. Four officers and one director are to be elected. The term of Dick Wooten of Nashville is expiring. The holdover directors are Roy Hall of Crossville, expiring in 1974, and E. W. Means,

1975. We learned at the Board meeting that the Department of Conservation had requested the Dept. of Finance and Administration to establish nine new positions for implementation of the State Trails System and the Scenic Rivers System. Those positions have since been approved and the new employees will begin work January 1, 1974.

There will be fulltime trails supervisors for the Cumberland Trail, Trail of the Lonesome Pine, and Chickasaw Bluffs Trail. There will be a fulltime survey crew for the Trails System and one person will work on the trails in the South Cumberland Recreation Area in Grundy County. The other two people will work on Scenic Rivers.

Pres. David Rhyne urges all TTA members to contact their State Senators and Representatives and ask them to support adequate appropriations for acquisition and construction of the Scenic Trails. The Dept. of Conservation is giving top priority to the Chickasaw Bluffs Trail and is negotiating with real estate developers to save the right of way. We published Thurman Simmons' call for help last month.

The Cumberland Trail is getting immediate attention because of the threat from real estate developments on the Cumberland Plateau. The Trail of the Lonesome Pine was chosen for early implementation because of its proximity to the industrial centers of East Tennessee, where recreation facilities are badly needed.

The tools that Pres. Rhyne told us about last month are being assigned to the local area committees. One set each will be located in Chattanooga, Crossville, Oak Ridge, and Kingsport. The other two sets will be assigned as needed. Work crews are requested to follow the new trail construction manual, which will be ready for distribution by the end of 1973. The construction methods we'll use were demonstrated at the instruction session Sept. 15.

Eighteen people, two Dachshunds and a Pug made the exploratory hike at Spring City Nov. 17. David and Pat Rhyne, Dot Ventress and Dot Lingerfelt of the South Cumberland Trail Committee camped out and continued exploring on Sunday.