

TENNESSEE TRAILS

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The January activity will be a hike on Saturday, the 19th, from Renegade Resort Lodge over Black Mountain to State Route 68, a distance of about 8 miles. A car shuttle will be provided from Route 68 back to Renegade. Starting time is 10 a.m. CDT. This is a repeat of the January 1970 hike, except that we can't promise snow this time. The route follows a jeep trail much of the way, with excellent views of the Cumberlands and even the Smokies if it is clear enough.

There will be a meeting of the Board of Directors after the hike. TTA members are invited to attend and assist in program planning for 1974.

The annual meeting at Cumberland Mountain State Park Dec. 15 was a very productive session. Trails Administrator Joe Gaines was ill and couldn't attend, so he sent us a written "Progress Report" to be included with this issue of TENNESSEE TRAILS. We may not have enough copies to go around, so if you miss it this time we'll send it next month. David Shupe, who went to work Jan. 1 as Trail Supervisor for the Cumberland Trail, attended the meeting.

President David Rhvne reported that the new Trails Manual, to which he devoted much of his time in '73, is almost finished and will be printed by the Dept. of Conservation. It will cover construction methods, TTA's role in trail development, backpacking instruction and other related information. In addition to the tools reported in November, Abney levels have been added to the list. The Tennessee Eastman Recreation Club has bought its own tools, making all of TTA's equipment available to other groups.

The Treasurer reported income during '73 as \$400 and a year-end balance of \$141, with \$75 still allocated to tools. In addition to the tool purchase, we had new TTA brochures printed and published the Association newsletter, Tennessee Trails. We are affiliated with the Tennessee Environmental Council and the National Trails Council. We had a total of 162 dues-paying members on Dec. 1, including 14 supporting and 10 student members.

Gordon Newland reported that TERC will use the new "Tennessee Trails Program" brochure we distributed in November to provide information for landowners along the Trail of the Lonesome Pine. He reported difficulties along the Appalachian Trail because of the Federal land procurement procedure. Also, over-use of the AT has disturbed landowners.

The Sierra Club continued with exploration for the John Muir Trail. The Harvey Broome group, of Knoxville, scouted most of the route from Rugby to Frozen Head State Park.

The greatest progress has been made on the Cumberland Trail, with around 70 miles open or under construction. John McIntyre reported that the Smoky Mountain Scout Council did 90% of the work on 21 miles of trail between Cove Lake State Park and Oliver Springs. It is hoped to get some help from students at Lincoln Memorial University on the Cumberland Gap end.

Sam Powell reported that the Scoutmasters Roundtable in

Chattanooga and other youth groups are helping. Nine Scout units are working in Prentice Cooper State Forest and a Trails Jamboree is planned for that area in the spring. The South Cumberland Trail Committee was formed Nov. 12, 1972 and has two groups working, one going each way from Henson Gap.

The members present at the annual meeting expressed interest in hosting a regional symposium for the National Trails Council this year and suggested October as the best time. The meeting concluded with an interesting talk on land use planning by Ruth Neff, executive director of the Tennessee Environmental Council.

Three new officers were elected at the annual meeting. They are: President, Mrs. H. C. Claiborne, 795 Outer Drive, Oak Ridge, TN. 37830; Vice Pres., Ed Casey, 4425 Westland Dr., Nashville, Tn. 37209; and Dorothy R. Lingerfelt, Box 4913, Chattanooga, Tn. 37405, Corresponding Secretary-Treasurer. Robbie Hassler, Box 1, Byrdstown, Tn. 38549, was reelected Recording Secretary. Donald Todd, Sr., past president, was elected for a three-year term on the Board of Directors. Holdover directors are Roy Hall of Crossville and E. W. Means of Oak Ridge. Retiring President David Rhyne will serve on the board during the term of his successor.

Our new president, Lily Rose Claiborne, is a very busy lady. She was chairman of the North Ridge Trail Committee for Tennessee Citizens for Wilderness Planning. She was largely instrumental in getting National and State Recreation Trail designation for this trail. She learned about TTA while working with Donald Todd, Sr. on the TCWT Strip Mine Committee.

Perpetually youthful, Lily Rose is reluctant to say when she received her law degree from LSU. She chose marriage over a career in law. Her husband, Clyde, is a scientist at Oak Ridge National Laboratory and a member of the Anderson County Court.

Lily Rose is chairman of the Oak Ridge Chapter of TTA, which she was instrumental in organizing in 1972. She is chairman of political activities for the Anderson County Executive Committee for the Democrat Party. She is active in the League of Women Voters and serves on various committees for the Oak Ridge City Council. She is a member, along with Evan Means, of the Environmental Quality Advisory Board of the City of Oak Ridge.

Our new President is vitally interested in the implementation of the Tennessee Trails System and enlists the aid of all TTA members to bring this about.

The National Outdoor Recreation Plan, which was completed late in 1973 for submission to the President and the Congress, emphasizes the importance of trails. It says that the Federal land managing agencies will intensify their efforts to establish trails on lands they administer. An amendment to the National Trails Act will be sought to add Historic Trails to the system.

The plan also calls on the States to enact legislation authorizing the use of a portion of State Highway funds for recreation trail purposes.