

TENNESSEE TRAILS

Official publication of Tennessee Trails Association, Inc.

Volume XI

April 1980

Number 5

Calendar:

- April 5 - Nashville Chapter Hike, Bear Waller Gap Trail, Bill Hager
- April 6 - Tennessee Bicycle Symposium, Nashville
- April 12 - Corps of Engineers Hike on Bear Waller Gap Trail
- April 13 - Nashville Chapter Hike, Edwin Warner Park, Margaret Mann
- April 19 - Wild Flower Hike, Big Hill Pond, Charlotte Zerfoss
- April 19 - Wild Flower Hike, Piney River, David Rhyne
- April 26 - Wild Flower Hike, Frozen Head State Park, Don Todd
- April 26 - Earth Day Festival, Chattanooga Nature Center, Dot Ventress

Bill Hager will lead the Nashville Chapter hike on Bear Waller Gap Trail on April 5 (this hike was scheduled for March 1 but canceled because of inclement weather). This National Recreation Trail hike should present us with an early opportunity to see "spring in bloom"--wild flowers, dogwoods, and redbuds, along with birds and deer and other wildlife. Call Bill Hager (615-374-2227) for information about the trail and call David Stidham (615-859-3621) about the time to meet for car pooling at the Cumberland Museum. Meet at 9 a.m. CST at Tater Knob Overlook--about three miles north of Carthage on State Highway 85 North. A trail patch is available for this hike.

On April 6, a bicycle symposium will be held in Nashville. Bertha Chrietzberg will be on the program. If you would like further information about the symposium, call Bertha on 615-896-1146 or write her at 1715 Elrod Street, Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37130.

Wayne Easterly of the Corps of Engineers called and asked that we announce a hike which will be conducted by one of the Rangers at Cordell Hull. The hike will begin at 10 a.m. CST at the Cordell Hull Scenic Overlook (Tater Knob) on April 12. This is a six-mile hike--a primitive camp site is available for those who would like to make it an "overnighter." There is no water at the camp site.

A hike, followed by a covered dish supper, will be held at Edwin Warner Park on April 13. Meet at the Park Nature Center on Highway 100 at 2 p.m. CST. Everyone should bring a covered dish. If you need further information, call Margaret Mann at 615-883-6212.

The first West Tennessee hike TTA has had will be led by Charlotte Zerfoss on April 19 at Big Hill Pond. Meet Charlotte at the Jackson State Office Building between 8 and 8:30 a.m. CST or at the entrance of Big Hill Pond on Tennessee Highway 57 between Middleton and Ramer. The hike will be on a seven-mile loop. Bring lunch and water.

The Piney River hike on April 19 will begin at 9:30 a.m. EST. Meet at the Piney River picnic area. There will be a car shuttle to the upper end of the trail before beginning the six-hour trip down Newby Branch, Duskin Creek Rockhouse Branch, and Piney River. The ten-mile hike will require some stamina, good comfortable boots, and possibly a light jacket. Bring lunch--water will be furnished by Mother Nature along the way. Wild flowers, rushing water, trees, and overlooks were spectacular last year. To get to the Piney River picnic area, turn south off State Highway 68 at the western edge of Spring City at a sign pointing to Walden Ridge.

The annual wild flower hike in Frozen Head State Park will be on April 26. Meet Don Todd at the ranger station in Frozen Head at 9:30 a.m. EST. This is always a leisure-type hike, and the abundance and variety of wild flowers found in Frozen Head would be hard to equal.

On April 26 between the hours of 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. EST, TTA will have an exhibit at the Earth Day Festival which will be held at the Chattanooga Nature Center in Reflection Riding. Dot Ventress could use some help in manning the exhibit. If you would like to help, call Dot on 615-821-6082. Diane Davidson is TTA's official representative on the Earth Day Steering Committee in Nashville.

The Nashville Chapter of TTA recently elected new officers: Diane Davidson, Chairman; Gene Curp, Vice Chairman; and Evelyn Tretter, Secretary-Treasurer. The next meeting of the Chapter will be on April 24 at 7:30 p.m. CST at the Cumberland Museum. Sam Pearsall of the Tennessee Heritage Program will make a presentation.

On March 15, David Stidham led a hike to Conley Hole on the rim of the Cumberland Plateau in Grundy County. Eighteen participated in this hike. David reported that the weather was beautiful, throwing rocks in Conley Hole was awesome, and all enjoyed the early wild flowers and rural scenery. David demonstrated the art of vertical cave exploring.

Betty Smith, David Cobb, Paul Somers, and Diane Davidson participated in a work trip on the Long Hunter Trail. Betty, chairman of the work group, reported that there will be a work trip on Long Hunter Trail each Saturday until the end of April. If you would like to volunteer, call Betty on 615-327-2671 for further information.

The Second Annual Jonesborough Days Adventure Hike will begin July 2. This will be a two and a half-day backpacking adventure (32 miles)--the highlight is reaching the summit of Big Bald Mountain (5,516 feet). The hike will conclude on July 4 with participation in the historic Jonesborough Days parade. The cost of the hike is \$10 per hiker. Each hiker will receive a Trail Guide, arm patch, banquet ticket, and be permitted to participate in the parade. The trip will be limited to 14 hikers. Those applications received after the first 14 will be returned along with the fee. Write Tony Geers, 306 Cherokee Street, Jonesboro, Tennessee 37659, for an application and other information.

The Tennessee Scenic Rivers Association will hold its annual school of river canoeing on the Hiwassee River June 13 through June 15, 1980. For a brochure and other information write Audrey and Frank Jones, 724 Summerly Drive, Nashville, Tennessee 37209, or call 615-352-3191. The school has been filled to capacity (200) every year for the past six years, so you should register as soon as possible.

Jan and John Bell, members of TTA, are Co-Directors of Confrontation Point, Inc. This is a non-profit corporation founded for the purpose of providing individuals a unique outdoor experience in the Tennessee Savage Gulf Natural Area. For information about summer expeditions and custom designed expeditions for individuals and groups, write Confrontation Point, Inc., P.O. Box 23536, Nashville, Tennessee 37202.

The reason for the lateness of this issue of Tennessee Trails is that our faithful editor, Evan Means, had major surgery on March 12 and "Pokey Dot" is not as efficient as Evan. However, I am happy to report that Evan is recovering rapidly from his surgery and will be participating in TTA activities in a very short time.

AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF TTA

Enclosed is a ballot for an amendment to the Constitution of TTA which would allow life membership in TTA. Please check your ballot and return to Tennessee Trails Association, Inc., P.O. Box 4913, Chattanooga, Tennessee 37405, by April 30, 1980.

AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF TTA

Below is a proposed amendment to the Constitution of TTA which would permit a life membership to be offered to present and future members of TTA. Please check your ballot and return to TTA, P.O. Box 4913, Chattanooga, Tennessee 37405, by April 30, 1980.

Life membership in the Tennessee Trails Association, Inc., will be available to individuals for \$125 until December 31, 1980; thereafter, life membership will be \$150. A life membership will entitle individuals to full benefits of the Association for their lifetime.

YES

☒

NO

☐