



TENNESSEE TRAILS

Official Publication of the Tennessee Trails Association

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WAPANOCCA WILDLIFE REFUGE, (TURRELL, ARKANSAS)

9 January, 1982

The Memphis Chapter and the Memphis Audubon will hike together through Wapanocca National Wildlife Refuge. This National Wildlife Refuge offers the hikers an excellent opportunity to view migratory Canada geese, snow geese, and ducks representing every species common to the Mississippi Flyway. Wood ducks and hooded mergansers are year-round residents, nesting and rearing their young in the swamp. Observe these waterfowl and other wildlife from the boardwalk and platform tower, and from the refuge road. An easy 8 miles along a gravel road will provide an excellent opportunity to use your camera. Bring binoculars too. Joint hike with the Memphis Audubon Society. Meet at the Refuge Headquarters at 9:00 a.m.; follow I-55 north from Memphis to the Turrell, AR exit, then take State Hwy. 42 east to 1/2 mile south of Turrell.

LEADER: Elaine Radin
Memphis Audubon Soc.

Jill Norvell 901-454-2365
Memphis (work) 901-876-5529

EAGLE WATCH (BY BOAT) DALE HOLLOW LAKE

(KY & TN)

23 January, 1982

Nashville Chapter-TTA will join the general public on a Corps of Engineers-sponsored eagle watch at Dale Hollow Lake. The eagle watchers will be taken out on the lake by boat, so dress WARM and bring your binoculars. Chances of seeing bald eagles are excellent. For the eagle watch meet Corps officials at Dale Hollow Kentucky State Park between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. CST. To reach the KY State Park, take TN 53 north out of Celina TN toward Burkesville, KY. In KY, follow signs to the KY State Park. From Crossville, take US 127 to Albany, KY and KY 90 towards Burkesville. For carpooling from Nashville, meet at the Cumberland Museum at 7 a.m. CST on Saturday. Camping is available at Dale Hollow Dam Recreation Area directly below the dam. Space is available in the Government-owned cabin at Dale Hollow Dam near the State Park. Linens and cooking utensils, etc., are provided. To pre-register for cabin Friday and/or Saturday night, call the leader. Plan to stay Saturday night for the Black

Mt. hike on Sunday (see below). For more information, and directions, call leader.

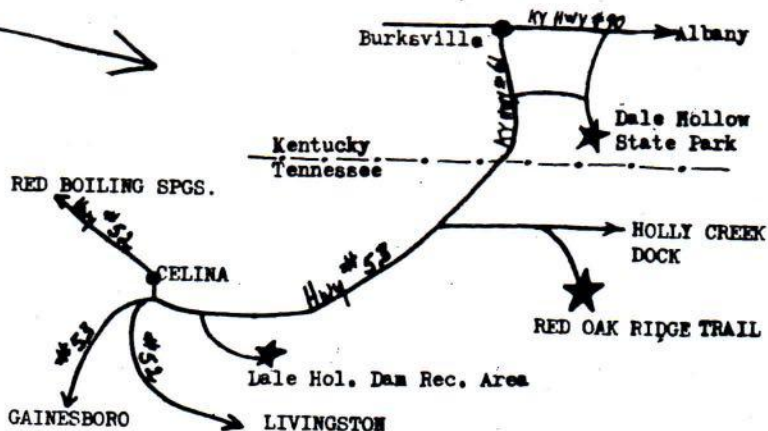
LEADER: David Stidham 859-3621
1015 Hitt Ln. (work) 251-5115
Goodlettsville
37072

HIKE UP BLACK MOUNTAIN ON THE CUMBERLAND TRAIL (Cumberland Co.)

24 January 1982 (Sunday)

This hike will follow a section of the Cumberland Trail which was constructed by TTA over 10 years ago under the leadership of Bob Brown. The hike will begin on TN Hwy 68 at Low Gap and climb the crest of an unknown ridge, passing by the entrance of Windless Cave. Old woods roads gradually ascend the slopes of Black Mt., and a steep climb brings us to the summit of the mountain. From the rocks on top on a clear day, you have incredible views of Grassy Cove, the brow of Walden's Ridge, and the far off Unaka Mountains. After lunch on top (where there is a good spring), we will backtrack to Low Gap. Round trip hiking distance is about 6 miles. Difficulty is Class II (moderate) except for some possible woods scrambling as we lose and refind the old trail. The leader will be leaving from the Dale Hollow Dam cabin (see above) on Sunday morning. Call to reserve a space in the cabin Saturday night. Otherwise, meet at 9:00 a.m. Central time at the Cumberland General Store SE of Crossville at the intersection of US 127 and TN 68. Joint trip with Sierra Club.

LEADER: David Stidham 615-859-3621
1015 Hitt Ln. (wk) 615-251-5115
Goodlettsville
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TTA Affairs

NOTE: Your 1982 dues are due! Next month will be your last newsletter if you fail to renew, so don't forget! (Please use enclosed form).

TTA Board Meeting - 22 January, 1982, 7:30 p.m. Central time - Corps of Engineers cabin below Dale Hollow Dam (Celina, TN). Everyone welcome. Call David Stidham (615-859-3621/615-251-5115) for more information.

TRIP REPORT - There are apparently no winter hikers in the TTA membership--a tragedy of immense proportion! There were only 3 persons on this trip to the beautiful Cumberland Gap National Historic Park, the two leaders and a non-member whom I expect to join TTA shortly. The National Park Service was expecting our arrival and arranged for Ranger Rusty Loran to hike the trail with us. The trail was snow-covered all the way, deeper at the top and simply beautiful beyond words! All the trees were covered in ice and snow against a blue sky. The snow was 3 to 5" deep. A soft wind blew snow and ice from the trees and rocks making the air, at times, seem full of ice crystals reflecting sunlight. We saw a lot of rabbit tracks and at the picturesque Hensley settlement, we saw deer grazing in the open meadows.

Those of you who boast of winter hiking missed a beautiful winter trip! The temp. on the mountain Saturday reached a high of 11° and in camp Saturday night, 15° dropping to near 0° before morning. At 10:00 a.m., Sunday morning the temp. was 5° (Curp's thermometer), I must say though that 90% of the time we were quite warm and comfortable. Sunday, we walked the short trail to the Tri-Corner (Ky-Va-Tenn) and from there a short way to the earthen works of Civil War Fort Farrgut. To our surprise we found that the Northern section of the Cumberland Trail terminates at Fort Farrgut in the Park. We walked a short stretch of the Trail.

Hikers were Gene Curp, Steve Hale and Joe McCaleb all from Hendersonville, Tennessee. - McCaleb.

NASHVILLE AREA CARPOOL COORDINATOR - EVELYN TRETTER
859-0566

MEMPHIS AREA CARPOOL COORDINATOR - JILL NORVELL
901-454-2365
901-876-5529 (home)

Chapter News

Nashville

January 21st program - Hiking in the Himalayas. John Talbot, TTA member, recently returned from several weeks of hiking (trekking!) on top of the world in the country of Nepal. He will share his experiences and tips on how to go about planning a trip to the Himalayas, at the Nashville Chapter meeting on January 21, 1982 at the Cumberland Museum. John will give a slide presentation of his Himalayan adventure at this open meeting, beginning at 7:00 p.m. Central time. Don't miss it! Other business includes election of Chapter officers for 1982. Bring snacks to share with members and guests. For more information, call Diane Davidson (615)297-6181. NOTE: Meeting date changed from Jan 28th, as originally planned.

Murfreesboro

The Murfreesboro Chapter of TTA met on December 10, 1981. The Chapter held the election of officers. They are as follows: Chairman-Dwain Van Vactor; Vice-Chairman-Don McGee; Secretary-Vickie Hillis. Dwain Van Vactor gave a slide presentation on cross country skiing. The members voted to change the

meeting date from the second Thursday of every month to the second Tuesday of every month. The next meeting will be January 12, 1982, Old Gym, MTSU campus. A slide presentation will be given.

TRIP REPORT - Stones River Canoe Trip, November 28, 1981. Seventeen people turned out for this beautiful Saturday on Stones River. It had rained about an inch the day before, so the river was up and everyone enjoyed it. A tour of Brown's Mill had been set up, and a stop here for lunch was one of the highlights of the day.
B. Christzberg

Memphis

January 7, 1982-Memphis Chapter Plans the Future - The Memphis Chapter of TTA is scheduled to meet January 7 for their first organizational meeting. Jill Norvell, Memphis Chapter Chairperson, considers the meeting a turning point for the Chapter. After many successful outings last fall, the chapter is now ready to begin programs, projects, and special events for the Memphis area. This organizational meeting will have a three-fold purpose:
(1) to introduce Memphis and West TN to TTA,

its history, and general information.

(2) to review scheduled 1982 spring and summer hikes, and to discuss special events and joint hikes with Memphis' Sierra, Audubon, and Canoe Clubs.

(3) to organize a means of disseminating responsibilities throughout the chapter.

The Memphis Chapter organizational meeting is open to members and nonmembers. Suggestions for projects and outings are welcomed. The chapter is scheduled to meet at 7:30 p.m. in room 310 of the Ball Education Building on the Memphis State Campus. Sharon Patterson, TTA's Chapter Coordinating Chairperson, will be on hand to present a TTA slide program. For additional information call Jill at (901) 454-2365.

Jill Norvell writes..."Memphis Chapter is booming! I have never seen so many people interested in hiking. I'm glad our chapter is working out so well. I have had a great deal of help from the media. All of our hikes have been announced in the newspapers and on the radio. Last night, I was on a radio talk show promoting TTA. I expect a lot of inquiries about our new chapter. It's exciting, but hectic..." Jill

TRIP REPORT - Nov. 28, 1981. Chickasaw Bluff Trail - The threat of rain did not hinder the 75 people who hiked the Chickasaw Bluff Trail at Meeman Shelby Forest State Park, November 28. The few sprinkles that came only refreshed the hikers as they traveled up and down the bluff and into the Park's bottomland. The group was divided into two smaller groups. Ranger-Naturalist Charlie Norvell and Jill Norvell led the two groups beginning at two different points on the trail. Jill's group saw a wild turkey fly tree-top high, a reminder of Turkey Day, and many deer tracks in the Wildlife Management Area. We also saw many food plots where the wildlife feed and find shelter during the winter months. We enjoyed lunch atop one of the bluffs under the golden leaves of maple trees, while looking down into the cypress swamps filled with cypress knees. The kids seemed to enjoy swinging on a rope across a huge gully. All in all, everyone enjoyed being outdoors during the Thanksgiving holidays. Jill Norvell

TRIP REPORT - 12 December, 1981. The bus leaving Reelfoot Lake State Park was bulging with

people strapped down with cameras, binoculars, and spotting scopes eager to see the American Bald Eagle. Not more than 1/2 mile from where we loaded in the bus at Air Park Inn did we see our first eagle soaring high above Reelfoot Lake. As soon as we tumbled out of the bus to get a closer view, the mature eagle had perched on a snag over the water. Cameras were clicking and several spotting scopes were set up for all to get a closer look. There were several OOHHS and AHHHS from those who had never seen an eagle and, from those who never get tired of looking at them. All 40 of us got in and out of the bus a dozen times as we toured near the lake's edge to view the parade of eagles. I lost count of the number of mature eagles after seeing 20. One particular good view was near the Park's campground. Two matures were perched high in the tree tops. A third circled above our heads while the other two squawked at him. We laughed while listening to the high-pitched whistle and thinking how strange the sound was from the huge birds. I always thought eagles would have a more masculine "bark". We completed the perfect morning with a perfect lunch at one of Reelfoot's famous restaurants. There's nothing better topping off a busy morning hiding behind binoculars, than eating country ham with red-eye gravy!

Happy Trails---Jill Norvell

Cumberland Mountain

The first meeting of the future Fentress County Chapter of the Tennessee Trails Association, to be known as the Cumberland Mountain Chapter, was held December 7, 1981 at Allardt Elementary School. The meeting was brought to order with election of officers. They are as follows: President-Steven Burke; Vice-President-Howard Ray Duncan; Secretary-Treasurer-Pamela Burke and Representative to TTA Board of Governors-George Minnigh. A meeting time was decided to be on a bi-monthly basis for the first Monday of the month, beginning January 4, 1982. Other business briefly discussed was future activities such as hikes, dinners, and fund raising. Attendance was good with eleven members present. Absences were caused by holiday festivities. Presently, there are eighteen members, and two supporting members on the roll. The Cumberland Mountain Organization has great promise and growth potential. The people of Fentress County have proven themselves willing and able to develop their trails and share them with visitors from throughout the state.

STATE TRAIL NEWS

Terry Bonham, TTA member (finally!) and State trails coordinator, gave a "State of the Trails" report at the Crossville annual meeting. Terry reported problems in the trails program, which have plagued trail efforts for years, along with some definite accomplishments. Problems centered around bureaucratic red tape and lack of acceptance of trail needs by some lawmakers and administrators. Technical problems include staffing limitation (especially after loss of the Young Adult Conservation Corps), problems with surveys and easements, and the budget crunch. Some accomplishments: Phase I of the Trail of the Lonesome Pine is nearly complete. The TN Eastman Hiking Club will be maintaining a 12 mile section of TLP, from the state line to Little War Gap. Unfortunately, Phase II of TLP is still shut down because of land owner opposition. Jim Greenway is the new administrator for TLP. The Cumberland Trail is completed from Cumberland Gap to Baptist

Gap; from LaFollette to Oliver Springs; and in Prentice Cooper State Forest. Progress is underway from Baptist Gap south, and from Oliver Springs to Little Emory River. Several land owners north of LaFollette are causing problems. At the South Cumberland Recreation Area, a 20 mile Collins Gulf Loop Trail in Savage Gulf Natural Area and 7 mile trail from Collins River to Cardwell Mt. are soon to be completed (Shellsford-Cardwell Mt. Trail). Big news is the John Muir Trail has recently been funded! Work will begin soon from Rugby to Frozen Head State Natural Area, and the Pickett State Park to Alvin C. York Grist Mill section is nearly complete. In west TN, trails at Big Hill Pond and Pinson Mounds have been added to the trails inventory. New life may be given to the Chickasaw Bluff Trail with the initiation of a Memphis Riverfront study. Bad news in east TN: There is no support politically for acquiring scenic Doe River Gorge for the Over Mountain Victory Trail. The opportunity to protect this scenic river and some rare plants in the gorge may slip by us.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS - 1982

- 4 Jan. - Cumberland Mt. Chapter meeting, Allardt Elementary School.
5 Jan. - Cumberland-Harpeth Audubon meeting, Cumberland Museum.
7 Jan. - Organizational meeting of Memphis Chapter, MSU campus.
9 Jan. - Memphis Chapter hike, Wapanocca National Wildlife Refuge, Turrell, AR.
12 Jan. - Murfreesboro Ch. meeting, MTSU.
16 Jan. - Sierra Club hike, Piney River Trail; Joe McCaleb (615-822-4060/615-822-1610).
17 Jan. - Sierra Club hike, Cumberland Mt. State Park-Bill Terry (615-361-5529).
18-21 Jan. - Southeast Region, Assn. of Interpretive Naturalists, Wheeler Ntl. Wildlife Rfg.
22 Jan. - TTA Board Meeting, Dale Hollow Dam, Celina, TN.
23 Jan. - Nashville Chapter trip, Dale Hollow Lake Eagle watch.
24 Jan. - Cumberland Trail, Low Gap to Black Mt.
21 Jan. - Nashville Chapter meeting, Cumberland Museum.
6 Feb. - Sierra Club hike, Short Mt.-Bob Brandt.
9 Feb. - Murfreesboro Chapter meeting.
20-21 Feb. - South Rim Trail, Savage Gulf Natural Area-Bob Brown (615-748-4816) and Bob Richards (615-924-2956).
27 Feb. - Nashville and Murfreesboro Chapters lakeshore hike, Long Hunter State Park; Bertha Chrietzberg (615-896-1146) and Reggie Reeves (615-459-8194).
28 Feb. - Memphis Chapter hike and auto tour, Shiloh National Military Park.

Send material for TENNESSEE TRAILS

to: David Stidham, Editor

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The deadline is the 20th of each month. If possible, submit material camera ready, typed in a full 3½ inch column. Artwork is welcomed.

TENNESSEE TRAILS ASSOCIATION INC.

OBJECTIVES: To promote, construct, and maintain a state wide system of hiking trails, and to work for the conservation of natural resources inherent to this objective. Sponsor for the Cumberland Trail.

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1982-1984

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1981-1982

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Chairman-Memphis Chapter

George Minnigh-Jamestown
Cumberland Mountain Chapter

TTA Officers - 1982

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