



TENNESSEE TRAILS

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Tennessee Trails Association, Inc.

Volume XIV, No. 3

March 1983

A Wilderness Bill for the Cherokee National Forest - In his October meeting with wilderness advocates, Congressman Duncan said that early in 1983 he would make up his mind which way to go on the issue. It is therefore most important for all of us--but particularly for residents of his District--to keep urging him to introduce a bill to designate as wilderness the four areas included in the "Citizens' Wilderness Proposal" which TTA endorsed. The Forest Service is quite impressed with the magnitude of the pro-wilderness public input concerning the Citico Creek and Big Frog proposals, and with the fact that many local people came out on the wilderness side.

Highlands of the Roan: good news - In September the Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy announced the good news that protection had been assured for a major portion (70%) of the magnificent Hump Mountain. Following a lengthy negotiating effort led by the SAHC, the Forest Service offered to buy (from a single owner) 1,500 acres of the Hump--about 3x the acreage USFS was originally willing to commit itself to. Protection of Hump Mountain had formed the focus of SAHC's efforts in the past few years. The happy resolution of this issue now frees SAHC to re-focus its efforts and financial assets on the remainder of the Roan Highlands that are still in need of protection--about 7,500 acres. If you wish to learn more about this project, write SAHC, PO Box 3356, Kingsport, TN 37664.

TVA Registers a Natural Area and develops National Recreation Trails - A 15 acre virgin beech grove, known as Stiner's Woods, and its surrounding cedar and hardwood forest, were included in the State's Natural Area Registry on 10/13/82. This listing obligates TVA to protect the significant natural features of the land. The 1-mile loop trail within the grove was dedicated as a National Recreation Trail, part of the Natl. Trail System. Two other TVA trails - Hemlock Bluff Trail (on the Clinch R. Arm of Norris Res.) and Forest City Trail (near Watts Bar Dam) were dedicated at the same time.

TVA's 50th - In 1983, TVA will be "50 years old, or 50 years young". TVA is planning a year-long commemoration, during which it will disseminate information on its programs and policies. "The Valley Adventure," TVA's World's Fair exhibit, will travel down the Tennessee River on 2 barges between April and September, making 14 stops. TVA welcomes suggestions for activities at these stops. (Call 1-800-362-9250).

Mineral Leasing in Wilderness - During the lame-duck session, a rider was attached to the Interior Appropriations bill (P 10A) that would prohibit any funds in fiscal year 1983 to be spent for processing application to lease wilderness lands for minerals extraction or exploration. Wilderness is thus protected through 9/30/83. It will be permanently protected, under the terms of the 1964 Wilderness Act, after 1/1/84. This gives Watt a 3-month window in which to issue leases. The congress may therefore try to pass legislation permanently banning leasing in wilderness in order to "close" this window. This week, Watt announced (not surprisingly) that he would not support such legislation. TTA has gone on record as opposing any mineral exploration or extraction within wilderness areas.

Stay at Historic Rugby - Overnight lodging is now available in an 1880's pioneer cottage, completely furnished (kitchen, bath, etc.) to sleep 10. You can rent the whole cottage (\$68.50) or rooms within it (\$21-\$32). This makes a good location from which to explore the Big South Fork Area. (Contact Historic Rugby, PO Box 8, Rugby, TN 37733, or call 615-628-2441).

TTA Enters into Agreement with the TN Dept. of Consv. for Maintenance of Sec 2 of the Cumberland Trail.

Don Sharpio, Asst. Comm. of Conservation writes: "May I say the Dept. of Conservation is very appreciative of the TTA's efforts in support of the Cumberland Trail. We are looking forward to working with your organization in creating a state trails system that is second to none and this cooperative agreement is a giant step in that direction." TTA has agreed to do all maintenance on a 31 mile section of the trail with volunteers. Grimes Slaughter is TTA's coordinator for this project. If you can help, contact Grimes at 615-483-5859.

HIKES

PRENTICE COOPER LOOP HIKE Saturday, March 5, 1983

Meet at the Cumberland Trail parking lot in Prentice Cooper at 10 a.m., EST.

LEADER: Sam Powell 615-886-2689
Chattanooga

BACKPACKING AT PICKETT S.P. (PICKETT CO.) Sat. - Sun. March 5-6, 83

Days will be cool, nights brisk, streams full, and the scenery spectacular as usual. Hike will cover the Hidden Passage trail (8 miles) with side trips to Twin Falls and the Tunnel optional. Days will be divided with 4-5 miles each. The group will choose overnight camping site (Twin Falls, Tunnel on Rock Creek, or Thompson Overlook). Lots of geologic features, rock houses, and photographic opportunities. Join us for this newly-revived annual event and bring ample water for the trip, sleeping bag rated at 30+, and tent. Hiking in moderate hills with some steep climbs on optional side trips. Meet at the Park Office of Pickett State Park on Hwy. 154 at 9:30 (CST) sharp.

LEADER: Harry Williamson 615-297-6494
Nashville 741-5208
or
Terry Bonham 615 742-6681

NATCHEZ TRACE "RED LEAVES TRAIL" (HENDERSON COUNTY) Saturday, 12 March, 1983

Join the Memphis Chapter for a challenging all day hike and picnic at Natchez Trace State Park. The hike will originate at the Park Office and follow the South loop to Brown's Creek Lake, approximately 8.5 miles. Hikers will be shuttled back to the office by car. The hike will be led by Ranger-Naturalist Larry Mullins. Be sure to wear comfortable hiking boots and bring your lunch. Meet at 9:30 A.M. Central time, at the Park Office and the hike will start at 10:00 A.M..

LEADER: Larry Mullins 901-968-7526
Natchez Trace 901-968-3742

TWIN FORKS OVERNIGHTER (RUTHERFORD CO.) Saturday - Sunday, March 12-13, 1983

On March 12, 1983 the Murfreesboro Chapter will sponsor an overnight hike on the Twin Forks Trail located on the East and West Branches of the Stones River. It should be a beautiful hike with many wild flowers in bloom. The trail is 22 miles in length. We will cover approximately 11 of those miles the first day and finish on the next. The meeting location will be at Walter Hill Park, just east of Hwy 231 North of Murfreesboro, at 9:00 a.m. Everyone welcome.

LEADER: Arthur M. Yates (615) 459-2095
Murfreesboro after 5:00 p.m.



CANCELLED - The March 19-27 Appalachian Trail hike planned by the Murfreesboro Chapter has been cancelled.

MARK BRANCH WILDFLOWER HIKE (McCreary Co. KY.) Sunday, March 13, 1983

This Cumberland Mountain Chapter sponsored hike will be in the Daniel Boone National Forest in McCreary County Kentucky. We will be hiking from atop Peters Mountain to Hemlock Grove Picnic Area on Rock Creek. Due to the difference in elevation from one end of the trail to the other we should be able to see many species of wildflowers. As an added bonus we will be going by a nice waterfall about 50 feet high. We will be leaving from Pickett State Park office at 9:00 a.m. C.S.T. on Sunday, March 13. There will be some shuttling of vehicles at the trailheads. Wear hiking boots and perhaps bring a towel and extra socks as we will have to cross Rock Creek at the end of the hike. Lunch, water, and a camera are recommended. Distance is approximately 3 1/2 miles and is class II.

Leader: Howard Ray Duncan-879-8245 after 5:00 p.m.

JACK'S RIVER - COHUTTA WILDERNESS AREA Saturday, March 19, 1983

This hike is moderately easy--a "short" 3 miles to the falls. Barring a torrential rain, we will ford the river at the falls and explore some of the many trails on the other side--wild flowers should be peeking out! The group can decide on how long or how far the hiking will be. Meet at Concord Baptist Church, East Brainerd (just off I-75), at 8:30 a.m., EST, for car pooling from Chattanooga. Those coming from north of Cleveland, take Highway 64 bypass and meet at intersection of Highway 64 and 411 (under the overpass) at 9:30 a.m., EST.

LEADER: Dot Lingerfelt 615-842-8043
Chattanooga

FT. PILLOW STATE PARK, CHICKASAW BLUFF TRAIL March 26, 1983

Join the Memphis Chapter for hilly hike over 8-10 miles of the Chickasaw Bluff Trail, Section I. Set in historic Ft. Pillow State Park, this area provides the hiker with a look back to the Civil War/N.B. Forrest days. Ft. Pillow is also known for its spectacular views of the Mighty Mississippi. Bring you lunch, water, and a friend and meet us at 9:00a.m. at the Park Office. Follow the signs to the Park off Hwy 51 pass Covington (almost to Ripley).
Leader: Ward Weens, Park Superintendent

JOHN MUIR TRAIL (Polk Co.) 26 March 1983

Come join the Nashville Ch. on this joint day hike with the Sierra Club along the John Muir Trail, part of the State scenic trail that traces the route the great naturalist and Sierra Club founder took through TN on his 1000 mile walk in 1867. Meet in front of Webb Bros Store in Reliance (Hwy. 30) at 9:30 eastern time. This trail has a Class I-II (easy-moderate) rating and generally follows the Hiwassee River. Bring a lunch. And water. Preregister by Wed. March 23 --required. Call trip leader for additional info.. Distance of hike will be determined by the group.

LEADER: Bucky Crowell 615-269-6579
Nashville 615-259-5860 (v)

CUMBERLAND MOUNTAIN CHAPTER'S WEEKEND OF FUN PICKETT STATE PARK-BUFFALO ARCH TO COFFEE OVERLOOK April 16 & 17, 1983

Mark your calendar now for the Cumberland Mountain Chapter's "Weekend of Fun" April 16 & 17 at Pickett State Park. This year a special invitation goes to the Murfreesboro Chapter and ofcourse, any other TTA member that would be interested in having a weekend

of fun at Pickett. We will begin with dinner on Saturday evening at 7:00 p.m. C.S.T. at the Pickett State Park Lodge. Camping facilities will be available at the park. After dinner the Cumberland Mountain Chapter will share a slide show of our activities during the past year. We invite you to bring slides or anything else you would like to share with us. On Sunday, April 17 we will have a late spring wildflower hike on the Buffalo Arch to Coffee Overlook trail. This hike will be led by Big South Fork park ranger Bob Dawm. We will

leave at 9:00 a.m. C.S.T. from the Pickett State Park Office. The hike will be approximately 5½ miles and class II. Dinner on Saturday evening will be provided by the Cumberland Mountain Chapter. We hope you plan to join us!

Cumberland Mountain Chapter
Steven Burke: 879-8017 from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Howard Ray Duncan: 879-8245 after 5:00 p.m.

TRIP REPORTS

Mouse Tail Landing State Park, December 18, (Memphis Chapter) - Because of the rainy weather during our prime hiking season, a group of 9 decided to make up for a cancelled hike and venture out to this beautiful new state park. It's full of rolly hills and my legs reminded me later that day that I am definitely a flat-lander. Everyone decided that we should go back in 1983 and explore more of this new-found-land! Jill Norvell

TRIP REPORT- Due to recent heavy rains, the road to the starting point of the Betty Branch hike was impassable even by four wheel drive vehicles, therefore on January 1, 1983 seven members of the Cumberland Mountain Chapter and two guest hiked approximately seven miles round trip to Angel Falls, which is located about 2½ miles down stream from Leatherwood Ford in the Big South Fork NRR. The river was up around three feet from its normal level due to recent rains, so the falls, which is actually one of the roughest set of rapids on the Big South Fork was roaring like a great tempest, a deadly hazard to anyone who would dare to raft or canoe through it. The hike itself began at the top of the hill leading to Leatherwood Ford and passed the new bridge currently under construction by the Corps of Engineers. The group then hiked the old road down stream on the east side of the river. The scenery was typical of the regions with huge cliffs rising on either side of the river. The weather could not have been better. Everyone had a great time. Those attending were: Terry and Aaron Bonham from Nashville, Steven and Pamela Burke, Howard Ray Duncan, George, Janet, Brice, and Buddy Minnigh all from Jamestown...S. Burke.

Reelfoot Eagle Watch and Hike, January 8 (Memphis Chapter) - I'm not sure who had the correct count or not, but I know 19 Memphis Chapter eagle searchers saw at least 25 bald eagles at Reelfoot Lake State Park. Some eagles were soaring high above the choppy water of the Lake. Others were perched on snags and tree tops peering down on us as we peered back at them through binoculars and spotting scopes. One scope was very powerful and allowed us to see every blink of the eye, every ruffled feather, and every bend in the huge yellow legs and feet. After locating all the eagles at the south end of the Lake, we treated ourselves to a fine country lunch at Boyettes and had country ham, frog legs, fried chicken, and the all American hamburger. We ventured back out in the cold for a nice afternoon walk along one of the Management Area's gravel roads. Around the first bend in the road, we watched a huge flock of wild turkey, and around another bend, we were eye-ball to eye-ball with a very lethargic opossum. At the end of the day, everyone agreed this was the best hike of the year (and the very first). Jill Norvell

TRIP REPORT- On January 16 seven TTA members turned out for the Cumberland Mountain Chapter sponsored Rock Creek Snow Hike. Light snow showers on the proceeding day provided a dusty cover of powdery snow; just enough to add color to the scenery. The

high temperature for the day was only 30 degrees, but with brilliant sunshine everyone stayed warm. The hike followed Rock Creek, passing the old railroad tunnel, wound under cliffs studded with unusual icicle formations resembling chandeliers glistening in the sunlight, and finally up a steep grade to Thompson Overlook and along an access road back to the Group Camp where a shuttle vehicle awaited. Those attending were: Randy Hedgepath from Buena Vista, Jim Evans and Vic Canada from Madison, Gene Curp from Hendersonville, Howard Ray Duncan, Steven and Pamela Burke from Jamestown...S. Burke.

Waterfowl Watch, January 29 (Memphis Chapter) - Despite weather fit only for the Ducks, over 85 people turned out to observe Waterfowl and other bird life around Poplar Tree Lake. Most people braved the rain and many species were noted, including a Lesser Snow Goose fairly rare to the Mid-South. After a short discussion on Migration, each group trekked forth in search of the birds of Shelby Forest..... Charles Norvell, Ranger-Naturalist.

Rock Castle Bushwhackers Trip-Feb. 12, 1983 (Cumberland Mountain Chapter) - Four brave souls endured the brisk February weather of the Cumberland Plateau to venture into a rugged area of Fentress County known as Rock Castle. Rock Castle is a deep gorge just barely a mile from Jamestown. We began our hike from a high bluff top that overlooks Rock Castle and one of its many waterfalls. From the overlook we followed an old road that leads into the gorge to an abandoned coal mine. We were able to see three separate waterfalls and a rushing, mountain stream complete with large boulders. After leaving the waterfalls we made our way into the gorge and began a rock hop along the creek. We soon discovered that some of us could rock hop better than others, right Pat? In spite of cool weather, rugged terrain and wet socks everyone had a great time. Those on the hike were: Pat Anderson, Vic Canada, Howard Ray Duncan, and Steve Dunford...Howard Ray Duncan.

ESPERANZA TRAIL, Feb. 12, - Memphis Chapter- Esperanza is "Fields of Hope" in Spanish, but to the 14 hikers who came "Fields of Mud" seemed more appropriate. There was mud, mud, everywhere which gave everyone more exercise than they wanted. In spite of this the hike was interesting, and we learned some of the historical events of the area by reading the markers along the trail. In an open field we spotted some ducks and a sparrow hawk. In the woods on the trail we found a least flycatcher, wrens, warblers and cardinals. Along a field road were two huge cottonwood trees along with dogwood, sycamore, oak and hackberry. Since most hikers were too busy watching their feet and trying to keep going, they agreed to try it again when hopefully the trail would be dryer. Mavis F. Bull (Jerri)

Cane Creek Overnighter, January 29-30. Well the sun came out just as we left on the trail, and right after we returned. In between it rained, but we had a great time in spite of the dampness. We had nine diehard backpackers from Jonesboro to Clarksville to Huntsville, Ala. say to heck with the weather forecast. The temperature was more like March, so no snow, but we got to share a campfire, trade tall tales, and make new friends in the beautiful backcountry of Fall Creek Falls. See ya on the trail Herb Roberts

On Saturday, February 12, 1983, twenty hikers met at Cedars of Lebanon State Park for a hike on the Hidden Springs - 5 Mile Trail. The day could not have been any better for hiking. The air was crisp, the sun shining and NO RAIN, which had been the standard forecast for previous weekends. We stopped at the Hidden Spring for a short rest & snack and were fortunate to see the water falling into the underground cave. An unique mushroom was found and later identified as Cordyceps capitata, which is parasitic on an underground fungi. Those who joined the hike, sponsored by the Murfreesboro Chapter were: Bill Hager, Betty Richards, Kay, Bill & Davis Jones, Margaret Mann, Nancy Scott, John Rion, William Hayes, Evelyn Tretter, Floyd, Jennifer, & Laura Free, Chuck & Tommy Bugg, Danny Rollins, Mark Jones, Mike Hunter, Donnie Edwards & leader Sharen Patterson.

Chapter News

Chattanooga

ORGANIZATION OF CHATTANOOGA CHAPTER OF TTA

On February 20, 1983, TTA members and other interested persons met to form a Chattanooga Chapter of TTA. Twenty people attended the meeting. Eleven were non-members but joined TTA at the end of the meeting. Discussions from the group on type of activities, meeting times, officers, etc., were very lively. The next meeting will be March 20, 2 p.m., at the cabin in Prentice Cooper State Park. There will be an election of officers and plans will be made for the coming months. Come and bring a friend so we can get our Chapter rolling!

Call Sam Powell, 615-886-2689 for more information.

Cumberland Mountain

CUMBERLAND MOUNTAIN CHAPTER MEETING-MARCH 14, 1983

The Cumberland Mountain Chapter meeting will be Monday, March 14 at 7:00 p.m. at Allardt Elementary School. George Minnigh will present a slide presentation on wildflowers to familiarize everyone with some of the flowers that will be encountered on the wildflower hike the day before and to prepare everyone for the late spring wildflower hike in April. Everyone is urged to attend.

Murfreesboro

February 8 meeting - We had a slide program on edible plants, by Mylo Guthrie.
Next meeting will be March 8, Room 105, Murphy Center, MTSU Campus, 7 p.m.

Memphis

Hear Ye! Hear Ye!
The Memphis Chapter
will elect new officers
(chairperson, vice-chair, secretary, treasurer)
for 1983 on
March 17, at the March meeting
YALL COME!

Nashville

On January 27, elections were held. Congratulations to the following new officers:
Chairman - Vic Canada,
Vice chairman - Evelyn Tretter
Secretary - Sherry Stidham

Monthly Meeting - March 24 - A film describing the Tennessee Outdoor Recreation Area System will be shown. Entitled "TORAS - Now and for the Future," the 30-minute color film illustrates the classification of state forests and parks, scenic highways, trails and rivers, natural areas and historic and archaeological sites.

The meeting will be held at the Cumberland Museum starting at 7:30 p.m.

CARPOOL COORDINATORS:

Memphis - Gene Jacobson 901-755-9073
Nashville - Evelyn Tretter 615-859-0566
Murfreesboro - Maryedith McFarlin
615-896-1344
Chattanooga - Dot Lingerfelt
615-842-8043
615-751-3292
(work)

DO YOU KNOW?

Do you know a Special Person whose lifestyle has taken it's TOW?

Do you know a Special Person who hasn't got an earnest GLOW?

Do you know a Special Person who is feeling LOW or just SO-SO?

Do you know a Special Person who often BLUNDERS, I'm bored and don't have nothing to do and nowhere to GO?

Do you know a Special Person who needs the outdoors many wonderful WONDERS?

Be a Special Person! Give that "special person" membership in the Tennessee Trails Association.

ALF

Fill out the form below and send it and membership dues for "THAT SPECIAL PERSON" to Dot Lingerfelt, P. O. Box 4913, Chattanooga, TN. The form shall be sent to THAT SPECIAL PERSON.

_____ has donated _____
Contributors name _____ membership dues
to the Tennessee Trails Association for _____
_____ special person's name
membership dues in the association for _____ year(s),
because YOU ARE SPECIAL!
Message; _____
TTA fun, functions, and friends are just a Hike Away; JOIN US!

----- fold -----
Special Person's Name _____
Special Person's Address _____,
_____ street or box number
_____, TN _____
_____ city _____ PHONE
Amount of membership dues enclosed _____
Contributor's name _____
Contributor's address _____, TN
_____ street or box _____ city
_____ phone

"LIKING HIKING"

TN TRAILS ASSOCIATION
P. O. Box 4913
Chattanooga, TN 37405

Calendar of Events

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| <p>March 5 - Prentice Cooper Loop Trail.
 March 5-6 - Nashville Ch. - Pickett State Park backpack.
 March 8 - Murfreesboro Ch. meeting, Murphy Center
 March 11-12- TN Conservation League Annual Meeting, Nashville.
 March 12 - Memphis Ch. - Natchez Trace.
 March 12-13- Murfreesboro Ch. - Twin Forks Tr. backpack.
 March 13 - Cumberland Mt. Ch. - Mark Branch Wildflower hike.
 March 14 - Cumberland Mt. Ch. meeting, Al-lardt Elementary School.
 March 17 - Memphis Ch. meeting, Kingsway Christian Church.
 March 19 - Jack's River Falls, Cohutta Wilderness Area.
 March 24 - Nashville Ch. meeting.
 March 26 - Nashville Ch. - John Muir Trail.
 March 26 - Memphis Ch. - Ft. Pillow, Chickasaw Bluff Trail.
 April 2 - Murfreesboro Ch. - Bike Hike - Stones River Nat. Battlefield.to</p> | <p>Snail Shell Cave (Dwain Van Vactor-615-890-7810).
 April 3 - Easter.
 April 8-9 - Columbia Mule Day.
 April 9 - Piney River Trail (David Rhyne-615-745-4289 or 336-2211).
 April 9-10 - Memphis Ch. - Ft. Henry Trails, LBL (Steve Pardue-901-536-5433).
 April 12 - Murfreesboro Ch. meeting, Murphy Ctr.
 April 16 - Frozen Head Wildflower hike (Don Todd-615-346-3113).
 April 16-17- Cumberland Mt. - Pickett State Park weekend with hike to Buffalo Arch and Coffee Overlook (Steve Burke-615-879-8017 or H. R. Duncan 615-879-8245).
 April 20 - Secretary's Day.
 April 21 - Memphis Ch. meeting, Kingsway Christian Church.
 April 23 - Memphis Ch. - Big Hill Pond (Jim Harrison-901-645-9275).
 April 23 - Cumberland Trail, Section II (Grimes Slaughter-615-483-5859).
 April 28 - Nashville Ch. meeting.</p> |
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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.

TTA Board of Directors

Sam Powell-Signal Point
1982-1984
 Grimes Slaughter-Oak Ridge
1983-1985
 Sharon Patterson-Lebanon
1981-1983
 Vic Canada -Nashville
Chairman-Nashville Chapter
 Dwain Van Vactor-Murfreesboro
Chairman-Murfreesboro Chapter
 Jill Norvell-Memphis
Chairman-Memphis Chapter
 George Minnigh-Jamestown
Cumberland Mountain Chapter

TTA Officers - 1983

President
David Stidham-Goodlettsville
 Vice President
Bertha Chrietzberg-Murfreesboro
 Corresponding Secretary-Treasurer
Dot Lingerfelt-Chattanooga
 Recording Secretary
Evelyn Tretter-Goodlettsville

P.O. BOX 4913
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Mack Prichard
701 Broadway
Dept. of Conservation
Nashville, Tn 37203

