



Official publication of the Tennessee Trails Association

VOLUME XVIII NO. 11

NOVEMBER 1987

The State of TTA After the 1987 Annual Meeting -- By Bob Barnett --

Color the 1987 Annual Meeting of TTA green, orange, red and yellow. The green represents the \$310.85 raised in this year's auction. More about that later...

The other colors were seen in the fall foliage which seemed to become more stunning the closer you got to the Big South Fork's Bandy Creek campground where TTA folks gathered for the 19th Annual Meeting - the first ever as a campout. Nowhere was the foliage more beautiful than in the campground itself where the reds and yellows were radiant.

Outdoors folks know how to eat and the spread at Friday's pot-luck supper was a case in point. Everything was delicious, not to mention in ample proportions. One table alone held desserts. J.T., I heard lots of requests for your Blackberry Cake recipe so how about sharing it with us?

Special thanks go to Howard Ray Duncan, Ken and Dean Pittman, and Tom and Martha Sells for all they did to make the meeting a success. We hope to see more active Cumberland Mountain chapter members in the future since it is located in gorgeous hiking territory.

Lots of new folks were at the meeting. I met some from Murfreesboro and Oak Ridge which I hope means those chapters are being revitalized. In fact,

Cheryl Graham of Oak Ridge joined TTA at the Annual Meeting after coming as the guest of TTA member, Bucky Smith of Knoxville. In all, over sixty people attended the business meeting Saturday morning with the bulk of them there for the entire weekend.

Since the Nashville chapter has grown the most (163 members now), there were several first-time attendees as well as a healthy force of "old timers". Memphis, too, was well represented and continues to be an active and involved chapter. Memphis will host the 20th Annual Meeting and I am sure it will be terrific. Mark the second weekend in October, 1988 for this event.

This article is meant to cover the highlights of the Annual Meeting and will not go into detail on some of the more humorous events, such as when someone, who shall remain nameless, ventured to the showers in the wee hours on the very chilly first night without a towel. We are told she had to rely on government paper products to dry off. Another member somehow found her way into the wrong side of the bathroom and did not discover her error until after her shower. She still maintained her composure, however, or at least gave that appearance.

1988 officers were elected during the business portion of the meeting. Jackson, Tennessee's J.T. "Blackberry

Cake" Jones was elected Vice-President and vows to get a chapter started in the Jackson area. Nashville's Pat Anderson is next year's President-Elect who plans to help J.T. blitz the Jackson area one weekend. If anyone can attract enthusiastic members, Pat can.

As the 1988 President of TTA, I know I can depend upon Corresponding Secretary-Treasurer Dot Lingerfelt (Chattanooga) and Goodlettsville's Evelyn Tretter (Recording Secretary) to continue doing an excellent job. Jerri Bull from Memphis will assume the Board of Directors position previously held by Sam Powell of Signal Mountain. Thanks, Sam, for your years of dedication to the building of the Cumberland Trail in your area. Jerri is active in the conservation causes of West Tennessee as well as the rest of the state.

In addition to eating, hiking, auctioning, and electing, two awards were presented. *MIKE DAHL* is the deserving winner of the 1987 TTA Award for his dedication to trailbuilding both in his work for the Department of Conservation, and as a concerned citizen. We hope that this award will motivate him to continue educating us in the needs of Tennessee's trails and to chastise us when we as an organization fall short of our trail building and maintenance responsibilities. It was with great pleasure that Mike was unanimously chosen for this award.



DOT FOWLER is the winner of the Bill Stutz Award. She will tell you that she is simply TTA's cheerleader, but the quality of the newsletter she edits makes that sound like a definite understatement spoken in modesty. Last year's recipient, Bob Brown, was overheard saying that she was the best choice for the award in years, or did he say ever? Dot also was a unanimous choice. It was really hard keeping her selection a secret, but the Board of Directors somehow managed to do just that.

Now to the auction! Newcomers may think otherwise, but the auction is not staged or rehearsed. This year's, as usual, had lots of stars. Gayle Douglas' chicken (donated by June Williams) raised the most money for a single item. Since no one really wanted a chicken for a pet and Ken Pittman's comments sounded distinctly ominous, a "Save the Chicken" chant began and dollar bills from around the room were rounded up, totaling \$31.00. The critter's destination is to be a lovely country farm somewhere between Bandy Creek and Nashville.

In addition to the chicken, most will remember Mickey Sutton's "jug" purchases, the risqué frogs, and the lively bidding on all the homemade goodies inspired by Anne Lindholm's traditional peanut butter balls. Cooks like Dot Ventress, Dot Fowler, J.T. Jones, and Dean Pittman spent hours making food items for the auction, all of which brought healthy bidding. It is doubtful that Ken Pittman will enroll in a Smoke Enders Clinic any time soon, judging by his behavior when the smoking paraphernalia was sold. His antics,

however, did help raise the bids for that auction lot.

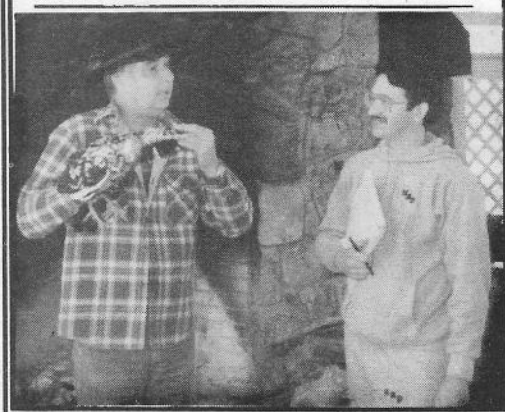
Auctioneer David Stidham continues to shine at this fundraising event to the extent that we may prompt the Board of Directors to make the Auctioneer a permanent member of that decision-making body. Myths also continue to be perpetuated about yours truly and the auction, but it is definitely not true that I am opening a Middle Tennessee flea market.

The bottom line is that the auction funds will help make a Cumberland Trail brochure a reality. This brochure will be designed, written, and illustrated by TTA members and will be placed in strategic spots all over the state, attracting more hikers to the Cumberland Trail.

Last, but certainly not least, the Annual Meeting had lots of hiking for everybody. Beginning with an After Midnight hike Friday night (or rather, early Saturday morning), to the diehards out in Sunday's chilly, misty rain, lots of hiking was done. Saturday's weather was Indian Summer at its best. Nearly everyone was heard giving praise to some special overlook or some phenomenon found along the way, such as the popping of the Forget-Me-Not pods.

If you missed this event, you missed a great time with lots of laughter and fellowship. Try to keep your calendar clear for the same weekend in 1988. Next year, plan to enjoy the bountiful beauty of West Tennessee. Happy Trails!

Ken Pittman (Cumberland Mtn.) & Howard Ray Duncan (TTA President) with Ms. Chicken



Cumberland Trail News

SCOUTS PAST AND PRESENT ON THE CUMBERLAND TRAIL PART I

-- By Bob Brown --

Undoubtedly, the first "scouts" along the route of the Cumberland Trail were the Native Americans who, thousands of years ago, found their way through the great passes such as Cumberland Gap, Crab Orchard Gap, and the Grand Canyon of the Tennessee. By the coming of the white man, all major breaks in the eastern Cumberland escarpment were passages for trails actively traveled by Indian trading, raiding, and hunting parties. These included (from north to south) the Warriors' Path, the East West Trail, the Holston Trace, the Cherokee Path, the Black Fox Trail, the canoe trail through the Tennessee River gorge, and the Great War and Trading Path.

The earliest European "scout" probing one of these gaps was probably Hernando de Soto passing around the north flank of Lookout Mountain on the Great Warpath in 1540. By the early 1700s, French and English traders were coming to the "Old Creek Crossing" at Long Island just downstream from the Tennessee River gorge.

In the 1760s, Dr. Thomas Walker from Virginia explored and named Cumberland Gap, and such Longhunters as Elisha Walden, Obediah Terrell, Uriah Stone, Thomas Sharpe Spencer, and Abraham Bledsoe were soon hunting on both sides of the Cumberland escarpment from Cumberland Gap to Crab Orchard Gap.

After the signing of the Treaty of Sycamore Shoals with the Cherokee on March 17, 1775, Daniel Boone led a party of 36 axemen cutting a trace for the Transylvania Company from southwestern Virginia through Cumberland Gap into the Kentucky Bluegrass. In the winter of 1779-80, James

Robertson led the first party of Fort Nashborough settlers overland through Cumberland Gap. That same winter and spring, John Donelson took a larger party by flatboat down the Tennessee through the great gorge and up the Ohio and Cumberland.

At James Robertson's request, the North Carolina House of Commons in 1786 authorized the enlistment of 201 militiamen to build a good wagon road to Nashville. Only 80 volunteers showed up for this duty at the south end of Clinch Mountain in August, 1787. Organizing them into two skeleton companies of infantry and one of cavalry, Major Thomas Evans set them to work cutting a trace across Clinch River, down Poplar Creek, through Winter's Gap (Oliver Springs), across Cumberland Plateau and on, finally, to Nashville in September, 1788.

By 1795, William Emory had improved much of the eastern half of the North Carolina Military Trace into a graded wagon road now passing through d'Armand Gap (Little Emory River) rather than Winter's Gap. At its western end the Emory Road con-

nected with a new wagon road built by Williams Walton from his Cumberland River ferry, at the mouth of the Caney Fork, to the western foot of the Cumberland Plateau.

In 1801, Walton began extending his road eastward along the route of the old Cherokee Path through Crab Orchard Gap to Southwest Point (Kingsport). Opened in 1802, the Cumberland Turnpike, commonly known as the Walton Road, became the main route west for emigrants through Tennessee in the 1800s.

State News

TTA/SIERRA CLUB DAY HIKE BIG SOUTH FORK OPTIONAL OVERNIGHTER November 14

Meet at 10 a.m. (CST) at the Visitor Center, Big South Fork, near Jamestown, TN (approx. 3 hours from Nashville). We will caravan to the trail head

for a 6.4 mile easy day on a loop trail to gawk at Charit Creek Hostel, poke around Jake's Place, marvel at the Twin Arches and enjoy creekside.

Bring lunch, water, raingear, and your new Patagonia jacket. The foolish will gather at the BSF campground (\$8.00/with hot showers) for a night of woodsmoke and reverie. We'll depart Sunday at 10:00 a.m. for the 3.2 mile loop trail at Leatherwood Ford Bridge to view 3 life zones in the river gorge.

The leader will coordinate the carpooling. For once, no pre-registration is required. Come on! It'll be fun. Call Gene Curp for more information at 615-256-2566 (days) or 615-824-1171 (evenings).

LAND BETWEEN THE LAKES November 14-15

Meet Saturday morning at 11:00 a.m. at the Golden Pond Visitor Center. We will depart from there to our hiking destination. The hiking will be moderate and we will explore some of the beautiful shoreline along Kentucky

Vendors Who Donated to the 1987 Annual Auction

The following vendors contributed items to our auction both for doorprizes and for auctioning. We appreciate their donations as well as the efforts of TTA members who sought these gifts. Howard Ray Duncan alone wrote to many of these companies seeking donations. His efforts produced some spectacular prizes.

- BASS PRO SHOPS -- Fish Measures
- BUCK KNIVES, INC. -- Statue of Liberty memorial pocketknife
- C & C SPORTS CENTER, Lebanon, TN -- UT & Vandy caps
- CHARIT CREEK HOSTEL, Jamestown -- 1 weekend stay
- CUMBERLAND TRANSIT, Nashville -- Felt crusher hat, His & Her flannel nightshirts
- DALLAS ALICE, Nashville -- 2 T-shirts
- HIBBETTS SPORTING GOODS, Memphis -- 2 duffle bags
- JAY JOHNSON HARBOUR TOWN, Nashville -- 1 haircut
- K-MART, Goodlettsville -- 1 Coolsnack cooler
- LANDS END -- duffle bag.
- MEMPHIS PHOTO SUPPLY -- 1 roll of 35mm film
- NALGE CORPORATION -- assorted fuel and food bottles
- OUTDOORS, INC., Memphis -- book bag/backpack
- PATAGONIA, INC. -- Synchilla Jacket
- SPORTS & TRAILS, Nashville -- hiker socks, liner socks, polypropylene hat, gloves
- SOUTH FORK ADVENTURE CENTER, Jamestown -- Peddle & Paddles trip, Mountain bike rental
- VILLAGE HARDWARE, Nashville -- redwood bird feeder

Thanks also to everyone who brought or sent items to be sold. A special thanks to those who bought it!

Lake. Bring lunch, water, and dress for the weather (whatever it may be!). Hopefully after the hike, there will be time to explore The Homeplace, a model 1850 homestead. The plan for those camping out is to set up a temporary home at the Piney Campground, a TVA facility.

Meet Sunday at 10:30 a.m. at the Woodlands Nature Center and we will venture on a longer hike from there. Hopefully, these times will accommodate people wanting a day hike option rather than a camping weekend.

An early bird warm-up hike is a distinct possibility as a Sunday morning tune-up. Time will be negotiated over the Saturday night campfire, but I promise I'll let it get light first or will venture out on my own if it is pre-dawn.

From Dover, go 9-1/2 miles west on U.S. Highway 79, then 2 miles north at the TVA-Land Between the Lakes sign.

If you contact me closer to the actual hiking date I can provide you with more details. Come along on this Kentucky/Tennessee adventure. -- Bob Barnett 615-449-4012

TRIP REPORT MT. CAMMERER

Twelve hikers braved Mt. Cammerer in the Great Smokies on a drizzly Saturday morning, September 19th. It was a good day to be in the Smokies and a wonderful trail that was shared with horses and bears. Only the fast-paced hikers were able to enjoy the spectacular vista from the mountaintop. Shortly after these few arrived, fog rolled in and prevented other climbers from experiencing the marvelous aerial view.

After lunch, high atop Mt. Cammerer, the descent back to the Cosby Campground began. The drizzle had become rain. Little time was spent deciding to abandon the campground and travel back to Jefferson City for an overnight stay at John and Rhonda Snyder's house. Thanks, John and

Rhonda, for the rescue and your gracious hospitality.

News From Our Parks

SOUTH CUMBERLAND RECREATION AREA 615-924-2980 or 2956

11/7 Mountain Bike Ride -- Meet at 11:00 a.m. at the Savage Gulf Ranger Station. 20-mile ride through the Savage Gulf backcountry. Bring all-terrain bicycle and a snack.

11/8 Raven Point Excursion -- Meet at 2:00 p.m. at the Visitor Center. 2 miles -- easy

11/14-15 Raven Point Overnighter -- Meet at 10:00 a.m. at the Grundy Forest Natural Area. Participants must have all necessary equipment and food. 12 miles -- strenuous

11/21 Ranger Falls -- Meet at 1:00 p.m. at the Stone Door Ranger Station. Easy 2 miles round-trip

11/22 & 28 Naturalist at the Door -- Meet at 2:00 p.m. at the Stone Door Ranger Station. Easy 2 miles, round-trip

11/29 Big Creek Gulf-Rim Trails -- Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Stone Door Ranger Station. Bring lunch and a camera. 10 miles -- strenuous

FALL CREEK FALLS Pikeville, 881-3297

11/3-5 Senior Capers -- Events scheduled almost non-stop for persons aged 62 or older. Call for more information.

11/7 Wild Foods Day -- Field trips demonstrating edible wild plants, a photography workshop, etc.

Letters

Rt. 2, Box 379AA
Sullivan Drive
White Bluff, TN 37187

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing you concerning the poor conditions of the hiking trails in Montgomery Bell State Resort Park in Burns, TN. The trails have been neglected to the point that leisurely walking along Lake Woodhaven is almost impossible. I have written the Park Superintendent about the problem with the hope that something may be done. I don't know what TTA can do to help, but I am willing to help improve the conditions of the trails in any way possible.

If you could send me some information on TTA, I would greatly appreciate it. Even though the trails are in bad shape, I do think they can be greatly improved for the benefit of all who enjoy walking in the park. Thank you for your time and concern for our State!

Sincerely,
Andy Finchum

We thank Andy for his letter and for speaking out. Our parks are woefully short of able bodies due to increased budget cuts. If any of you can help with this trail, contact the Superintendent of Montgomery Bell and Andy. Perhaps we can do our part by providing some volunteer labor. Charlie Hann, TTA's coordinator of our Adopt-a-Trail program may also have some ideas for those interested. His number in Nashville is 367-2679.



SMOKY MOUNTAINS HIKING CLUB

BOX 1454

KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE 37901

YOUR HELP IS URGENTLY NEEDED!

The Great Smoky Mountains Wilderness is at stake. The House of Representatives has passed a Great Smokies Wilderness bill. Now it is time for senate action.

September 29, 1987, was an historic day for the preservation of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. On that day, the House of Representatives unanimously approved the Great Smoky Mountains Wilderness Act. This marks the first time such legislation has passed either house of Congress.

The house bill, H.R. 1495, was cosponsored by Representative Jamie Clarke of North Carolina, and Representatives John Duncan and James Quillen of Tennessee. This bill provides that:

- * 465,000 acres, about 88 percent of the park, will be designated as wilderness. There will be no new road construction in this area.
- * Swain County, North Carolina, will be authorized to receive a cash payment of \$9.5 million as compensation for the failure of the National Park Service to complete construction of a road north of Fontana Lake, from Bryson City to Fontana Dam. This payment is necessary to settle a long-standing controversy and will provide revenue Swain County sorely needs for its education system and other public services.
- * Existing access to family cemeteries located within the park on the north shore of Fontana Lake will be guaranteed. This will permit relatives of people buried within the park to continue to visit the graves of their ancestors. The Park Service provides transportation across the lake and the vehicles for use on the old dirt roads that go to the cemeteries north of the lake. These old roads have been cleared for this usage.

The action now shifts to the Senate where similar legislation has been introduced by Senators Jim Sasser and Al Gore of Tennessee, and by Terry Sanford of North Carolina.

However, Senator Helms, of North Carolina, has submitted his own bill which leaves 65,000 acres out of the wilderness which are otherwise included in the house bill and in the Sasser-Gore-Sanford bill. The area deleted from the wilderness by the Helms bill includes about 46,000 acres north of Fontana Lake, and the Helms bill provides for building new roads in this area.

Hearings have been held in the Senate on both bills; so the time is ripe for action. I urge you to write to both your senators and ask them to push the

**CUMBERLAND MOUNTAIN STATE
PARK**
Crossville, 484-6138

11/28 Gobbler Gallop Roadrace -- 7
miles. Part of the State Parks Running Tour. 11:00 CST. Call Andy Lyon.

WARNER PARKS
Nashville, 615-352-6299

11/7 Mossy Ridge Hike -- Hike begins 9:00 a.m. and ends at approximately 2:00 p.m. Registration begins October 27. Bring lunch and water. 4.5 miles

11/18 Mushroom Slide Show -- 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Registration opens November 4.

11/21 Mushroom Hike -- 9:00 a.m. to noon. Registration opens November 9.

FRIENDS OF WARNER PARKS

For years our community has benefited from and enjoyed the rugged beauty of the Warner Parks, the largest municipally operated parks in Tennessee. This 2,665-acre oasis of green space has served generations of our families as a refuge of natural wonder with opportunities for quality recreation, programming, and escape from urban pressures. They have been good friends to us.

For so long, these good friends have seemed indestructible and forgiving -- able to shrug off any indifference or abuse which we, in moments of thoughtlessness, might show them.

But now, we've come to realize that our friends, the Warner Parks, need some friends. Under pressure from development and traffic and increased usage, they are in danger.

Please become involved in the future of this irreplaceable resource by joining the newly formed citizens' support organization, "Friends of Warner Parks." "Friends" will be a strong ongoing force in the preservation, protection, and improvement of the natural and historic quality of the Warner Parks.

If you are interested in this worthy cause, contact E. Warner Bass, President of "Friends of Warner Parks", 7311 Highway 100, Nashville, TN 37221.

NOTE: Bob Brown will be speaking about this subject at the next TTA Nashville chapter meeting (Nov. 19).

FROZEN HEAD STATE PARK
Wartburg, TN
Trail Renovation

Frozen Head reports that a major trail renovation program is well underway and should be completed by next summer.

The Dept. of Conservation has budgeted over \$80,000 during the current and past two fiscal years to improve the 40-mile trail system at Frozen Head. The trails were originally constructed in 1937-41 by the Civilian Conservation Corps. After almost 50 years of use, the trails required a major renovation to bring their condition up to standard.

The 5-man Tennessee State Parks trails crew, presently stationed at Panther Creek State Park near Morristown, has been working on the Frozen Head trails for the majority of the past two years and will return later this fiscal year to complete the major renovation. Approximately 80% of the renovation has been completed.

Park Manager, Duane Wyrick reports that the Chimney Top trail has been reopened after being closed for the past 18 months. It has been cleared of blow-downs and partially re-routed. All of the interior trails were renovated last summer. The only closed trail is the north section of the boundary trail along Bird Mountain, which will be renovated next summer.

A self-guided interpretive trail loop will also be opened next spring. The trail will have a self-guiding brochure available and will interpret the natural and cultural history of the Judge Branch section of the park. This trail will be an excellent educational resource for schools, scouts, and other small groups of hikers.

The park has also established designated campsites along the backcountry trails for overnight camping. A free camping permit is available at the park office. Future projects include a bridge on the Panther Branch trail, an adirondack-style trail shelter, and a self-guided trail to the old Brushy Mountain prison mines.

For further information, contact the park office at 615-346-3318.

Memphis Chapter

NOVEMBER MEETING
November 19, 7:30 p.m.

Join us on Nov. 19th at the Kingsway Christian Church. Our special guest will be Jill Norvell, who will tell us about her wonderful trip to Alaska with the Lichterman Nature Center in July. Also, Jimmy Drum, the water-

PERPETUAL CALENDAR
-- By Debbie Gilbert --
(Memphis Chapter)

Nature is impervious to
Our every woe and care.
It carries on with its routine
Completely unaware.

Though crime and passion, lust and sin
Prevail o'er everything,
The trees bring forth their tiny buds --
The first tendrils of spring.

While bombers screamed, and hand
grenades
Exploded back in 'Nam,
Bees collected sweet nectar
Amid the summer calm.

When the voting time draws near
And candidates tell lies,
Leaves turn shades of red and gold
Against blue autumn skies.

While millions stand in welfare lines
And labor leaders fight,
The world lies muted and serene
Beneath the pristine white.

And though a day shall one day come
When humankind has gone,
The endless parade of seasons
Will march steadfastly on.

Lake. Bring lunch, water, and dress for the weather (whatever it may be!). Hopefully after the hike, there will be time to explore The Homeplace, a model 1850 homestead. The plan for those camping out is to set up a temporary home at the Piney Campground, a TVA facility.

Meet Sunday at 10:30 a.m. at the Woodlands Nature Center and we will venture on a longer hike from there. Hopefully, these times will accommodate people wanting a day hike option rather than a camping weekend.

An early bird warm-up hike is a distinct possibility as a Sunday morning tune-up. Time will be negotiated over the Saturday night campfire, but I promise I'll let it get light first or will venture out on my own if it is pre-dawn.

From Dover, go 9-1/2 miles west on U.S. Highway 79, then 2 miles north at the TVA-Land Between the Lakes sign.

If you contact me closer to the actual hiking date I can provide you with more details. Come along on this Kentucky/Tennessee adventure. -- Bob Barnett 615-449-4012

TRIP REPORT MT. CAMMERER

Twelve hikers braved Mt. Cammerer in the Great Smokies on a drizzly Saturday morning, September 19th. It was a good day to be in the Smokies and a wonderful trail that was shared with horses and bears. Only the fast-paced hikers were able to enjoy the spectacular vista from the mountaintop. Shortly after these few arrived, fog rolled in and prevented other climbers from experiencing the marvelous aerial view.

After lunch, high atop Mt. Cammerer, the descent back to the Cosby Campground began. The drizzle had become rain. Little time was spent deciding to abandon the campground and travel back to Jefferson City for an overnight stay at John and Rhonda Snyder's house. Thanks, John and

Rhonda, for the rescue and your gracious hospitality.

News From Our Parks

SOUTH CUMBERLAND RECREATION AREA 615-924-2980 or 2956

11/7 Mountain Bike Ride -- Meet at 11:00 a.m. at the Savage Gulf Ranger Station. 20-mile ride through the Savage Gulf backcountry. Bring all-terrain bicycle and a snack.

11/8 Raven Point Excursion -- Meet at 2:00 p.m. at the Visitor Center. 2 miles -- easy

11/14-15 Raven Point Overnighter -- Meet at 10:00 a.m. at the Grundy Forest Natural Area. Participants must have all necessary equipment and food. 12 miles -- strenuous

11/21 Ranger Falls -- Meet at 1:00 p.m. at the Stone Door Ranger Station. Easy 2 miles round-trip

11/22 & 28 Naturalist at the Door -- Meet at 2:00 p.m. at the Stone Door Ranger Station. Easy 2 miles, round-trip

11/29 Big Creek Gulf-Rim Trails -- Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Stone Door Ranger Station. Bring lunch and a camera. 10 miles -- strenuous

FALL CREEK FALLS Pikeville, 881-3297

11/3-5 Senior Capers -- Events scheduled almost non-stop for persons aged 62 or older. Call for more information.

11/7 Wild Foods Day -- Field trips demonstrating edible wild plants, a photography workshop, etc.

Letters

Rt. 2, Box 379AA
Sullivan Drive
White Bluff, TN 37187

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing you concerning the poor conditions of the hiking trails in Montgomery Bell State Resort Park in Burns, TN. The trails have been neglected to the point that leisurely walking along Lake Woodhaven is almost impossible. I have written the Park Superintendent about the problem with the hope that something may be done. I don't know what TTA can do to help, but I am willing to help improve the conditions of the trails in any way possible.

If you could send me some information on TTA, I would greatly appreciate it. Even though the trails are in bad shape, I do think they can be greatly improved for the benefit of all who enjoy walking in the park. Thank you for your time and concern for our State!

Sincerely,
Andy Finchum

We thank Andy for his letter and for speaking out. Our parks are woefully short of able bodies due to increased budget cuts. If any of you can help with this trail, contact the Superintendent of Montgomery Bell and Andy. Perhaps we can do our part by providing some volunteer labor. Charlie Hann, TTA's coordinator of our Adopt-a-Trail program may also have some ideas for those interested. His number in Nashville is 367-2679.

CUMBERLAND MOUNTAIN STATE PARK

Crossville, 484-6138

11/28 Gobbler Gallop Roadrace -- 7 miles. Part of the State Parks Running Tour. 11:00 CST. Call Andy Lyon.

WARNER PARKS

Nashville, 615-352-6299

11/7 Mossy Ridge Hike -- Hike begins 9:00 a.m. and ends at approximately 2:00 p.m. Registration begins October 27. Bring lunch and water. 4.5 miles

11/18 Mushroom Slide Show -- 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Registration opens November 4.

11/21 Mushroom Hike -- 9:00 a.m. to noon. Registration opens November 9.

FRIENDS OF WARNER PARKS

For years our community has benefited from and enjoyed the rugged beauty of the Warner Parks, the largest municipally operated parks in Tennessee. This 2,665-acre oasis of green space has served generations of our families as a refuge of natural wonder with opportunities for quality recreation, programming, and escape from urban pressures. They have been good friends to us.

For so long, these good friends have seemed indestructible and forgiving -- able to shrug off any indifference or abuse which we, in moments of thoughtlessness, might show them.

But now, we've come to realize that our friends, the Warner Parks, need some friends. Under pressure from development and traffic and increased usage, they are in danger.

Please become involved in the future of this irreplaceable resource by joining the newly formed citizens' support organization, "Friends of Warner Parks." "Friends" will be a strong ongoing force in the preservation, protection, and improvement of the natural and historic quality of the Warner Parks.

If you are interested in this worthy cause, contact E. Warner Bass, President of "Friends of Warner Parks", 7311 Highway 100, Nashville, TN 37221.

NOTE: Bob Brown will be speaking about this subject at the next TTA Nashville chapter meeting (Nov. 19).

FROZEN HEAD STATE PARK

Wartburg, TN

Trail Renovation

Frozen Head reports that a major trail renovation program is well underway and should be completed by next summer.

The Dept. of Conservation has budgeted over \$80,000 during the current and past two fiscal years to improve the 40-mile trail system at Frozen Head. The trails were originally constructed in 1937-41 by the Civilian Conservation Corps. After almost 50 years of use, the trails required a major renovation to bring their condition up to standard.

The 5-man Tennessee State Parks trails crew, presently stationed at Panther Creek State Park near Morristown, has been working on the Frozen Head trails for the majority of the past two years and will return later this fiscal year to complete the major renovation. Approximately 80% of the renovation has been completed.

Park Manager, Duane Wyrick reports that the Chimney Top trail has been reopened after being closed for the past 18 months. It has been cleared of blow-downs and partially re-routed. All of the interior trails were renovated last summer. The only closed trail is the north section of the boundary trail along Bird Mountain, which will be renovated next summer.

A self-guided interpretive trail loop will also be opened next spring. The trail will have a self-guiding brochure available and will interpret the natural and cultural history of the Judge Branch section of the park. This trail will be an excellent educational resource for schools, scouts, and other small groups of hikers.

The park has also established designated campsites along the backcountry trails for overnight camping. A free camping permit is available at the park office. Future projects include a bridge on the Panther Branch trail, an adirondack-style trail shelter, and a self-guided trail to the old Brushy Mountain prison mines.

For further information, contact the park office at 615-346-3318.

Memphis Chapter

NOVEMBER MEETING

November 19, 7:30 p.m.

Join us on Nov. 19th at the Kingsway Christian Church. Our special guest will be Jill Norvell, who will tell us about her wonderful trip to Alaska with the Lichterman Nature Center in July. Also, Jimmy Drum, the water-

PERPETUAL CALENDAR

— By Debbie Gilbert —
(Memphis Chapter)

Nature is impervious to
Our every woe and care.
It carries on with its routine
Completely unaware.

Though crime and passion, lust and sin
Prevail o'er everything,
The trees bring forth their tiny buds --
The first tendrils of spring.

While bombers screamed, and hand
grenades
Exploded back in 'Nam,
Bees collected sweet nectar
Amid the summer calm.

When the voting time draws near
And candidates tell lies,
Leaves turn shades of red and gold
Against blue autumn skies.

While millions stand in welfare lines
And labor leaders fight,
The world lies muted and serene
Beneath the pristine white.

And though a day shall one day come
When humankind has gone,
The endless parade of seasons
Will march steadfastly on.

TRIP REPORT WINDOW CLIFFS, 10/3

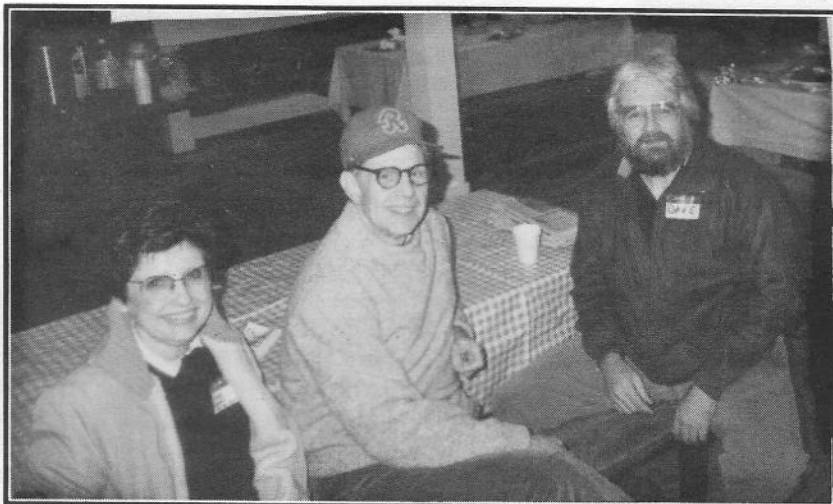
The gravel road leading to the Window Cliffs is hard to find but worth all the effort and stops we made to ask directions. There is a breathtaking view from the limestone rocks perched on the cliffs. You can walk on the "window sills" if you dare. We ate lunch there.

I have exact directions now for the next trip. I hope we can go back in the summer to the ole swimming hole at the base of the cliffs. -- Gayle Douglas

TRIP REPORT BLEDSOE CREEK CAMPOUT 9/11-12

Participants in the Nashville-Chapter-sponsored "Farewell to Summer" campout at Bledsoe Creek State Park September 11-12 decided Bledsoe is the "best-kept secret". They liked the beautiful wooded lakeside campsites (Old Hickory Lake) and launching ramp and boat dock reserved for campers only.

Eight people turned out for the "laid back" outing. A spin on the lake in Charlie Hann's boat gave a good view of great blue and black-crowned night herons and other wildlife, and we heard barred and screech owls evening and morning. We did hike some of the four miles of trails. And hurrah for Charlie's hors d'oeuvres -- hot egg rolls with sauce. -- Evelyn Tretter



TTA
1987
Annual
Meeting



EDITOR'S TIDBITS -- By Dot Fowler --

Well, another Annual Meeting is now history. The photo above and the others in this issue were taken at this year's meeting. This year's outing was especially meaningful for me and if you've read Bob Barnett's article, you'll know why. Not being much of a hiker myself, I was definitely taken aback when my name was announced as the Bill Stutz Award winner. The plaque is gorgeous and is mounted in my hallway so that I see it daily, grinning with

pleasure each time. Just between you and me, I have even kissed it once or twice! Shhh! Don't tell anyone.

An Oscar should go to Pat Anderson for her great acting job. She and I talk regularly and yet she never let on that I had won. Anyway, I do appreciate the honor you have given me. I was too stunned at the time to be able to thank you all properly, so please accept my thanks now. I hope the late, great Bill Stutz would have approved.

It's almost time to renew your membership to Tennessee Trails. As of January 1st, all memberships other than "Lifers" will need renewing in order to continue receiving this great and wonderful newsletter. Besides your subscription, your membership dues keep TTA's work alive. None of us (officers or board members) receive any financial compensation for our work. We do it because we believe in

Please register me as a member for the calendar year 1988 (Jan. through Dec.) with the type of membership checked:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Student (fulltime undergraduate & high school)	\$ 3.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Individual	\$ 8.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Family dependent (resides with an individual member)	\$ 3.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Supporting	\$ 15.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Life	\$ 150.00

MAIL DUES TO:
TENNESSEE TRAILS ASSN.
P.O. BOX 4913
CHATTANOOGA, TN
37405

Student members do not have voting privileges. Supporting members may be organizations or individuals. Each organization should designate a representative to cast its vote and up to three addresses to receive the newsletter. Family dependent members do not receive a separate newsletter.

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

HOME PHONE: _____ WORK PHONE: _____

melon man, will try to get there. Jimmy is a Memphis truck driver who figured a way to get watermelons to Alaska and as a result, there is now a watermelon festival in the small town of Hyder, Alaska. That is the reason we don't see too much of Jimmy the rest of the year.

ANNUAL AFTER THANKSGIVING HIKE AT MEEMAN SHELBY Sunday, Nov. 29th

Meet at the park office at 8:00 a.m. for an 8-10 mile hike. This is your chance to walk off all that turkey and dressing -- not to mention the pumpkin pie! Dress for the weather and bring water and a snack. For further information, contact Charlie Norvell, 901-873-2149.

TRIP REPORT WOLF RIVER

On Sunday, September 20th, fourteen visitors and twelve members of the Memphis Chapter enjoyed a hike along the Wolf River in Shelby Farms. It was a pleasant day with cooler temperatures, and there were several views of the river along with fall wildflowers, especially goldenrod, sunflowers, black-eyed susans, ageratum, boneset, and fall asters and daisies being very colorful in the fields and along the trail.

We saw several cypress trees in addition to hardwoods, and Larry Smith, hike leader, showed us the "granddaddy" cypress, which is estimated to be around 350 years old. Larry explained points of interest along the way and showed everyone where the proposed route of Kirby Parkway is supposed to go through the forest.

After the main hike of approximately eight miles, most of the hikers left, but six of us hiked for about two more miles. This stretch of the trail wasn't in very good shape, but we did see a barred owl which made the extra miles worthwhile. Our thanks to Larry Smith for leading the hike. -- Jerri Bull

SAVE SHELBY FARMS FOREST

A northern extension of Kirby Parkway which will bisect Shelby Farms Forest (Memphis) is currently being considered, and an Environmental Impact

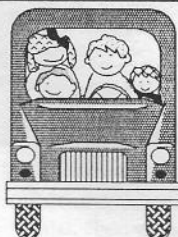
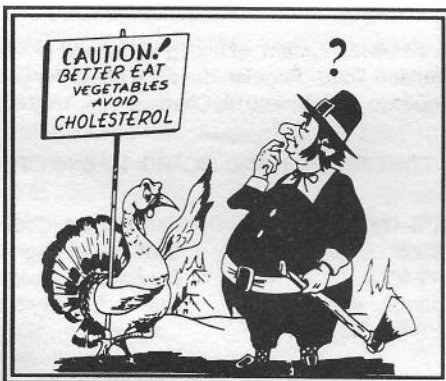
Statement is now in the process of being prepared.

We want to ensure that this statement, as well as any future consideration by local, state, or federal agencies, takes into account the desperate need for the preservation of this rare and wonderful natural wonderland.

Not only are there great concerns over this parkway endangering the delicate ecological balance of this area, but the recreational value of this forest is also seriously threatened.

Within a few years, this forest will be in the middle of a rapidly growing eastern Memphis/Shelby County residential neighborhood. Without its preservation, residents in this area, as well as citizens from every location in the county will lose a unique natural treasure.

Please call or write Jerri Bull of TTA or Lynne Jordan Bowers, Ph.D., Save Shelby Farms Forest, 4920 Cole Road, Memphis, TN 38117 (901-767-7329). TTA's Board of Directors supports this effort and encourages your individual participation and contributions to the cause.



CHATTANOOGA: Dot Lingerfelt,
615-842-8023
MEMPHIS: Gene Jacobson,
901-755-9073
MURFREESBORO: Maryedith
McFarlin, 615-896-1344
NASHVILLE: Evelyn Tretter,
615-859-0566

Murfreesboro Chapter

STONES RIVER CANOE FLOAT EAST FORK November 7

This pastoral stream has interesting rock bluffs with occasional fast curves and shoals, and even an old water mill. We will paddle about 7 miles for a leisurely day trip finishing up about 3:00 p.m. You will be responsible for bringing your own canoe, life jacket, and paddles. There may be, however, one or two spaces available if you call early and make a request. There are also rental agencies available.

Meet at 9:00 a.m. (CST) in the Greenland Parking Lot behind Murphy Center, the large athletic complex on the MTSU campus in Murfreesboro. Bring lunch and water. For further information or pre-registration, call:

John Clark or Bertha Chrietberg
(615) 896-1146

Nashville Chapter

NOVEMBER MEETING November 19, 7:30 p.m.

This is a month of exceptions. Our meeting this month will be held on the **third** Thursday, November 19th, instead of the fourth because of Thanksgiving. Because of this, we will be meeting in the Planetarium (instead of our usual room) at the Cumberland Museum.

Our speaker is also an exception, rather he is exceptional. Bob Brown will give a presentation on Friends of Warner Park and we will elect our 1988 officers. If you have suggestions for officers or would like to volunteer your services, contact Charlie Hann, 367-2679 or Pat Anderson, 383-2355.

TTA. From all the letters I receive, I think most of you do, too. So.... fill in the membership form provided in this or in the next issue and send that money in!

Speaking of the money (my favorite subject), look at the membership rates. Eight dollars is *sooooo* cheap, friends and neighbors. For just a little bit more -- a mere \$7.00 to be exact -- you can be a Supporting Member. What do you get for this additional money? Pride, that's what, and great satisfaction. Now isn't that worth \$7.00? By the way, tis the season for giving, so

why not give someone a membership for Christmas or Hanukkah? We'll leave the manner of presenting this gift up to you and your imagination.

"Get well and strong" wishes go out to Bertha Chrietzberg and Sam Powell who have both had major surgery recently. I was happy to see the canoe float write-up this month from Bertha. I hope that means she is "on the mend".

Meanwhile, friends, keep those cards and letters coming in -- by the 15th of each month.



John Snyder, of Jefferson City, and his Hairy Child

Upcoming Hikes

CUMBERLAND MOUNTAIN

11/7,8 Middle Creek Trail Worktrip -
- TBA

MEMPHIS CHAPTER

11/29 After Thanksgiving Hike --
details this issue

MURFREESBORO CHAPTER

11/7 Stones River Canoe Float --
details this issue

CUMBERLAND TRAIL

11/21-22 C.T. Work Weekend -- Can-
celled

STATE

11/14 TTA/Sierra Club Day Hike --
details this issue

11/14-15 Land Between the Lakes --
details this issue

TENNESSEE TRAILS is printed by Budget Rapid Printers, Nashville, 327-1068

Objectives: To promote, construct, and maintain a statewide system of hiking trails, and to work for the conservation of natural resources inherent to this objective. Sponsor for the Cumberland Trail. Regular dues are \$8.00 per year; \$3.00 for students and family dependents. Mail dues to P.O. Box 4913, Chattanooga, TN 37405

1987 TTA OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT: Howard Ray Duncan, Jamestown, 878-4787
VICE-PRESIDENT: Pat Anderson, Nashville, 383-2355
PRESIDENT-ELECT: Bob Barnett, Lebanon, TN, 449-4012
CORR. SECT./TREASURER: Dot Lingerfelt, Chattanooga, 842-8043
RECORDING SECRETARY: Evelyn Tretter, Goodlettsville, 859-0566
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT: David Stidham

Carroll Viera, Cookeville 1986-1988
Sam Powell, Signal Mountain 1985-1987
Bertha Chrietzberg, Chairperson of Murfreesboro Chapter 1987-1989
Jerri Bull, Memphis Chapter Chairperson
Charlie Hann, Nashville Chapter Chairperson
Dot Fowler, Newsletter Editor
Ken Pittman, Cumberland Mtn. Chapter Chairperson
Everett Kidder, Chattanooga Chapter Chairperson



EDITOR: Dot Fowler, 4501 Packard Dr. N-4, Nashville, TN 37211, 615-834-2654. All submissions for the newsletter due no later than the 15th of each month.

Come Hike With Us!
Tennessee Trails Association
P.O. Box 4913
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37405

Mack Prichard
2408 Belmont - A
Nashville, TN 37212

