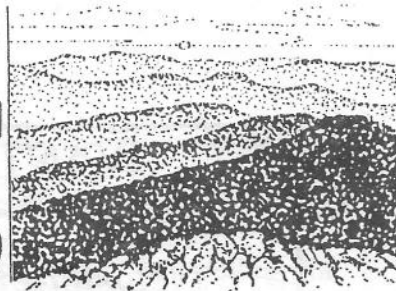


TENNESSEE TRAILS

The monthly newsletter of the Tennessee Trails Association



MISSION: 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.

AMERICAN HIKING SOCIETY "VOLUNTEER VACATIONS"

AHS Volunteer Vacations integrates rest and relaxation with the growing effort to establish, protect and maintain foot trails in America. Each year, this national non-profit group sends hundreds of volunteers to remote, yet magnificent locations to build and restore foot trails in national parks, forests and rangelands. Armed with pulaskis, rakes, shovels and hoes, these energetic crews will descend into such famed places as Utah's Canyonlands National Park, Michigan's Pictured Rocks Nat'l Seashore, Arizona's Petrified Forest Nat'l Park, and the Tallgrass Prairie Nat'l Preserve in Kansas. AHS Volunteer Vacations will send nearly 50 teams of trail volunteers in 1997 on unique one- or two-week trips.

The 1997 volunteer season starts in March and runs through the summer and into October. No prior trail work experience is necessary. Volunteers should be at least 18 years old, in good physical condition and able to hike 5 miles or more a day. Participants must provide their own camping gear, including a broken-in pair of hiking boots, and arrange their own travel to and from the site. Most agencies provide transportation to and from the nearest major airport. A \$65.00 non-refundable registration fee helps cover administrative costs and includes first-year membership to American Hiking.

According to American Hiking President David Lillard, big budget cuts on Capitol Hill have compounded the already growing backlog of

trail maintenance needs on America's public lands, leaving trail users with a responsibility to respond by pitching in their fair share. To receive the 1997 Volunteer Vacations project schedule, send a stamped, self-addressed business-sized envelope to:

AHS Volunteer Vacations
P.O. Box 20160
Washington, DC 20041-2160.

American Online members can browse the schedule using keyword "AHS," On the World Wide Web, type <http://www.orca.org/ahs/>.

American Hiking Society is a national, non-profit organization dedicated to promoting hiking and to establishing, protecting and maintaining foot trails in America.



HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY!

WANTED!!

Newsletter Editor!

I announced at the February Board meeting that I will be resigning as TTA Newsletter Editor this summer, if not sooner. I have enjoyed producing the newsletter for the past 6 ½ years but feel that it is in the Club's best interest to "share the privilege." Fresh creative juices will undoubtedly take the newsletter to the next level. With the advent of the renewed Cumberland Trail and Breakaway efforts, I find that I'm spread too thin to continue the newsletter.

If you are interested in finding out more about what is involved in producing the newsletter, please give me a call or write. It generally takes 10 hours per month, and TTA pays \$50 per month (yes, it's a labor of love!).

After discussion by the Board, it was decided to create a "Newsletter Committee" with a representative from each chapter of TTA, and myself serving as Chair. The purpose of the committee is to gather input on who, how, when and where the newsletter can be produced and to make recommendations to the Board at the May meeting. Some questions to consider:

- 1) Should we expand the newsletter?
- 2) Should we accept advertising to help cover costs?
- 3) Should we rotate newsletter production and/or mailing among chapters?
- 4) Should individual chapters be responsible for producing their own ¼ or ½ page?
- 5) Are there design/production changes you would like to see?
- 6) Should a Cumberland Trail newsletter be integrated with the TTA newsletter or separate? How would it be funded?
- 7) Should the newsletter editor be a hiker/TTA member or could we have it professionally produced?

Please have your chapter representative get in touch with me so that I can compile a list of committee members and begin communicating with them. The Board is expecting a report from the Newsletter Committee at the May Board meeting.

—Arleen Barnett
Newsletter Editor

ANNOUNCING...

SPECIAL TTA BOARD MEETING

Saturday, April 12, 1997

A proposal was presented to the Board of Directors at the February meeting that Rob Weber be designated the TTA Cumberland Trail Coordinator, succeeding Bob Brown, and to create a Cumberland Trail Committee, chaired by Rob Weber. An outline of leadership, mission, fundraising, and organizational issues was also presented to the Board for discussion.

The Board approved a motion to create a Cumberland Trail Committee to move forward with the CT project. The Board also agreed that a separate structure, which would still report to the Board on a regular basis, is needed in order to respond to trail development and fundraising issues in a timely manner.

Because of the importance and scope of the issues under consideration, a special Board meeting will be held in Nashville on Saturday, April 12, 1997. More details, including exact location and time, will be sent to Board members approx. 2-3 weeks prior to the meeting date, and published in the April newsletter for members who would like to attend.

CHAPTER NEWS

CLARKSVILLE

Meets the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm in the Community Room at Governor's Square Mall.

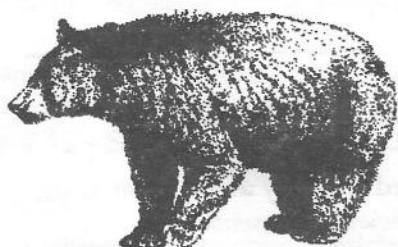
MARCH 1-2 - REELFOOT LAKE OVERNIGHT. We'll be spending Saturday night at motel, 2:00 pm check-in. Call James McKenzie (615) 502-424-5285 for more info.

MARCH 8 - LAND BETWEEN THE LAKES. Call Jack Held (615) 645-1348.

MARCH 15 - ROTARY PARK. Meet at 1:00 pm. Call Chuck Dewese, (615) 553-8683.

MARCH 22 - PERCY WARNER PARK in Nashville. Call June Miller (615) 648-4195.

MARCH 29 - LAKE MALONE STATE PARK, KENTUCKY. 3 miles, easy. Call James McKenzie (502) 424-5285.



CUMBERLAND MTN.

GOOD NEWS!! Jeannie Chambers has organized a meeting of the Cumberland Mtn. (Jamestown) Chapter in

late February to get the ball rolling for 1997 hikes and activities. Stay tuned.....

EAST TENNESSEE

SUNDAY, MARCH 9 - LONE MOUNTAIN. Come hike with us at Lone Mtn. State Forest in Morgan County. Approx. 6 miles, this hike is considered moderate. There is a triple switchback as the trail climbs about 400 feet in ½ mile to a lunch spot at Coyote Point, which offers beautiful views. Meet at First American Bank in the Tri-County Mall south of Oliver Springs on Hwy 62 at 9:30 am to carpool. Tri-County Mall is 2.8 miles from the junction of TN 62 (Oak Ridge Turnpike) and TN 95 (Illinois Ave). Ken Cole is hike leader (no phone # given).

SAT. MARCH 22 - Come hike with Russ Manning and Sondra Jamieson, authors of *Trails of the Big South Fork*, to explore the Rugby region of the Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area. We'll first hike the 2-mile Gentlemen's Swimming Hole/Meeting of the Waters Loop and then have lunch at the Harrow Road Café in Rugby. After lunch, we'll head west to the nearby community of Allardt and hike the 1.5 mile loop in Colditz Cove State Natural Area. We'll also tour Rugby and Allardt as time permits. Those from the Knoxville/Norris area, meet in Norris in front of the Middle School at 8:30 am. All others meet in Rugby at the school/visitor center at 10:30 am eastern time. For more info and to sign up, call (423) 494-8121.



SUNDAY, MARCH 23 - Grace Foster will lead this special wildflower walk to Savage Gardens near Lake City. This is a private wildflower garden with a very short, meandering trail through spectacular pillars, spires and grottos of

limestone. Wildflowers drip from the rock, and the forest floor is carpeted in wildflowers and bulbs. This garden is only open to the public during the Dogwood Festival. We have special permission to visit. Meet at Norris Commons at 2:30 pm. Call (423) 494-0951.

MEMPHIS

Meets the third Thursday at 7:00 pm at Davis-Kidd, 387 Perkins Extended

MARCH 8 - WALKING TOUR OF ABERDEEN, MISS. Carpool 6:30 am at Piggly Wiggly, Perkins at Knight Arnold. Meet 9:30 am in front of courthouse in Aberdeen town square. Jerri Bull and her brother, Nelson, will be our tour guides. Bring money for lunch. Contact person is Kathryn Skinner, (901) 527-4308.

MARCH 20 - PROGRAM MEETING AT DAVIS-KIDD. Program on Elmwood Cemetery, where we have a walking tour scheduled later this year.

MARCH 22 - FT. PILLOW STATE PARK, Henning, TN. Carpool 7:30 am at Kingsway Church, or meet 9:30 am at park museum. Hike is 10 miles, moderate. Contact person is Debbie Gilbert, (901) 454-0613.



MURFREESBORO

Meets the third Tuesday at 7:00 pm at St. Mark's Methodist Church.

HIKING HOTLINE 367-7045

MARCH 11 - Meeting sponsored by the Murfreesboro Chamber of Commerce and Black Fox Wetlands. Paul Miller, of the Upper Cumberland Chapter of TTA, will be making a presentation on the SCOTT'S GULF area. 7:00 pm in the new Chamber of Commerce building. Call (615) 893-6565 for info.

MARCH 15 - BEAR WALLER GAP. Call Barbara Draud (615) 895-5546.

MARCH 18 - PROGRAM MEETING. Bill Riley will share slides and experiences of hiking in the Paria River Canyon in Arizona and the narrow gauge railroad in the Animas River Canyon in Colorado.

MARCH 22 - BRADY MTN., CUMBERLAND TRAIL SECTION 5. Call Mike Harvey (615) 893-9594.

NASHVILLE

Meets the third Tuesday at 7:30 pm at the Cumberland Science Museum.

HIKING HOTLINE 367-7045

MARCH 8 - PERCY WARNER PARK, WARNER WOODS AND MOSSY RIDGE TRAILS. Meet at the end of Belle Meade Blvd. At the stone pillars for a 7-mile moderate hike led by Elizabeth Gerlock. Call Elizabeth at (615) 356-6260 for more info and to preregister.

MARCH 16 - LAUREL SNOW POCKET WILDERNESS hike. Meet at Target parking lot at Bell Road near the I-24 exit at 7:00 am

central. We will hike to the waterfalls and to the overlook. Plan for a long day. Bring lunch, drink and boots. Call Charlie Hann at (615) 941-1503 for more info and to preregister.

MARCH 18 - PROGRAM MEETING. Tom Ridley will talk to us about Total Fitness, including lightweight backpacking, endurance nutrition and training, and how to walk easier, better and longer. Don't miss it! Refreshments will be served. Bring a friend.

Sat
MARCH 22 - RADNOR LAKE hike. Meet at Visitor's Center at 8:30 am central. We will hike the Lake Trail, Ganier Ridge and South Ridge Trails, 4 ½ miles. Afterward we'll go to Shoney's breakfast bar. Call Vera Churcher at (615) 373-8314 for more info and to preregister.

Sun
MARCH 23 - SEWANEE PERIMETER TRAIL. Meet at the Target parking lot at Bell Rd. near the I-24 exit at 8:00 am central. We'll hike 6-8 miles around the Sewanee campus at the base of the cliffs. We hope to see some early wildflowers. Call Jim Poteet at (615) 377-4777 for more info and to preregister.

Sat
MARCH 29 - HONEY CREEK HIKE. Meet at the K-Mart parking lot on Donelson Pike at 7:30 am central. This is a beautiful but difficult hike. Call Paul Smith in Lewisburg at (615) 270-8766 for more info and to preregister.

FOR MEMBERSHIP INFO, CALL 297-2281.

PLATEAU

Meets the third Thursday at 7:00 pm at the Crossville Housing Authority, 202 Irwin Ave.

MARCH 8 - CUMBERLAND MTN. STATE PARK LOOP. 6 miles, moderate. Call Diane Parvin (615) 484-6818 for more info.

MARCH 22 - ROCK CREEK LOOP, BIG SOUTH FORK. 7 miles, moderate. Call Diana Jones (615) 456-6249.



ATTENTION VOLUNTEERS! BREAKAWAY IS HERE!

Remember, it's not too late to hit the trail and volunteer for our Cumberland Trail Breakaway Program this year. Volunteers and students from five colleges will be working the first 3 weeks of March to build Section 4 and revitalize Section 1 of the CT. Contact Rob Weber at (423) 533-2620; or e-mail at JPXH34A@prodigy.com.

ALSO, we still need to raise approx. \$900 to meet our budget of \$3,100. Please consider making a TAX DEDUCTIBLE donation to the Breakaway Program. Checks should be made payable to TTA Breakaway Program and mailed to: Judy Cleary, TTA Treasurer, P.O. Box 41446, Nashville, TN 37204.

**Cumberland Trail Section 4
Hike Report**

Twenty-nine hardy folks joined us on an exploration of the soon-to-be developed Section 4 of the CT. The trail begins on the already completed Nemo Trail at Obed Wild and Scenic River which winds its way 2 ½ miles up the forested hills of the Emory and Obed gorges to end at Alley Ford. From here the group split and the adventuresome, led by Jim Lifsey of the Plateau Chapter and Don Coffman of the Cumberland Mtn. Chapter, led us along the newly flagged Section 4. The hardest were awarded a breathtaking view of the Cumberland Mtn. Range and of Obed's rugged gorge at the five-mile mark. The green waters of the Obed and its gorge are as spectacular as the familiar Big South Fork. Some say more.

Thanks to everyone who attended!
--Rob Weber

UPPER CUMBERLAND

MARCH 8 - CHAPTER MEETING/HIKE AT CHARIT CREEK HOSTEL. Join us on the hike to Twin Arches in the Big South Fork, then stick around for the meeting at Charit Creek Hostel. Call if you plan to come so we can make reservations for lunch. Meet at First Union Bank in Sparta at 9:00 am; or at Charit Creek Hostel at 3:00 pm for the meeting. Contact: Bonnie Greene (615) 836-3696, Sparta, or Paul/Pam Miller (615) 526-9259, Cookeville.

TTA extends sympathy to the family of Chief State Park Ranger Eddie Schoenberger who recently died of cancer. Ranger Schoenberger was head of Cove Lake State Park and served as a mounted ranger on the Cumberland Trail in the late 1970's and early 1980's.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!



Clarksville - Diane Hodges, Rose James

East Tennessee - Ronnie Bogard, Frank & Carolyn Stribling

Memphis - Joy Williams, Eric McLennan, Shannon Poindexter

Nashville - Randy Brassell, Lori Samuels, Marita Hinson, June Hiter, Daniel & Kathlyn McCaughna, David Scott, Carolee Turner, Drs. Elliott & Karen Ward, Steve Sullivan, Kazuhiko & Ethel Kawamura, Frank & Rebekah Cook.

Upper Cumberland - Sandy, Lynn & Leslie Ellis

At Large - Olga Steiner, Huntsville, AL

NEW LIFE MEMBERSHIP FEE

The Board voted to increase the TTA Life Membership fee to \$500.00, effective immediately. The fee was increased in order to generate sufficient interest on a Life Membership to cover newsletter and membership costs.

BOARD MEETING NEWS FEBRUARY 8, 1997

TTA HAS A WEB PAGE!!!

Al and Vera Churcher's daughter designed a Tennessee Trails web page as part of a college assignment and Telalink of Nashville is donating the space to put the page on the internet.

The address is: www.tn-trails.org

1997 ANNUAL MEETING DATE SET FOR OCT 31-NOV 2 AT NORRIS DAM STATE PARK IN LAKE CITY, TN. MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!

A Release of Claim Form/Sign-Up Sheet was approved by the Board for use by all hike leaders. Thanks to Libby Francis and Elizabeth Smith, attorney, of the Nashville Chapter for their work in producing this form. A copy is included in this month's newsletter.

The form is intended to make hikers aware of potential dangers involved in hiking and to emphasize to hike leaders the importance of ensuring that hike participants are informed and prepared for the hike that is scheduled. The form also serves as a record of hike participants so chapters can encourage new members to join and keep track of how many hikes and participants they sponsor each year.

Chapter Chairs—please make copies of the form and encourage your hike leaders to use them. THANKS!!

The next TTA regularly-scheduled Board meeting will be hosted by the Memphis Chapter, Saturday, May 24, 2:00 pm at Davis-Kidd Bookstore at Perkins Extended and Poplar. More details will be published in a future issue. Memphis in May will be in full swing and the Memphis Chapter is already planning some extracurricular activities for attendees!

NEW CHAPTER REPORT

A meeting will be set up in the next few weeks in Columbia, TN to talk with folks who have expressed interest in starting a Columbia Chapter of TTA. Arleen Barnett spoke with two people at the public hearing on the Columbia TVA Dam

Project who asked that a TTA representative meet with them.

HIKING OPPORTUNITIES WITH OUR FRIENDS

Chattanooga Hiking Club

March 1 - North Chickamauga Creek. This 8-mile moderate round trip hike follows the creek and features several easy stream crossings, along with wonderful cascades and waterfalls. We'll pass old coal mines and remnants of a coal tippie. Call Susan Faidley (423) 886-2737.

March 29 - Rock Creek/Dry Pond Lead Loop. 5 mile moderate hike through the Little Frog Wilderness Area that will involve a short car shuttle on a paved road to complete the loop. Because this hike is in a wilderness area, there is a limit of 10 participants. Call Eric Skrivseth (423) 842-2847.

South Cumberland Recreation Area

March 1 - Greeter Falls Tour. Meet 10:00 am at Greeter Falls parking lot. 2 miles, moderate

March 2 - Hidden Crevice Walk. Meet at 1:00 pm at Stone Door Ranger Sta. 2 miles, moderate

March 8 - Greeter Point Walk. Meet at 10:00 am at Grundy County Courthouse. 3 miles, mod.

March 9 - Suter Falls Tour. Meet at 1:00 pm at Swiss Memorial School in Gruetli-Laager. 1 mile, strenuous.

March 15 - Tomado Point Walk. Meet at 10:00 am at the 108/56 Hwy junction in Coalmont. 2 miles, easy.

March 16 - Ranger Creek Falls. Meet at 10:00 am at Stone Door Ranger Station. 7 miles, strenuous.

March 29 - Collins Gulf Wildflower Walk. Meet at 10:00 am at Swiss Memorial School in Gruetli-Laager. 5 miles, strenuous.

March 30 - Easter Wildflower Walk. Meet at 2:00 pm at Stone Door Ranger Sta. 3 miles, easy

ADOPT-A-TRAIL

TRAIL MAINTENANCE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! If you would like to be placed on a call list for trail maintenance, contact Rob Weber (423) 533-2620 for details.

If you are interested in maintaining a particular trail or section of trail, please contact Harold Draper, Adopt-A-Trail Coordinator at (423) 689-7757.

Wolves Wow Midwest!

Recently, wolf biologists have been surprised by an upsurge in wolf numbers in the Great Lake states. The Minnesota population has grown to an estimated 2,000 animals, a modern high, says Jim Hammill, a wildlife biologist with the Michigan Dept. of Natural Resources (MDNR). And not only have the wolves increased, but they have begun dispersing.

Last spring, prior to the birth of pups, biologists estimated that Michigan's Upper Peninsula was host to a minimum of 80 wolves and northern Wisconsin to another 83. These are the highest numbers in either place since the 1940's. Wolves have been located within 30 miles of Madison, WI, and nine wolves have been spotted in South Dakota, where wolves were probably wiped out more than half a century ago.

Hammill says the expansion has resulted from an increase in deer, and more importantly, from a growing tolerance on the part of local residents. About 20 years ago, when the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the MDNR released four gray wolves into suitable habitat in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, all of the animals were shot or run over within seven months. Thanks to a better understanding of wolves today, more people support the presence of the predators.

To maintain that crucial tolerance, the MDNR and other agencies are developing a program to reimburse farmers for any livestock they lose to wolves, Hammill says. However, he fears that if the deer, a popular game species, "tolerance may not hold up very well." Rolf Peterson, a wolf biologist at Michigan Tech University, says that the expansion is the "most successful wolf reintroduction in the world, and the best part is, the wolves did it themselves."

--Reprinted from Chattanooga Hiking Club Newsletter, originally from *National Wildlife*

ORDER FORM

_____	Hiking Tennessee Trails, 4 th Edition	\$ 9.95
_____	TTA Adopt-A-Trail Manual	3.00
_____	Round Traditional TTA Patch	3.00
_____	25 th Anniversary TTA Patch	3.00
_____	TTA Fanny Pack (Green with embroidered boot logo)	15.00
_____	TTA Window Decal	1.00

Prices include postage. Mail your check payable to TTA and mail to: Rob Weber, Rt. 1, Box 219A, Pikeville, TN 37367. Please allow 4 weeks.

Name: _____ Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone(h) _____ Phone(w) _____

The Board approved plans to proceed with changing the dues structure from a calendar year basis to an actual 12-month renewal period. Jim Poteet will meet with Kevin Kimbro and Ninez Giles of the Nashville Chapter to work out the details. Kevin maintains the TTA membership database and Ninez is the State Membership Chair. A transition plan will be developed regarding current members renewal dates and details will be published in a future newsletter.

NOTE: A TTA member pointed out that the cover article in the February newsletter did not reflect supportive documentation that donations made to Ms. Wolfe's Appalachian Trail hike qualify as tax-deductible. The American Cancer Society sent a letter endorsing Ms. Wolfe's hike, stating that Ms. Wolfe would forward any donations she received to them and acknowledgment would be made. Due to space constraints in the newsletter, I did not run the entire letter from the American Cancer Society.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Memberships are for one year, unless you have a Life Membership. YES, I want to join Tennessee Trails Association:

<input type="checkbox"/> Student	\$ 6.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Supporting \$30, \$40, \$50	
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual/Family	15.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Life Member \$500	
<input type="checkbox"/> Corporate Sponsor	_____ (Amount enclosed)		

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ STATE: _____

ZIP _____ HOME PHONE: _____ WORK PHONE: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

PLEASE LIST ME WITH THE FOLLOWING CHAPTER:

☐ CLARKSVILLE
☐ CUMBERLAND MTN. (Jamestown/Rugby)
☐ EAST TENNESSEE (Oak Ridge/Knoxville)
☐ MEMPHIS
☐ MURFREESBORO
☐ NASHVILLE
☐ PLATEAU (Crossville)
☐ UPPER CUMBERLAND (Cookeville/Sparta)
☐ AT LARGE

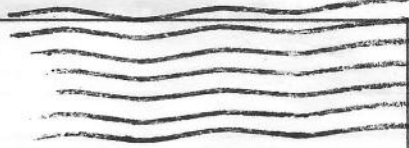
☐ NEW MEMBER

☐ RENEWAL

**MAIL TO: MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR
P.O. BOX 41446
NASHVILLE, TN 37204**

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS ARE DUE BY THE 15TH OF THE MONTH. MAIL TO: NEWSLETTER EDITOR, P.O. BOX 41446, NASHVILLE, TN 37204 OR e-mail: arleen.barnett@mcmail.vanderbilt.edu

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Nashville Chair:	Libby Francis (615) 889-5718; Lfran99625@aol.com
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