

TENNESSEE TRAILS

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.

National Public Lands Day at Big South Fork

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New web page

On September 26, Tennessee Trails Association and the National Park Service hosted the National Public Lands Day event at the Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area. A total of 20 volunteers participated. Volunteers worked on trail tread rehabilitation, vegetation removal, and waterbar repair and cleaning on four miles of hiking trails. Trails worked on were the Leatherwood Ford Loop and Sunset Overlook trails. Volunteers that signed VIP forms were from Cookeville, Oak Ridge, Norris, and Knoxville. They received a certificate and a National Public Lands Day collectable poster. Wally Linder and the other Big South Fork maintenance staff were exceptionally well organized. Volunteers were split into groups and accompanied by a maintenance staff member. This helped ensure that everyone knew their assignments and received the most from their trail experience. Following the event, a reporter from the Scott County News (local weekly paper) came, took a few pictures of the remaining volunteers and staff, and gathered information on the day. It was an unannounced visit and most of the volunteers had left.

National Public Lands Day began five years ago with three sites in three states and 200 volunteers has grown to estimates of 85 sites in 34 states with 12,000 volunteers.

Tennessee Trails Mailing List

Kevin Kimbro has passed the torch on to Jenice Johnson of the Nashville Chapter for maintenance of the Tennessee Trails membership database. Kevin was recognized for his many years of faithful service by receiving the Bill Stutz Award at last year's Annual Meeting. THANK YOU, Kevin, for all your hard work and dedication!

Jenice has already produced her first set of mailing labels for the August newsletter mailing party!! If you **MOVE**, or your **PHONE NUMBER CHANGES**, or **YOUR NAME CHANGES**, or if there's a **CORRECTION** needed on your current mailing label, PLEASE notify Jenice at the e-mail address listed on the back page of the newsletter and below. OR, send snail mail to Jenice at the Tennessee Trails Post Office Box 41446, Nashville, TN 37204. If you have a Tennessee Trails prospect that you'd like to have added to the database to receive 3 months of complimentary newsletters, send that information to Jenice also! The email address is ttalist@yahoo.com

Tennessee Trails Online!

We are happy to announce that the new website is online! There are several things that have been added that will help get information to everyone. Please stop by and check out all of the new areas. We are asking help from each of the chapters to submit design ideas, photos and information for their chapters page. There is also a section called Trail Scenes. This will be a section that focuses on a trail of the month, so if you know of a good area to hike during a certain month please submit a trail report and photos. So check it out then submit your comments, questions, ideas, changes and updates to webmaster@tn-trails.org.

Surf on!

Cherri Zaske

Webmaster, www.tn-trails.org



CLARKSVILLE

NOV. 7 Murfreesboro Greenway (Stones River); Eileen Hurt, 615-244-1669

NOV. 14 Standing Stone St. Park(Dale Hollow); June Miller, 648-4195

NOV. 21 Radnor Lake, Nashville; Jim Hampton, 647-5899

NOV. 28 NO HIKE TODAY- Holiday weekend.

EAST TENNESSEE

November 7 (Saturday) - Twin Arches/Charit Creek Loop (BSFNRA). This 4.6 mile loop is easily one of the more pleasant hikes within BSFNRA. We will meet at 8:30 a.m. in the parking area in front of Norris Middle School (Old Norris High School), in Norris. From there, we will car pool to the Twin Arches trailhead. For those not wanting to carpool, the trailhead may be reached by taking SR 297 west from Oneida. Go past the entrance to Bandy Creek Campground, to the intersection with SR 154. Turn right (north) on SR 154, and then right again on Divide Road. Follow Divide Road northeast for 4.2 miles and turn right (southeast) on Twin Arches Road. The trailhead is located at the end of this road, approximately 2.0 miles from the Divide Road intersection. The trail is considered moderate in difficulty, and provides access to the Twin Arches (considered one of the most significant geological features within BSFNRA). For additional information, call hike leader Ralph Jordan at 494-7351 (H) or 632-1604 (W).

November 21 (Saturday) - Old Settlers Trail Dayhike (GSMNP) - The Old Settlers Trail wanders through old settlements along the northern boundary of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park between Greenbrier and Cosby. You'll see stone walls, foundations, and chimneys, perhaps the best collection in the park. The entire trail is 16 miles, but we'll do just 9 miles, starting at Greenbrier and coming out on US321 along an unofficial access trail at Noisy Creek. Norris hikers gather in front of the Norris Middle School across from the Commons at 8:30 am. All others meet at the K-mart parking lot on Asheville Highway just north of the I-40 exit on the east end of Knoxville at 9:00 am. Call Russ Manning (494-8121).

Trip report

Monthly meeting on Tuesday, November 17th at First Pres-

byterian Church in Oak Ridge on Oak Ridge Turnpike at Lafayette Drive, Room 101. 7:00 p.m. We will complete our hike schedule for 1999. Please come to make your recommendations for new hikes, repeat hikes, long hikes, short hikes, city hikes, overnight trips. This is your chapter and we want to hike trails you especially like. If you'd like to lead a hike, that's great. Please come. Desserts will be served!

MEMPHIS

MONTHLY MEETING: 7 p.m. Thursday, November 19th. Since the library meeting room is not available this month, we will meet at John Martin's house, 3876 S. Lakewood Dr. in Raleigh. For directions, call 386-3722.

Nov. 14-15 (Sat.-Sun.): **BEAR WALLER GAP/PERCY WARNER** near Nashville. The Saturday hike begins in Carthage on Cordell Hull Lake at the Tater Knob Overlook trailhead. About 5.7 miles one way; shuttling cars will be necessary. On Sunday there will be a short hike at Percy Warner. Call Betty Porter, 901-755-4740, if you plan to make this trip.

Nov. 29 (Sun.): **HEADWATERS OF THE WOLF RIVER.** In conjunction with the Wolf River Conservancy and local Sierra Club chapter, Memphis TTA will conduct an expedition to the source of the Wolf River from Baker's Pond in the Holly Spring National Forest, Benton County, Mississippi. Hike is 6 to 8 miles, fairly flat terrain, with some interesting historical features. Meet 10 a.m. Sunday at the Citgo station, junction of U.S. 72 and Miss. Hwy. 5, about 40 miles from Memphis city limits. For more information, call Ray Skinner, 901-725-0377.

MURFREESBORO

September Hike Report

On a beautiful September 19th Saturday, five members and a guest in the Murfreesboro Chapter made the trek to Savage Gulf in the South Cumberland Recreation area. Traversing the "woods" branch of the Savage Day Loop we found our way to the North Rim Trail. Crossing the suspension bridge over the almost arid Meadow Creek below, a stop was made at the Savage Creek overlook to drink in some of the serenity of gulf and enjoy the cliff side breeze. One of the members noted that there was an absence of

birds as not one hawk or vulture was seen gliding the air currents below. Onward the group marched, fording a dried up Lick Creek, and stopping at Quartz Pebble Overlook to again look out over the beautiful gulf below. A large rock breakaway from the side of the opposite cliff across the gulf was noted. The age old argument ensued of was there any sound if no one was there to hear it fall. Upon reversing our directions we stopped once again at Savage Creek Overlook to enjoy a lunch as well as the cool breeze and the view below. Retracing our steps across the Meadow Creek Bridge we followed the "rim" branch of the day loop, stopping at Rattlesnake Point Overlook to enjoy the scene before us (but no rattlesnakes were seen). Then onto the spur trail to Savage Falls Overlook to see "no" water cascade over the falls, but to hear a gurgle of only a trickle of flow in the distance. Without an appreciable flow of water a decision was made to pass up a trek down to the falls. We exited the trails after an exhilarating 8 miles of the areas gift to Tennessee, richer for the experience. *Jim Schroeder*

Trip report for Cumberland Falls State Park

Eight brave souls weathered the weather and weather reports and showed up at what we hoped would be a glimpse at the renowned "moonbows" that occur here and only one other place in the world. This is the only spot in the Western Hemisphere that it happens. It hadn't rained in the Corbin, KY. area for five weeks... that is until we got there. It rained Friday night and Saturday morning. We hiked Saturday morning in a drizzle, but it was warm and we actually had a very good hike. Saturday afternoon was taken up with watching football...GO VOLS!, and resting. Late Saturday afternoon the sun began peeking through the clouds and by early evening the clouds had all but vanished. With hopes renewed, we 8 joined about 500 other people on the overlooks to see if after all we would be able to see this phenomenon first hand. The moon was there...the clouds were gone... But, just as the moon was getting to the place where it would shine down into the gorge a heavy fog moved in and blocked the view of the falls. Oh well another time! The trip was not wasted because we all had a very good time notwithstanding the moonbows. *Fount Bertram*

NASHVILLE

November 8 - Fiery Gizzard

Charlie and Jennifer Hann are the coordinators for this 6 to 7 mile hike. Meet at 7am in the Target parking lot at I-24 and Bell Road. Call Charlie and Jennifer at 615-941-1503 to register.

November 14 - Big Creek Gulf

Randy Hedgepath, a ranger at the South Cumberland Recreation Area will be leading this hike. Hikers will meet at the Stone Door at 10 am. We will hike a loop trail, rated difficult, of 7 to 10 miles with overlooks and waterfalls. Randy's number is 931-692-3887 (office) or 931-692-3148. Elizabeth Gerlock will coordinate car pooling from Nashville, and she can be reached at 615-3566260.

November 15 - Rock Creek Loop Big South Fork State Park is the location for this 7 mile hike along Massey Branch Creek and Rock Creek and is rated moderate with one steep climb near the end. Prepare for a day-long outing, and meet hike coordinator, Jim Poteet, at 7am at Donelson K-mart. Register by calling 615-8247666.

November 15 - Beaman Park

The Friends of Beaman continue their monthly explorations of this new park. If you like to hike where there are absolutely no trails, join the Friends at the spring on Little Marrowbone Road at 1 pm. Register with Nancy Dorman, 615-299-9586.

November 21 - Honey Creek

This is a difficult 5-mile loop. Waterfalls, interesting rock formations, stone buildings and views of the Cumberland River make this hike worth the effort. Meet at 6:45 am at the Donelson Road KMart, near Kinkos. Call hike coordinator, Paul Smith, at 931 359 3757 to register.

November 22 - Radnor Lake

We will hike both ridge trails for a total of 6 miles. Meet in the west parking lot at 8:30. You can preregister with Jennifer Hann at 615-941-1503 or Judy Wood 615-384-0634.

November 29 - Mammoth Cave National Park

There is more to this park than caves. Join Anne Wesley for a hike on surface trails. Meet at the K-Mart on Long Hollow Pike, I-65 exit 97. Call Anne at 615-851-1052 for more details and to register.

You can hear the melodious tones of the voice of Elizabeth Gerlock (and the latest hike information) by call the Nashville Chapter Hiking Hotline - 615-367-7045.

PLATEAU

Plateau Chapter Meeting, Thursday, November 19th, 7:00 p.m., at Crossville Housing Authority.

November 14th - Brady Mountain on the Grassy Cove Segment of the CT, 7.5 miles, moderate. Meet at 8:00 a.m. CST at Cumberland Mountain State Park Visitor Center in Crossville. Contact Bill Eldridge at 931-456-4459 to register for this hike or to obtain additional information.

November 28th - Hike to Table Rock in Monterey. Meet at 8:30 a.m. CST at Hardee's in Monterey. Contact Jim Lifsey at 931-839-3939 or Bill Eldridge at 931-456-4459 to register for this hike or to obtain additional information.

December 10th - Plateau Chapter Christmas Party at Diane Parvin's home at 6:00 p.m. CST. Bring a covered dish! Contact Diane at 931-484-6818 for more information.

December 12th - Ranger Falls in Savage Gulf State Natural Area, 7 miles, moderately difficult. Meet at 8:00 a.m. CST at Cumberland Mountain State Park Visitor Center in Crossville. Contact Gene Holloway at 931-788-1724 to register for this hike or to obtain additional information.

UPPER CUMBERLAND

Saturday, November 7 Picket State Park Lake Trail
Meet at Pennys in Cookeville at 8:00 a.m., 6 miles, easy to moderate.

Saturday, November 21 Stone Door to Greeter Falls
Meet at First Union in Sparta at 8:00 a.m., 8 miles, moderate.

Distances listed are approximate. For more information call Nora Miller, 931-5269252, or Barbara Phifer, 931-537-6852.

