

TENNESSEE TRAILS

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.*



WELCOME ! OUR NEWEST CHAPTER ... NORTHWEST

It's official!!! On April 27th, University of Tennessee at Martin faculty, students and TTA members met and voted unanimously to form the Northwest Chapter of the Tennessee Trails Association. The Northwest Chapter will serve those members living in and around the University of Tennessee at Martin campus as well as those living in and around Weakley county.

More news about the Northwest Chapter on pages 5 & 6.

American Hiking Society Trails Advocacy Week

Vera Churcher, with the Nashville Chapter of TTA, and myself attended the AHS Trails Advocacy Week in Washington, DC on March 11-15, 2000, to promote hiking trails in Tennessee as well as the acquisition and development of the Cumberland Trail State Park.

Our mission was to seek support from our Tennessee legislators for the following:

- To co-sponsor the LWCF – CARA bill (H.R. 701, S. 2123), which provides full and permanent funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund.
- To co-sponsor the Willing Seller Bill (H.R. 2267, S. 1729), which will protect resources forever along national scenic and historic trails by allowing the federal government to buy land from willing sellers along the entire national trails system.
- To support funding requests as outlined in the FY 2001 funding priorities for trails and recreation management in the National Park Service, USDA Forest Service, and Bureau of Land Management.

We were thrilled at how responsive our legislators were in taking the time to meet with us and share our concerns. We actually got to meet personally with Congressman Bob Clement, Congressman Van Hilleary, and Congressman Bill Jenkins. We met with the legislative

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Come Hike With Us!

National Trails Day



June 3, 2000

Many hikes offered throughout Tennessee as well as the country. Take a look inside to see what our Chapters have to offer and *come hike with us!!!*

Trails Advocacy Week (cont.)

assistants for Senator Bill Frist and Senator Fred Thompson, as well as Congressman Zach Wamp and Congressman Bart Gordon.

The one thing we do want to share with you, that we got out of our conversations with our federal legislators, is how important it is that we share our concerns and wants with our representatives and senators at the state level, as they are the individuals who can help us achieve our goals in our communities. All state legislators can be reached at 1-800-449-8366.

Of special interest, the American Hiking Society has a website that now has what they call a "Take Action Letter". This letter makes it very easy to keep in touch with your federal legislators by asking them to support whatever current congressional action is necessary to protect our trail systems...it even allows space in the letter for you to personalize it to your own community needs, if you desire to do so. Go to their website: <http://www.americanhiking.org> and click on Trail Conservation & Policy, then click Trail Issues and Action, then click Take Action. Click on TN and then click on the legislators to whom you want to send the letter. The "current" AHS letter in need of congressional action will come up and you will see a space to personalize it before you actually send it to anyone. Visit the website often to keep updated on the latest trail issues.

Keep in touch with Tennessee's trails by keeping in touch with your legislators...**at ALL levels!**

Thank you for letting us represent TTA and CTC in this worthy cause. (Submitted by Susan Weber, CTC)

New Hiking Trails at Edgar Evins State Park? Exploratory and Flagging Hike June 4th

Representatives from the Murfreesboro, Nashville and Clarksville Chapters met with park rangers on May 7th to discuss the development of new hiking trails in the Edgar Evins State Park at Center Hill Lake, near Smithville, TN. This area is primarily a water sport park with an emphasis on fishing and boating. There are over 6,000 acres in this park and only 2 ½ miles devoted to hiking trails. Rangers Wayne Morrison and Jason Maynard were very enthusiastic about the proposed project. Our emphasis right now is for a low-impact day-hiking trail, possibilities exist for a longer backpacking trail, but that's not in the plans as of yet. We looked at several possibilities and decided to concentrate in one area for the time being. This proposed trail would be a loop trail that will take in some of the park's natural features and some of the old

homesteads and view sheds.

This is a special project for us so we will need Tennessee Trail members to volunteer with exploring, flagging, building, maintaining, and hiking this trail. For starters, the exploring and flagging portion, we will meet June 4th 9am CDT at the Visitor's Center in Edgar Evins State Park. Everyone is invited to participate in this venture. Bring your trail skills and help us in developing the first of what we hope will be a number of outstanding hiking trails right here in Middle Tennessee! Questions / additional information call Fount Bertram: 615-765-5357. (Lastly, a special thanks goes out to Fount Bertram for his planning, organizing and working with the rangers of Edgar Evins State Park. His hard work is greatly appreciated!!!)

BIG SOUTH FORK CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER:

Eric Wilson 423-628-2817 ericavi@infoave.net

Jun 17 Honey Creek Loop, Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area. This is a 5-mile, very challenging, and fun! day-long loop hike that includes several vertical ascents and descents and many spectacular views. We will meet 9:30am EDT at the Harrow Road Cafe in Rugby, then drive to the trailhead near the Honey Creek Overlook. Please bring plenty of water and lunch. Questions and/or to pre-register call Peter Erickson: 423-628-2071, or e-mail him: chinese@highland.net

CLARKSVILLE CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER:

Suva Bastin 931-645-2849 stevjune42@aol.com

MEETS: 3rd Tues, 7pm, The Crow Community Center,
211 Richview Rd

- Jun 3 National Trails Day. Schedule was still in the planning stages when the June newsletter was being produced, therefore please call Suva Bastin for June 3rd happenings: 931-645-2849.
- Jun 11 Wildlife Habitat Hike. James Neblett Farm, Cunningham, TN. For hike information and to pre-register call James Neblett 931-387-3317.
- Jun 17 **Annual Chapter Picnic.** Dunbar Cave, Clarksville, TN. Lots of fun for everyone. For exact picnic location and time call: Wanda Cumberland 931-906-3338 or Suva Bastin 931-645-2849.
- Jun 24 Shiloh Military Trails. Selmer, TN. This is a 10-mile hike and is rated easy. Bring plenty of water and lunch. For meeting time, location and to pre-register call June Miller 931-648-4195.

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CLARKSVILLE CHAPTER (cont.)

HIKE REPORT:

- Apr 1 Ft. Donelson, Dover, TN. Thanks to Suva Bastin and Joanne Brengel for coordinating this 7-mile hike. The weather was perfect.
- Apr 3-7 Four backpackers began a five-day hiking trip on the Appalachian Trail. J. R. Tate, "Model T", Wade Winters, "Too Tall", Suva Bastin, "Medicine Woman", and Jack Bastin, "Jumpin' Jack", started at Amicalola Falls State Park in the pouring rain and hiked the approach trail to the top of Springer Mountain, which is the beginning of the AT. It was a good day to see how well our rain gear worked, but bad for any spectacular mountain views. With all the rain the waterfalls we passed were running swiftly. We encountered sleet and snow on the second day, evening temps dropped to the mid-20's, but we were all well-prepared. By Wednesday, the third day, the weather cleared up and stayed that way the rest of the week. We even got a little sunburn as the sun came out and warmed the mountains the last two days. The trees and wildflowers seemed to be reaching out trying to find spring. We met hikers from all over the United States and even from Australia. Our hike ended at Neel's Gap, which made it approximately a 40-mile hike. Everyone had a good time with no problems or blisters. A special thanks to Suva's daughter, who lives close by, for her kind hospitality before and after our hike. We're already planning a return trip for next spring!
(Submitted by Wade Winters)
- Apr 15-16 Frozen Head State Park, Wartburg, TN. Manuel McKnight organized this weekend of camping where 7 people stayed in the campground, 1 backpacked into Tubb Springs, and 2 stayed in a hotel in Wartburg. The wildflowers were everywhere and plentiful. Our hike goal was to reach the top and we all made it. The hikes were enjoyed by all.
- Apr 22 Earth Day, Rotary Park, Clarksville. We had a great turnout of 33 hikers to hike the trails.
- Apr 29 Dunbar Cave trail work (and fun) day. Nine members shared in the task of moving a lot of very fragrant mulch over the trails in the area.
- Apr 30 Piney River. This was a combination hike with the Nashville Chapter. This is such a great area to see wildflowers. We especially enjoyed meeting the new Nashville Chapter members as well as seeing the members we've known for years.

COLUMBIA CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER:

Todd Horton 615-302-3336 todd1966@aol.com

- Jun 3 National Trails Day !!!** Percy Warner Park, Mossy Ridge Trail. Nashville, TN. Come meet some of our members of the Nashville Chapter as we join them on this hike. The trail is 4 ½ miles and rated moderate. (We can add on an extra 2 ½ miles to make this a 7-mile hike.) Call Todd Horton to arrange car-pooling from Columbia, or you can drive direct to meet the Nashville Chapter at 8am CDT at the Deep Well trailhead parking area. Questions and/or to pre-register call Todd Horton: 615-302-3336.
- Jun 10-11 Montgomery Bell State Park. Hike one or both days. Like the Fall Creek Falls weekend in March, only closer to home for easier day trips. If you want to hike both days; camp or get reservations to stay in the Inn. The Montgomery Bell hike was our best turnout last year and this more flexible schedule should make it even bigger in 2000. Trails will be determined at a later date, but call John Coleman 931-388-9318 for more info. In addition to the hiking trails, some of us also plan to enjoy the mountain bike trail, if it is completed and the archery range. Also, you may try fishing in the lake or taking a swim. This can be a great family outing for the late spring/early summer!
- Jun 24-25 Frozen Head State Park and Natural Area (Overnight). Wartburg, TN. Hike one or both days. Todd Horton will lead a weekend of hikes in Frozen Head State Park. For those not aware of Frozen Head State Park: The mountainous terrain varies from an elevation of 1,340 feet to over 3,000 feet on 14 different mountain peaks. The 11,876 acres of relatively undisturbed forest contain some of the richest wildflower areas in Tennessee. Lush vegetation, small streams, waterfalls and beautiful mountains make Frozen Head one of Tennessee's most scenic parks. There are over 50 miles of foot trails which meander throughout the natural area, passing by waterfalls, rock shelters and giant mountain-top cap rocks. Pre-registration will be required in order for Todd to work out the hiking and camping logistics. Call Todd: 615-302-3336.

COVE LAKE CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER:

Siler McCarty 423-566-1291 webmaster@tnrlca.org

- Jun 10 Smoky Mountain segment of the Cumberland Trail. Lake City, TN. Hike is 3 miles and rated easy to moderate. We will be joining the Plateau Chapter to celebrate the grand opening hike of the newest segment of the Cumberland Trail! This 3-mile section of the trail was built by students and volunteers during BreakAway in March. We will be shuttling to the top of Cross Mountain and hiking DOWN. Bring lunch and water. Meet 10am EDT at the Shoney's in Caryville. Park in the back parking lot in the row nearest to the gas station. Questions and/or to pre-register call hike leader: Faith Dippold: 423-566-8026.

EAST TENNESSEE CHAPTER (Oak Ridge / Knoxville)

CHAPTER OFFICER:

Keith Mertz 865-376-4827 KeithMertz@msn.com

Jun 3 *National Trails Day !!!* Give back for the many miles you've hiked this year by helping us during our Cumberland Trail LaFollette section trail maintenance day. No experience required and for anyone not ever doing trail maintenance, it's not labor intensive! We're just going to do some general maintenance. Bring lunch and plenty of water. The plan is to work until lunchtime, take a long lunch break and then do a little work after lunch. Harold Draper is organizing this event; give him a call so he can better organize tools needed, meeting times, location, etc. Harold can be reached: 865-689-7757.

Jun 17 Burnt Mill Bridge Loop, Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area. This 4.3 mile hike provides a variety of scenery from rolling rivers, to rock bluffs, and ever popular wildflowers. Trail is rated moderate. Bring lunch, lots of water and sturdy hiking boots. We have several options for meeting times and locations. Please call hike coordinator, Marvin Shanks, and let him know where you'll be meeting us so you won't be left behind. Marvin can be reached: 865-966-0612. Meeting Options: 8:30am EDT Shoney's on Illinois Ave in Oak Ridge or, 9:30am EDT in Elgin at the junction of U.S. Hwy 27 or, 10am EDT at the trailhead.

Jun 24 *Annual Chapter Picnic*, Bon Voyage party for Judith and John Bartlow, and Hike. Norris Dam State Park, Lake City, TN. Judith and John will be leaving Tennessee to move to Sheridan, Wyoming. Judith is retiring from TVA as Natural Areas Coordinator, Natural Heritage Project. Judith was very instrumental in the development of our chapter and our first chapter chair. She has remained an active and valuable member, to us and TTA, and we'll miss her much. Please join us...Picnic starts 11am EDT at the picnic pavilion behind the TVA Aquatic Biology Lab. Bring a covered dish or two. We're providing the drinks, plates, cups and cutlery. After lunch we'll hike the short (.7 mile easy) Lakeside Loop Trail. For those wishing to hike longer trails, information will be available at the picnic. Esther Ruffner is organizing this event; she can be reached: 865-281-0567. DIRECTIONS: from I-75, take Norris/Clinton exit east to Hwy 61. Pass Museum of Appalachia; turn left on Hwy 441. Pass Lenoir Museum and TVA Aquatic Biology Lab. Turn at the next right at the sign that reads "Clinch/Powell Watershed Office". See you there.

MEMPHIS CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER:

Ray Burkett 901-357-9183
rburkett@sscc.cc.tn.us

ELECTED BOARD REPRESENTATIVE:

Gloria Norrid 901-382-4227
gnorrid@yahoo.com

MONTHLY MEETINGS: WILL RESUME SEPT 21ST

7p, Germantown Library

Jun 17 Woodland Trail, Meeman-Shelby Forest, Millington, TN. Trail Maintenance Day. Come help build the new bridge on the Woodland Trail. We'll have help from the park's rangers as well as other volunteers. Bring lunch and plenty of water. Wear grubby clothes, as you will probably get dirty. Ken Novak is organizing this event, give him a call so he can better organize tools needed, meeting times, location, etc. Ken can be reached: 901-377-9127.

Jun 25 Spring River, Hardy, AR. Canoe Trip. Carol Haley is organizing this event, give her a call so he can better organize meeting times, location, etc. Carol can be reached: 901-388-9163.

MURFREESBORO CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER:

Fount Bertram 615-765-5357 fwbertram@hotmail.com

MEETS: 2nd Tues, 7pm, St. Marks United Methodist,
1403 E. Main St

Jun 4 Edgar Evins State Park, Smithville, TN. Exploratory and trail flagging hike. Join the crew to flag the route for a new 5- to 7-mile hiking trail. Practice your plastic-streamer tying skills and make a contribution to the future of Tennessee hiking! Meet 9am CDT at the park Ranger Station. Questions and/or to pre-register, call James Herring: 615-896-4356.

Jun 17 Grundy Lakes, South Cumberland State Recreation Area. Monteagle, TN. Come for a hike, swim, and picnic. An enjoyable walk, a cool swim, and a festive meal - the recipe for a perfect day! Grundy Lakes is the site of the Lone Rock Coke Ovens where locally mined coal was converted to coke using convict labor until 1896. The coke ovens remain as a historic reminder of these times. Meet 9am CDT at the South Cumberland Recreation Area visitor's center. Questions and/or to pre-register, call Bob Hornsby: 615-895-4930.

NASHVILLE CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER:

Anne Wesley 615-851-1052 ttahiker@juno.com

MEETS: 4th Tues, 7:30pm, Radnor Lake Visitor's Center, Granny White Pike

HIKING HOTLINE **615-367-7045**

Jun 3 ***National Trails Day !!!*** The following hikes are all fairly easy, short, and close to Nashville. Wear appropriate foot gear, bring plenty of water and snacks. If you have not hiked with us before, or if you can only spare a few hours for a hike, you will not have a selection like this for another year. **All meeting times are CDT:**

- 8am Percy Warner Park, Mossy Ridge Trail. Trail is 4 ½ miles and rated moderate. Meet in the Deep Well trailhead parking area. Hike leaders: Richard Horvath and Dan Brennan. Questions and/or to pre-register call Richard: 270-586-0178.
- 8:30am Shelby Bottoms. This is an 8-mile hike rated easy for the terrain, moderate for the length. Our plan is to hike the 8 miles if all are willing, however we can shorten the length if desired. Meet hike leaders Elizabeth Gerlock and Michelle Codd in the parking lot at the entrance to the Shelby Bottoms Greenway. Questions and/or to pre-register call Elizabeth: 615-356-6260.
- 9am Radnor Lake. Meet hike leaders Marietta and Jim Poteet at the Visitor's Center. Questions and/or to pre-register call: 615-824-7666.
- 9am Beaman Park. Bring the kids! This is a family-friendly hike. Come discover this gem so close to Nashville. Meet hike leader Nancy Dorman at the spring on Little Marrowbone Road. Questions and/or to pre-register call Nancy: 615-299-9586.
- 9am Ashland City Rails-Trails. Never hiked on an old railroad bed? This is an 8-mile trail and is rated easy for the terrain, moderate for the length. Meet hike leaders Meet Dave Walton and Glenn Turner at the Kroger parking lot on Charlotte Ave, just off White Bridge Road. Questions and/or to pre-register call Dave: 615-646-5355.
- 9am Narrows of the Harpeth. Meet hike leaders Patt Dillon and Dale Williams at the parking lot in front of the Circuit City in Bellevue. Questions and/or to pre-register call Patt 615-646-5351.
- 1pm Percy Warner Park, Warner Woods Trail. Bring the kids! This is a family-friendly hike. Trail is 2 ½ miles and rated easy to moderate. Meet in the Deep Well trailhead parking area. Hike leaders: Malcolm Pfothenhauer and Heather Perry. Questions and/or to pre-register call Malcolm: call 615-646-8562.
- 1pm Radnor Lake. Meet hike leader Paul Smith at the visitor's center. Questions and/or to pre-register call Paul: 931-270-8766.
- 1:30pm Long Hunter State Park, Volunteer Trail. This hike is 4 miles and rated easy to moderate. Meet at the Long Hunter Visitor's Center. Hike leaders: Libby Frances and Herb Kneeland. Questions and/or to pre-register call Libby: 615-889-5718.
- 1pm Beaman Park. Nature study hike. Meet hike leaders Nancy Dorman and Tom Salter at the spring on Little Marrowbone Road. Questions and/or to pre-register call Nancy: 615-299-9586.
- 1pm Vanderbilt University Tree hike. Come see some great architecture while walking through this "official arboretum." (Status designated in 1988) Meet hike leaders Jenice Johnson and Doug Burroughs in front of San Antonio Taco Factory on 21st Avenue. Questions and/or to pre-register call Jenice: 615-356-6246.

Jun 4 Suggs Creek Canoe and Kayak Outing. Bring your own canoe or kayak and meet at 9am CDT at the boat ramp. Questions and/or to pre-register call Charlie and Jennifer Hann: 615-941-1503.

Jun 10 Bledsoe Creek State Park. This hike is rated easy and is very close to Nashville. Meet 9am CDT at K-Mart on Long Hollow Pike in Goodlettsville. Questions and/or to pre-register call Dave Walton 615-646-5355.

Jun 18 Radnor Lake, South Cove Trail and Ganier Ridge. This hike is 3 miles and rated moderate only for the short climb up Ganier Ridge. Exact morning time to meet has not been established. Call hike leader Alicia Gray for meeting time, location and to pre-register: 615-453-5138 (hm) or 615-399-4226 ext. 217 (wk).

Jun 24 Montgomery Bell State Park. We can do an easy 6- or easy 7-mile loop. Both trails are rated easy. We'll do just one. Bring plenty of water and lunch. Meet 8:30am CDT at the Visitors' Center. Questions and/or to pre-register call Elizabeth Gerlock: 615-356-6260.

Jun 27 **Monthly Meeting.** Need to brush up on those first aid skills? Mike Carlton, Park Manager for our own Radnor Lake State Natural Area, will discuss such essentials of first aid, such as: when to transport and when to get help for an injured hiker, electrolytic shock, hypothermia and others. Mike conducts frequent first aid training, including training for first responders. Helpful hints will be plentiful!

NORTHWEST CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICERS:

Jim Clark	901-587-7369
jclark@utm.edu	
Brian Brown	901-587-7793
bbrown@utm.edu	

NEXT MEETING: Thursday August 24th, then 2nd Thursday each month, UT Martin Campus, Boling University Center, time to be determined.

BUSINESS REPORT:

Apr 27 In a meeting on the UT Martin campus, a group of faculty and students voted to form an official chapter of the Tennessee Trails Association. Because the Chapter's inception came at the end of the academic year, members present deferred the election of officers until the fall when students and faculty return to UT. In the interim, Jim Clark and Brian Brown have agreed

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NORTHWEST CHAPTER (cont.)

to serve as official chapter contacts. At the advice of Jerry Lenski, West Tennessee Regional Director, we scheduled and planned our inaugural chapter hike on the historic Fort Henry Trail in the Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area for May 6. Joe Seago, avid backpacker and our resident expert on the area, helped us in the planning and guided us over the system of trails. Other issues brought forth was that the first meeting of the fall would be on Aug. 24 to kick off the fall semester, with regular meetings on the second Thursday of each month, meeting in the Boling University Center. We also discussed the possibility of adopting the Garrett Lake hiking/biking trail as a club project. The program portion of the meeting consisted of a report by Sandy Davis and Joe Seago of their trip to Canyonlands National Park during spring break. (This trip was sponsored by UTM's Campus Recreation program.) With numerous pictures of arches, Indian ruins, and tales of precipitous climbs through loose rocks, we were fascinated by their adventures, and just a little bit jealous. *Special guests for the meeting were Libby Francis, Jim Poteet, Suva Bastin, and Jerry Lenski, to whom we are grateful for their support, encouragement, and leadership. THANK YOU!!!*

HIKE REPORT:

May 6 The newly formed "Northwest Chapter" of the Tennessee Trails Association had their inaugural hike at Land Between the Lakes on the Fort Henry Trail. The seven present were: Nancy Warren, Vivian Norwood, Joe Seago, Andy Wright, Phil Miller, Jim Clark, and Jerry Lenski. This was probably not our typical crowd of hikers because ultimately we went 13 miles, whereas I would have predicted that most would have opted for just a 5-8 miler (myself included). Indeed, I had taken my bicycle to do a 25-mile ride after the hike, but decided the 5 ½ hours we had spent on the trail sufficed for enough exercise this day. It was Nancy Warren, who has designs on being "official photographer" for the group, who at the last opportunity to cut the distance off about 1½ miles, shamed us into going farther. The Fort Henry trail system is a very nice one and well marked. There is very little elevation change. Flowing streams, lots of wild sweet william, and some other yellow wildflower I didn't recognize and mostly shaded forest, made for a pleasant hike. It would be nice to do this trail in different seasons. We saw no other person on the trail all day, although there was one vehicle that did not belong to us in the parking lot when we got back.

(Submitted by Jim Clark)

PLATEAU CHAPTER (Crossville)

CHAPTER OFFICER:

Vicki Perdue 931-456-6466

MEETING: June meeting replaced by our Annual Chapter Picnic, Sat. June 17th, 2pm CDT, Bob & Jean Bowman's house. Call them for directions: 931-456-6259

Jun 3 National Trails Day !!! The Plateau Chapter is leading several hikes on the Cumberland Trail in honor of National Trails Day. Wear sturdy foot gear, bring lunch/snacks and lots of water.

- Arleen Scheller will lead a 3-mile roundtrip hike, rated easy, on the newly-renovated Stinging Fork Pocket Wilderness segment of the CT. After a 1½-mile hike into Stinging Fork gorge, hikers will be rewarded with the cool clear waters of Stinging Fork Falls with a lovely pool at the base, as well as an abundance of wildflowers. Meet at 8:30am CDT at the swimming pool parking lot at Cumberland Mtn. State Park, or at 10:30am EDT at the Piney River Picnic Area in Spring City.
- Rita Senko will lead a 3½-mile hike, rated easy to moderate, on Black Mountain on the Grassy Cove Segment of the CT. This is your chance to see incredible views of the Tennessee Valley and Grassy Cove from the top of Black Mtn, one of the best overlooks on the entire Cumberland Trail. The rock formations are quite spectacular and hikers will have an easy stroll hiking 3½ miles DOWN the mountain. Meet at 8:30am CDT at the swimming pool parking lot at Cumberland Mtn. State Park.
- Dennis Andrew will lead a 7-mile hike on the Turkey Creek Loop of the Obed Wild & Scenic River Segment of the CT. This hike is rated moderate. You'll see the Devil's Breakfast Table, Blueberry Overlook, and if you're lucky the blueberries will be ripe for eating, Morgan's Overlook, the "Winding Staircase" built by Morgan Co. inmates, and "The Ledges." Meet at 8:30am CDT at the swimming pool parking lot at Cumberland Mtn. State Park.
- John Bilbrey will lead a 13-mile overnight backpack of the Obed Wild & Scenic River Segment of the CT. This trip is limited to 10 individuals and pre-registration is required. Backpackers will meet at 9am EDT at the Frozen Head State Park Visitor Center. Hikers will shuttle in and out. Call John Bilbrey: 423-376-2830 or e-mail him: jbilbrey@netzero.net

Jun 10 Smoky Mountain segment of the Cumberland Trail. Lake City, TN. Hike is 3 miles and rated easy to moderate. We will be joining the Cove Lake Chapter to celebrate the grand opening hike of the newest segment of the Cumberland Trail! This 3-mile section of the trail was built by students and volunteers during BreakAway in March. We will be shuttling to the top of Cross Mountain and hiking DOWN. Bring lunch and water. Meet 7:30 CDT at the Cumberland Mtn. State Park office. Questions and/or to pre-register call hike leader Susan Weber: 931-456-6259. (cont. pg. 7)

PLATEAU CHAPTER

(cont.)

- Jun 17 **Annual Chapter Picnic** at Bob and Jean Bowman's home at 2pm CDT. Bring a dish to our annual picnic and we'll plan our hikes for the remainder of the year! Some of you may remember that the Bowmans hosted this last year, and they were gracious enough to do so again. Call Bob or Jean for directions and more information: 931-456-5169. **Note:** In lieu of our monthly meeting we will conduct our chapter business at the picnic.
- Jun 24 Joyce Kilmer Memorial Forest. This hike is 2 miles and rated easy, except for the stiff neck you'll get looking to see the tree tops. Come see the BIG trees!! And I mean big! Don't let the drive discourage you from doing this hike, because the drive is as spectacular as the hike - along the spine of the Nantahala Mountain Range on the Cherohala Skyway with lots of overlooks along the way. There's a primitive campground just outside the Memorial Forest - Horse Cove Campground, and there's also a group camp a mile down the road - Rattlesnake Ford (eeeeekkk!). If you're in the mood for luxury, there are a couple of B&B's nearby with wonderful restaurants. Meet 8:30am CDT at the park office at Cumberland Mtn. State Park. The drive takes about 2 hours (including stops along the way). For additional information and to pre-register, call Arleen Scheller: 931-707-8333 or e-mail her: scheller@usit.net. Camping reservations can be made by calling 704-479-6431. You can also check out their website at: <http://www.main.nc.us/graham/hiking/joycekil.html>

UPPER CUMBERLAND CHAPTER (Sparta / Cookeville)

CHAPTER OFFICER:

Denise Charvoz or Barbara Phifer 931-738-3595

- Jun 17 Virgin Falls Pocket Wilderness. Sparta, TN. We will once again take one of our most favorite, but difficult, hikes into Virgin Falls. Those who are less hearty can turn back at Laurel Falls. The hike is 8 miles round-trip and rated strenuous. Laurel Falls is about half that distance. Our hike leader, Marnell Cothran, has taken this hike over fifty times and knows this trail very well. Bring lunch and lots of water. Meet 7:15am CDT at Penney's in Cookeville (Jefferson side) or, 8:30am CDT at the trailhead. Questions and/or to pre-register call Marnell: 931-738-5874.

We will probably rely on spur of the moment hikes for July and August on cooler days since most of us don't enjoy hiking in the summer heat.

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UPPER CUMBERLAND

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HIKE REPORTS:

- Apr 15 Five of us went to Colditz Cove, had lunch at Harrow Cafe, and then hiked the cemetery trail in Rugby. We sure appreciated our hike leader, Barbara Phifer, coming to show us the way to the trails since she had sprained her ankle and couldn't walk very far. She relaxed in a chair in the woods while we hiked. The river was wild and raging and we enjoyed watching the kayakers and canoeists.
- Apr 29 Six people hiked about ten miles at Piney River. They reported there were many beautiful wildflowers in bloom along the river with the many cascades was refreshing. Near the end of the hike there were a few sprinkles of rain.
- May 6 Carol Anderson ably led ten of us to Windless Cave at Black Mountain where we ate our lunch. The temperature turned very warm as the day wore on and the water made us feel much cooler. The Lady's Slippers and Larkspur were both at their peak and quite spectacular to see.

TENNESSEE RAILS-TRAILS ADVISORY COUNCIL (TRAC)

BOARD REPRESENTATIVE:

Charlie Tate 931-381-9569 ctate2@mail.state.tn.us
website: <http://members.aol.com/trac2trail/depot.htm>

MISSION: *To advocate the planning, development, and management of rail-trails throughout the State of Tennessee for the purposes of appropriate recreation, preservation of rail corridors and alternate transportation, in order to benefit the general public, communities, commerce and tourism*

- Jun 3 **National Trails Day!** Cumberland River Bicentennial Trail. Ashland City, TN. Never hiked on an old railroad bed? This is an 8-mile trail and is rated easy for the terrain, moderate for the length. Meet 9am CDT Kroger parking lot on Charlotte Ave, just off White Bridge Road. Hike leaders for this special event are Dave Walton and Glenn Turner. Questions and/or to pre-register call Dave: 615-646-5355.

ADOPT-A-TRAIL NEWS

ADOPT-A-TRAIL OFFICER:

Harold Draper 865-689-7757

hmdraper@knoxnews.infi.net

If you are interested in maintaining a particular trail or section of trail, please contact Harold Draper, Adopt A Trail Coordinator 865-689-7757.

CUMBERLAND TRAIL CONFERENCE

CUMBERLAND TRAIL CONFERENCE

CONTACTS:

Executive Director Rob Weber
robweber@usit.net
Resource Manager Arleen Scheller
scheller@usit.net
Financial Administrator Susan Weber
sweber1@usit.net
Office Location 19 East 4th Street
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OVER \$22,000 RAISED FIRST ANNUAL AUCTION

...TRAIL OF DREAMS...

FOR THE CUMBERLAND TRAIL

All the months of hard work and anticipation were crowned by a delightful evening at the Garden Plaza Hotel in Oak Ridge on Saturday, April 8. The First Annual Cumberland Trail Auction was a rousing success, thanks to all the people who participated in helping to create the "Trail of Dreams" as auction elves, merchandise donors, and, of course, bidders! Participants enjoyed an elegant and delicious dinner, serenaded by mountain dulcimer music provided by Carolyn Miller. If you weren't able to attend, you really missed out on some great opportunities - the auction elves gathered an impressive array of wonderful merchandise, trips, and services.

The final count is in - just over \$22,000 to kick off the *Pathways for People...People for Nature* capital campaign to acquire and permanently protect the 280-mile Cumberland Trail greenway, Tennessee's Millennium Legacy Trail!!

JUNE 10 GRAND OPENING SMOKY MOUNTAIN SEGMENT of CTC

We invite you to be part of history by hiking the newest segment of Tennessee's Millennium Legacy Trail - the Cumberland Trail - on 3 miles of the Smoky Mountain Segment constructed in March by Tennessee volunteers and college students from across the nation. The official grand opening of the Smoky Mountain Segment will be celebrated with a guided hike for the public hosted by the Cove Lake Chapter and Plateau Chapter of the Tennessee Trails Association on Saturday, June 10.

The Smoky Mountain Segment, when completed, will wind its way 30-40 miles from Cove Lake State Park to the northeast corner of Frozen Head State Park through the wild and beautiful Cumberland Mountains in Campbell, Scott, Morgan and Anderson Counties. Four miles of new trail were carved out of earth and rock in March during the Cumberland Trail Breakaway Program. An additional 4 miles were built in May by a National Sierra Club Service Trip and a 6-week AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC) team in the Royal Blue Wildlife Management Area.

Hikers will be rewarded with waterfalls and cascading creeks, multitudes of wildflowers and curious rock formations while descending the 3-mile trail down Cross Mountain to the trailhead on Red Ash (Cove) Creek just north of the Red Ash Baptist Church. We're making it easy for you - we'll meet at 10am EST at Shoney's in Caryville and a car shuttle will be arranged to the TOP of Cross Mountain and we'll hike DOWN the mountain! Wear hiking boots or good athletic shoes, bring lunch, rain gear and plenty of water (and don't forget sunscreen!). The hike should be completed by 2:30pm EST and then drivers will be shuttled back to the top of Cross Mountain to get their vehicles. For additional information call hike leaders Faith Dippold in Jacksboro at 423-566-8026 or Susan Weber in Crossville at 931-456-6259.

AND, WITHOUT THEIR HELP...

A **BIG thank you** goes to nature artist, Terry Chandler, for his donation of the original "Obed-Maple Bloom" painting of the Obed Wild & Scenic River Segment of the Cumberland Trail, plus 1,000 prints to raise additional funds for the Cumberland Trail.

Another **BIG thank you** goes to auctioneer Bear Stephenson of Clinton, TN, who donated his superb and entertaining auctioneer skills for the evening.

And yet another **BIG thank you** goes to the Garden Plaza Hotel in Oak Ridge for donating the meeting facilities for the auction and providing an elegant and delicious dinner.

We'd like to give special recognition to the Cumberland Trail Auction Committee, affectionately known as "auction elves", who unselfishly gave of their time and efforts over the past five months to round up merchandise and publicize the auction in their communities:

Chairperson: Joni Lovegrove, Oak Ridge

CTC Staff Coordinator: Arleen Scheller

Auction Elves:

Ann Ayers, LaFollette
Ernie Blankenship, Nashville
Bill Eldridge, Crossville
Gary Grametbauer, Kingston
Sam Powell, Chattanooga
David Reister, Oak Ridge
Rob Weber, Pikeville

Auction Elves:

John Bilbrey, Kingston
Al Churcher, Nashville
Sue Eldridge, Crossville
Carol Grametbauer, Kingston
Emilie Powell, Chattanooga
Dan Robbins, Oak Ridge
Susan Weber, Pikeville

Of course, there wouldn't have been an auction without the generous support of all the businesses and individuals throughout Tennessee who gave merchandise and services and who attended the auction! A complete listing is included in the upcoming CTC newsletter.

Now that we've recovered from the First Annual Cumberland Trail Auction - we're already talking about how to make the Second Annual Cumberland Trail Auction even better!

Arleen Scheller, CTC Resource Manager

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Other Chapter Officers:

Listed within each Chapters' header

The Bridgestone/Firestone Centennial Wilderness (Scott's Gulf)

In 1998, Bridgestone/Firestone donated a 4,000-acre tract of land near Sparta, Tennessee to the citizens of Tennessee. In April of 2000, that number was more than doubled for a total of 10,000 acres of land donated. This truly remarkable property will now be known as the Bridgestone/Firestone Centennial Wilderness. Managed by the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, it will be preserved as a wilderness area for all time.

The area donated is known locally as Scott's Gulf. It is one of the last large, untouched wilderness regions east of the Mississippi. It includes the Caney Fork River, which flows for 16 miles through the property, with numerous cascades and waterfalls. The area is nearly adjacent to the Bledsoe State Forest and very near Fall Creek Falls State Resort Park and Natural Area. It also includes the watershed and view of the Virgin Falls State Natural Area. Public use of the property will include low-impact activities such as fishing, canoeing, kayaking, hiking and hunting. Camping, cave exploration and horseback riding will be permitted with restrictions.

To obtain additional information regarding this transaction, visit the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation's website: <http://www.state.tn.us/environment/epo/bridgefire/>

And, watch the newsletter for upcoming hikes into this area.

Newsletter Deadlines:

Copy due the 10th of the month for an announcement to appear on the 1st of the following month

(ie: June 10th submissions will appear July 1st)

Please send all submissions to:

Diane Manas
5729 Stoneway Trail
Nashville, TN 37209
615-352-7777

e-mail: diane.manas@nashville.com
dianemanas@home.com

Tennessee Trails Merchandise Order Form

_____ Hiking Tennessee Trails, 5th Edition..... \$12.95
_____ TTA Patch 3.00
_____ Round embroidered patch, sew it on anything.
_____ TTA Window Decal 1.00
_____ A must for each car.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Ph _____ Work Ph _____

Mail your check payable to:

Tennessee Trails Association
c/o Marietta Poteet
324 Raintree Drive
Hendersonville, TN 37075

Please allow 4 weeks for delivery and prices shown include postage.

Tennessee Trails Association
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NOTICE: YOUR MAILING LABEL CONTAINS YOUR MEMBERSHIP EXPIRATION DATE.

To avoid any interruption with delivering your newsletter, we ask that you renew at least one month before the date shown. Use the Membership Form provided below. If you fail to re-apply we will send you one newsletter and a reminder notice. If you have not re-applied by this time, your membership will terminate.

PLEASE RENEW, STAY INFORMED, WE NEED YOU!!!

**NEW MEMBER AND
RENEWAL MEMBERSHIP FORM**

YES, I want to join Tennessee Trails Association...

(Memberships are for one year, unless you have a Lifetime Membership.)

Please Mail This Form To:
Membership Director
P.O. Box 41446
Nashville, TN 37204-1446

____ Individual \$25.00
____ Family \$35.00
____ Student \$15.00
____ Life Member \$500.00
____ Supporting (\$200.00, \$100.00,
\$50.00 or other)

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____
Home Phone _____ Zip _____
Work Phone _____
e-mail _____

Please list me with the following chapter:

☐ Please do not list my e-mail address in the TTA Annual Membership Directory

____ Big South Fork
____ Clarksville
____ Columbia
____ Cove Lake
____ East TN(Oak Ridge/Knoxville)
____ Memphis
____ Murfreesboro
____ Nashville
____ Plateau(Crossville)
____ Upper Cumberland(Sparta/Cookeville)
____ At Large

...volunteer ?...
endless opportunities
available
contact your local
Chapter Chairperson

When you become a TTA member, you will receive a monthly newsletter containing information on hiker safety, upcoming hikes / overnight trips, volunteer opportunities, chapter meeting announcements as well as events occurring within TTA's Associate Organizations: C.T.C. and T.R.A.C. You are invited to attend any number of monthly meetings scheduled, where you will enjoy diverse programs, socializing and refreshments. Each April you will receive the Membership Directory listing members by chapter and how to reach them. Every spring and fall we meet at one of Tennessee's many parks for a weekend of hiking, camaraderie and where the board members can meet to exchange ideas and hear reports on TTA's progress.

As a member of TTA, you are welcome to attend all TTA / CTC / TRAC functions.