# 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



# bakesale fun

TTA'S ANNUAL MEETING bear (just days away) scer

Nov 9-11

cikes auction

If you have never attended a TTA Annual Meeting weekend, it's not too late to get in on the activities. Even if you missed the October 15 reservation deadline, you are still welcome to join us, however on-site lodging and meals can not be guaranteed. See page 2 for an itinerary of the weekend's events. So, come on out! You can expect a fun-filled weekend of hiking, socializing, entertainment and TTA business. Our meeting, this year, takes place at Camp Carson in Newport, TN, which is within 20 miles of the eastern edge of the Great Smoky Mountains NP ("Davenport Gap").

Several **FUNd**-raising\* activities occur over the course of the weekend. (Bring your coins, cash and checkbook.)

- Bake Sale Hikers need calories, there will be yummy baked goods throughout the weekend.
- White Elephant Sale Better than a flea market. You may find previously loved outdoor gear and household merchandise, like art, books and brica-brac- everything is priced to sell!
- Live Auction Expect a wide variety of top-quality items; from outdoor gear and clothes, hand made quilts and art, to vacation packages.

\*The TTA Board of Directors voted in August to dedicate the fund-raising proceeds to the Cumberland Trail BreakAway programs. Twice per year, college students from all over the nation come to TN to spend 1-3 weeks lovingly building Tennessee's Millennium Legacy Trail and first linear state park - the Cumberland Trail State Park. Funds are used to feed and house our TTA and CTC volunteers, who also give of their time and energy to work along with these students, and to purchase trail materials such as bridge supplies.

In addition to the day hikes and FUNd-raising, there is entertainment each evening. In the past we've had storytellers, comedians (they seem to surface at the auction), music, video presentations and this year promises the same – PLENTY OF FUN! A bluegrass band is planned for Friday evening.

(cont. on pg. 2)

### EVAN MEANS SMALL GRANTS PROGRAM REQUEST DEADLINE Dec 31, 2001

In February 2002, TTA's Board of Directors will award small grants honoring Evan Means. The grants support special volunteer projects that are compatible to the chartered objectives of the TTA: promoting and developing a system of hiking trails in Tennessee as well as working for the conservation of natural resources. Project proposals are due no later than December 31, 2001.

All chapters are encouraged to look within their local area, identify a special trail or park project, request and submit a formal grants application for consideration against the February 2002 Evan Means Small Grant Program Award.

Grant requests in the range of \$300-\$600 are encouraged. However, if a project requires additional grant money, considerations will be made.

For additional information and an application, please write to: TTA Grants Administrator

P. O. Box 41446 Nashville, TN 37204

The small grants program was established in February 1999 to honor Evan Means - journalist, author, conservationist, hiker, trail builder, originator of the Cumberland Trail, and co-founder of the Tennessee Trails Association. Mr. Means has won countless awards for his work over the years to protect Tennessee's natural resources and beauty, as well as for his dedication to projects that allow hikers to enjoy this natural beauty.

## EVENT REPORT: NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY 2001

submitted by Harold Draper

On Sat., Sep. 29, five TTA members were joined by six members of the Hillside Hikers (Somerset, Kentucky) for a day of fun and a little work on the Blue Heron Loop trail in the Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area. This was the fourth year TTA selected BSFNRRA for its NPLD project.

Old signs on the Blue Heron Loop trail had deteriorated severely and became inadequate or hard to read, causing confusion on the trail, therefore needing replacement. Because of strong interest expressed to BSFNRRA by TTA to host a NPLD workday event, park management obtained special authorizations to commission new trailhead and directional signs for us to install during our NPLD event (otherwise they would have never been done). (cont. on pg. 6)

#### ANNUAL MEETING (cont. from pg. 1)

The Plateau chapter, our Annual Meeting host, is requesting help from each chapter to obtain White Elephant items and 6-8 top quality goods/services for the live auction. If you have White Elephant items and/or know a local business that would like to donate goods/services for our live auction, please contact your chapter officer and coordinate your efforts through him/her. Local businesses are a good source for donations because, historically, WE DO PATRONIZE their businesses. TTA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and donations received are tax deductible. A special THANK YOU column will appear in our next newsletter to list all of the merchants and people who helped in making this event a success.

We also need baked goods for the bake sale table. Hikers will need a lot of calories to replace the ones burned on the hiking trails of the Smokies. We welcome cookies, cakes, breads, pies, brownies, and candies. Individually wrapped portions are handy for tucking into daypacks.

#### WE ALSO NEED VOLUNTEERS

As the TTA Annual Meeting has grown, so has the need for more volunteers to help make things happen. Volunteers are needed for Friday and Saturday to prepare for the bake sale and auction. (Volunteer work times will not conflict with the hikes scheduled.) On Friday, we need volunteers, from 4-8pm, to help set up tables, receive and tag bake sale and auction items. On Saturday, we need volunteers, from 7-11pm, to help assist the auctioneers; record bids, and help to close out buyers' tabs (totaling bids & collecting money). Volunteers will be asked to commit to at least one hour. You are welcome to help more than just one hour, if you wish. Don't wait, call today and volunteer, Carolyn Miller: 931-456-4465 (cardan@usit.net) or, Charles Jones: 931-277-3228 (cejones@webtv.net)

## ANNUAL MEETING:

<u>EVENTS</u> Friday	(Eastern Time) 3:00p 5:30p-7:00p 7:00p-8:30p 9:00p	Check-in Begins Dinner Buffet Entertainment Bluegrass Band Bonfire
Saturday	7:30a-9:00a 8:00a-9:00a 5:30p-7:00p 6:30p 7:30p	Breakfast Buffet Depart for Hikes Dinner Buffet Program & Annual Mtg Auction
Sunday	7:30a-9:00a 7:30a-11:00a 8:30a 8:30a 11:00a	Breakfast Buffet Check-out Board Meeting Depart for Hikes Depart for Hikes

<u>DIRECTIONS:</u> (From Knoxville) Carson Spring Baptist Conference Center Take I-40 East to Exit 432B (Newport Exit). This exits from the left-hand lane. As you come off the interstate, you will see an Exxon Station on your right. Turn right just past the Exxon Station onto Carson Springs Road. Stay on the main road. The Carson Springs Baptist Conference Center is about 4 miles up the road on the left.

CARSON SPRING PHONE NUMBERS: 877-704-6336 (toll-free) / 423-623-2764 (local #)

### CENTER HILL DAM TRAIL WORKDAY NOV 17 & 18

In cooperation with the Corps of Engineers, we are planning a workday at the Lost Springs Trail (at the Floating Mills recreation area) and Post Oak Trail (Ragland Bottoms recreation area) of Center Hill Dam, near Smithville, TN. This is a beautiful, largely unknown, trail close to our Middle Tennessee chapters (Columbia, Murfreesboro, Nashville and Plateau). We will remove debris and trash on the trail (may include using a chainsaw), repair the trail corridor and get the trail back into hiker shape.

On Sat, we will work on the Lost Springs Trail. We will meet at 8:30am CST at the Floating Mills campground entrance.

On Sun, we will perform light trail maintenance on the Post Oak Trail. We will meet at 8:30am CST at the Ragland Bottoms campground entrance.

Wear gloves, hiking boots and clothes you don't mind getting dirty and bring snacks, plenty of water and lunch. Some tools will be available, however if you have any of the following, bring them because it'll free up we have so others may use them: clippers, saws, shovels, fire rakes, and pick mattocks.

Camping is available at the Floating Mills campground. The bathhouse is closed for the season; however, there are chemical toilets available. Everyone is responsible for his/her own camping equipment, food and transportation to the park.

For additional information, directions and to volunteer, call Libby Francis (615-889-5718) or Fount Bertram (615-765-5357). Carpooling on each day may be available, just let Libby or Fount know your plans.

## YOUR GENEROSITY BENEFITS ALL

When you join or renew your TTA membership, you may become a "Supporting Member" by donating a little (or a lot) above the regular dues. These donations support any number of TTA projects and programs, and we thank Fount & Anna Bertram (Murfreesboro) and Rick & Carol Jones (East TN) for renewing their 2001 membership as a Supporting Member.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS CANDIDATES Election on Nov 11

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The TTA Board of Directors recommends the following slate of candidates to be elected to the Board by the membership at the Annual Meeting in November.

#### **Proposed Slate:**

President	Leigh Jones Plateau
Vice President	Fount Bertram Murfreesboro
Treasurer	Carol Haley Memphis
Secretary	Anna Clark Northwest
Membership Director	Anne Wesley Nashville
Middle TN Regional Director	Mark Stanfill Murfreesboro

All positions are for one-year terms, except for the regional director position, which is for three years. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor. If you plan to make such a nomination, please contact a member of the nominating committee (Anne Wesley, Dan Brennan, or Jim Poteet) prior to the annual meeting.

## BIG SOUTH FORK CHAPTER

#### **CHAPTER OFFICER:**

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

Nov 9-11 ANNUAL MTG C-U in Newport, TN.

Nov 24 Sunset Overlook Trail, Big South Fork NRRA. Jamestown, TN. Want to get out of the house over the Thanksgiving weekend? Lynn and Tim Takacs will lead us to Sunset Overlook in the BSFNRRA. The trail is 2.6 miles roundtrip and rated easy. Expect a panoramic view of the river gorge from the overlook. We will meet 3pm EST at the trailhead parking area. The parking area is shared with the East Rim Overlook trailhead and very close to the park headquarters. From the park headquarters, take the road across the street, which is sign-posted for the East Rim Overlook; drive .3 miles down the road to the parking area. For additional information and to register, call Lynn or Tim Takacs: 615-824-7048. (After Nov 21, call: 931-879-5220.) Or, you can email them: lynntakacs@home.com

## CLARKSVILLE CHAPTER

#### **CHAPTER OFFICER:**

J.R. Tate 931-920-2692 modelt@charter.net

<u>MEETS:</u> 3<sup>rd</sup> Tues, 7pm, The Crow Community Center, 211 Richview

Nov 3 Virgin Falls Pocket Wilderness. Sparta, TN. This hike is 8 miles round-trip and rated moderate for the long descent to Virgin Falls, difficult for the even longer climb out of Virgin Falls. The area is beautiful and one of our favorite hiking destinations. Bring drinking water, snacks, and lunch. You will be required to wear hiking boots that provide ankle support, as the terrain is quite uneven and rocky in several areas. For additional information, and to obtain meeting time and location, call J.R. Tate 931-920-2692.

**Nov 9-11 ANNUAL MTG** C-U in Newport, TN.

**Nov 17** Fort Donelson National Battlefield. Dover, TN. Resting beautifully above the Cumberland River, this park preserves some of the rugged hills and hollows fought over in Feb. 1862. Join us as we combine Civil War history and nature on this 7-mile easy walk over well-maintained trails. For additional information and to register, call Joanne Brengel: 615 289 4452.

Nov 24 After Thanksgiving Hike, Rotary Park. Clarksville, TN. Had too much turkey, stuffing and dessert the other day? Join us to walk off at least 3 miles worth of calories, on terrain rated easy. For additional information and to register, call Sandi Hamilton: 931-920 2760.

### **COVE LAKE CHAPTER**

#### **CHAPTER OFFICER:**

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

Nov 4 Sand Caves, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park. North of LaFollette, TN. Join us as we venture onto the nearby trails of CGNHP. We will meet 1pm EST in the parking lot behind Eagle Market in Jacksboro. For additional information and to register, call Richard Helm: 865-426-4472, or email him: <a href="mailto:rhelm@ahss.org">rhelm@ahss.org</a>

Nov 9-11 ANNUAL MTG C-U in Newport, TN.

#### COLUMBIA CHAPTER

#### **CHAPTER OFFICER:**

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

There aren't any chapter activities scheduled this month. You are invited to attend any of the events offered by our other TTA chapters.

## EAST TN CHAPTER

(Oak Ridge / Knoxville)

#### **CHAPTER OFFICER:**

Keith Mertz 865-376-4827 keithmertz@hotmail.com

Nov 3 Cumberland Mountain State Park, Crossville. TN. We will combine several short trails in the park to make this hike a 9-mile outing. The Pioneer Short Loop and Pioneer Trail circles Byrd Lake, while the Cumberland Plateau and Byrd Creek trails follow Byrd Creek, just below the Crab Orchard Stone Dam. These trails wander through dark hemlock woods and boulder passages along these watercourses. After the hike, if the group wants to gather for dinner, we will, either in the park restaurant or somewhere in Crossville - bring \$\$\$. We will meet 9am EST at the Roane Co. High School parking lot in Kingston. (Take I-40 East, get off at exit #352. Go to traffic light #4, turn right and go 1/4 mile to the parking lot, on the left.) For additional information and to register, contact Russ Manning: 865-494-8121 or, by email: rssmanning@aol.com

Nov 9-11 **ANNUAL MTG** C-U in Newport, TN.

Nov 17 Schoolhouse Gap and Turkey Pen Ridge trails, GSMNP. Townsend, TN. This is a one-way hike and requires a car shuttle. This easy 4.7-mile hike will provide views of Thunderhead, and wind in and out of forests while passing the remains of homes and farms that were once in the area. We will meet 9am EST in the parking area at the Townsend "Y." From here, we'll arrange the carpools and set up the car shuttle. Cars will be left at each trailhead along Laurel Creek Road. For additional information and to register, call Esther Ruffner: 865-281-0567. After Esther's hike we'll meet at Carol and Rick Jones' home for a chapter business meeting. (See **CHAPTER MEETING** below.)

#### < < AFTER THE HIKE > > >

**CHAPTER MEETING** Join us for our annual Nov 17 business meeting. Carol and Rick Jones have invited us to meet at their home to plan our 2002 hike schedule and discuss any other business presented. Bring your list of favorite hiking destinations and activities you would like to see offered in the coming year. Our meeting will begin at 1pm, after Esther Ruffner's hike (see announcement above). Refreshments and snacks will be provided. To find Carol & Rick's home: address 1637 Winding Ridge Trail, phone 865-675-5205 and directions Heading south on I-140, toward Maryville, get off at the Northshore Dr. exit and turn right. Go about a mile until you see the Lenoir City Utilities Board substation on the right. Turn right at the next road past the substation (Maple Seed). Maple Seed will dead-end into Winding Ridge Trail, turn right and start up the hill. The house is on the left, about 1/4 mile up Winding Ridge Trail and directly across from Scenic Valley Dr.

Nov 23 (Fri) Post Thanksgiving 'Get the Fat Off' Hike, Frozen Head State Park. Wartburg, TN. Had a little too much mashed potatoes and pumpkin pie yesterday? Well, here's your chance to walk it off and visit Frozen Head SP one last time, assuming that the park closes on Nov. 30. The plan is to hike up North Old Mac trail, along the jeep road to Coffin Spring, maybe a little 'off trail' to Squire Knob campsite. Then pick up the jeep road to the Bird Mtn. trail, on to Castle Rock, and then back down to the parking area. Estimated hiking distance 11 miles? 12 miles? Maybe 13, who's counting? Bring lots of food (especially pumpkin pie), water to wash it down, and wear clothing appropriate for the weather. We will meet 9am EST at Frozen Head's visitors center. For further information and to register, call Keith Mertz: 865-376-4827 or, email him: keithmertz@hotmail.com

## MEMPHIS CHAPTER

**OFFICER:** 

Frederick Belton 901-327-3674 fbelton@hotmail.com

**ELECTED BOARD REPRESENTATIVE:** 

Gloria Lenski 901-213-0604 glorialenski@yahoo.com

MEETS: 3<sup>rd</sup> Thur, 7pm, Germantown Library (Sept-May)

Nov 3 Meeman-Shelby Forest Trail Workday. Millington, TN. Meet 9am CST at the park's visitors center. Wear clothes you don't mind getting dirty, and bring water, lunch, gloves and tools (one or several: shovels, clippers, saw, fire rake, and pick mattock). For information and to volunteer, call Ken Novak: 901-377-9127.

Nov 9-11 ANNUAL MTG C-U in Newport, TN.

**Nov 15 MONTHLY MEETING.** Ken Novak, a member of TTA for ten years and dedicated volunteer for trail building and maintenance, will present a slide program on his visits to Mt. Rainier National Park. Mount Rainier, a 14,411-foot inactive volcano, is the most heavily glaciated peak in the contiguous United States and offers an exciting challenge to a mountaineer and low-land hiker. Join us and bring a friend to hear Ken's Mt. Rainier experience.

Nov 24 After Thanksgiving Hike, Ft. Pillow State Park. Henning, TN. Hiking, it's a good thing to do after the Thanksgiving feast. This hike is 8 miles, and the terrain is rated moderate. Expect to encounter many rugged hills (we need to burn the calories!) because the trail passes over one of the Chickasaw Bluffs. We will meet 9am CST at the Park Interpretative Center. For additional information, to register and make carpooling plans, call John Martin: 901-386-3722.

<u>Dec 8</u> Harbor Town Holiday Lights Night Hike. Memphis, TN. This is an easy hike, and hope everyone will attend. Expect to see lots of holiday lights. We will meet 6pm CST in the Peabody Hotel lobby, near the Christmas Tree and walk down to Harbor Town, along the river, then ride the trolley back to the Peabody Hotel. For additional information, call Carolyn Pierce: 901-755-5635.

## MURFREESBORO CHAPTER

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** 

Fount Bertram 615-765-5357 fwbertram@hotcom.net

HIKE COORDINATOR: (Call Brent & volunteer to lead a hike)

Brent Morris 931-728-8191 bmorris@edge.net

<u>MEETS:</u> 2<sup>nd</sup> Tues, 7pm, Wilderness Station @ Barfield-Crescent Park, 697 Barfield Rd.

Nov 3 Unnamed Trail, Edgar Evans State Park. Silver Point, TN. This is your chance to hike one of Tennessee's newest trails! This scenic 8-10 mile hike is rated moderate. Wear your hiking duds, sturdy boots and be sure to pack water and a lunch. We'll meet 9am CST at the park's ranger station (Observation Tower). To register and make carpool arrangements, call Fount Bertram: 615-765-5357 or, email him: <a href="mailto:fwbertram@hotcom.net">fwbertram@hotcom.net</a>

Nov 9-11 ANNUAL MTG C-U in Newport, TN.

**Nov 13 MONTHLY MEETING.** Come learn hiker safety tips, hear about past and upcoming hiking trips, meet/greet members/friends and see a fun-filled program presentation from a like-minded outdoor enthusiast. Lots in store!

Nov 17-18 (Sat-Sun) North Rim Trail Backpack Outing, Savage Gulf State Natural Area. Beersheba Springs, TN. We'll do an overnight trip on the gorgeous North Rim trail. Tentative plans are to hike 12 to 15 miles and to camp at Hobbs cabin. Registration is required. For additional information, call Mark Stanfill: 615-867-0847 or, email him: athike817@netzero.net

Nov 23 Old Stone Fort State Park. Manchester, TN. Here's your chance to walk off those Thanksgiving Day calories! This is a scenic 3-mile walk on terrain rated as moderate. We'll follow the paths walked by the ancient Woodland Indians and inspect the archaeological wonders on display in the park's museum. Meet at 9am CST at the park office. For additional information and to register, call Brent Morris: 931-454-1718, or email him: bmorris@edge.net

## NASHVILLE CHAPTER

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** 

Dan Brennan 615-8374324

osrwodan@aol.com

**HIKE COORDINATOR:** 

(Call Elizabeth & volunteer to lead a hike)

Elizabeth Gerlock 615-356-6260

eygerlock@aol.com

**MEETS**: 4<sup>th</sup> 7

4<sup>th</sup> Tues, 7pm.

NEW LOCATION !!!

St. Bernard Academy

2021 21<sup>st</sup> Ave South

HIKING HOTLINE

615-367-7045

Laurel-Snow Trail, Bowater Pocket Nov 3 Wilderness. Dayton, TN. This trail was the first national recreation trail designated in TN. The area was developed extensively, about 85 years ago, for its coal and lumber and you will see remnants of the coal mining and narrow-guage railway operations. The plan is to hike to both Laurel (70ft.high) and Snow Falls; therefore the total round-trip hiking distance is 101/2 miles. The terrain is rated moderate. There are several bridged creek crossings and two overlooks along the way. This may be the last week for fall foliage; you may want to bring a camera. Wear hiking boots and bring water, snacks and lunch. We will meet at 7am CST in the Kinko's parking area of the K-Mart on Donelson Pike (Exit 216C off of I-40). For additional information and to register, call Keith White: 615-305-9078.

Nov 3

Joelton, TN. Now that the bugs are gone and the ground cover has died back, Forrest Evans will be leading us on some serious off-trail explorations in this beautiful park close to Nashville. Please set aside the entire day (9a-4p) so we can take our time discovering the topography, creeks, plants and wildlife in this still-to-be-discovered area. Beaman Park is not officially opened to the public, use is by permit only and space is limited. At the time this newsletter was going to the printer, a meeting spot had not been determined. Therefore, when making your reservation with Nancy Dorman (615-299-9586), ask her for the meeting location.

Nov 4 NRRA. Jamestown, TN. We should have good fall colors on this 7½-mile hike, rated moderate. The trail follows Massey Branch and Rock Creek, while passing unusual rock formations and an abandoned railroad bed. Bring lunch and water. We will meet at 6:45am CST, for a 7am departure, in the Kinko's parking area of the K-Mart on Donelson Pike (Exit 216C off of I-40). For additional information and to register, call: Jim or Marietta Poteet: 615-824-7666.

Nov 9-11 ANNUAL MTG C-U in Newport, TN. (cont. on pg. 5)

Happy Thanksgiving

## NASHVILLE (cont. from pg. 4)

Nov 17 Perimeter Trail, Montgomery Bell State Park. Burns, TN. The Perimeter Trail is 11½ miles and rated easy for the terrain, moderate for the length. The leaves should be off the trees, making it easy to spot the many turkeys residing here. We may even see an owl or two. Hiking boots are a must! Bring snacks, lunch and water. We will meet in the Kroger parking lot on Charlotte Pike, one block west of Whitebridge Rd (Exit 204 off of I-40). For additional information, meeting time and to register, call Diane Manas: 615-352-7777.

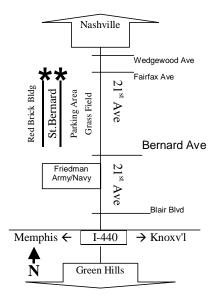
'Last Chance' Car-camp and Day-Hike at Nov 17-18 Frozen Head State Park. Wartburg, TN. Just in case you haven't heard, FHSP is one of the parks slated for closure at the end of this month. Doug Burroughs has arranged campground reservations for us to stay Sat night, and will lead us on hikes, both Sat & Sun. Come hike, one or both days. Everyone is responsible for his/her own camping equipment, food and transportation to the park. Carpooling is an option for anyone joining us on Sat morning. The plan is to meet and leave Sat morning from the Kinko's/K-Mart parking lot on Donelson Pike (Exit 216C off of I-40) at 7am CST, drive to FHSP, hike all day, then set up camp for the evening. For additional information and to register, call Doug Burroughs: 615-292-9307. On Sat, we'll hike Bird Mountain trail to the Lookout Tower and come down via South Old Mac. This loop is about 13 miles and rated difficult, due to the distance, elevation gain, and risk of bad weather (it can get a lot colder and windier up at the top!). Sturdy hiking boots are required! In addition, you will need to dress appropriately for the weather and bring water, snacks and lunch. On Sun, we will get an early start and pick a different and probably shorter loop.

Beaman Park Folklore Hike. Joelton, TN. Come Nov 18 hear local folklore, presented by G.P. West, in a way they can truly be enjoyed – in the great outdoors. This is an all-ages event and ideal for families with middle-aged children. Beaman Park is not officially opened to the public, use is by permit only and space is limited. We will be meeting at 1pm CST, and at the time this newsletter was going to the printer, a meeting spot had not been determined. Therefore, when making your reservation with Nancy Dorman (615-299-9586), ask her for the meeting location. (Fri) After Thanksgiving Day Hike, Warner Park. Nashville, TN. Had a little too much turkey, stuffing and pumpkin pie yesterday? Well, here's your chance to walk some of it off. We will hike the Mossy Ridge and Warner Woods trails in the Percy Warner side of Warner Park. The hike is 7 miles and rated moderate. Bring snacks (leftovers are good), lunch (leftovers will work) and water. Hiking boots are recommended for this terrain. We'll meet at 9:45am CST, after all of the retail early-bird shopping hours have ended, at the flagpole just inside the entrance to the park at end of Belle Meade Boulevard. For additional information and to register, call Diane Manas: 615-352-7777.

Nov 24 Unnamed Trail, Edgar Evans State Park. Silver Point, TN. Missed yesterday's hike, didn't burn off those Thanksgiving calories yet? We'll burn 'em up over this 8-10 mile scenic trail, built by TTA and volunteers this past June. The terrain is quite rugged and therefore rated moderate to difficult. Hiking boots are required. Bring snacks, lunch and water. We will meet in the Kinko's parking area of the K-Mart on Donelson Pike (Exit 216C off of I-40). For additional information, meeting time and to register, call Diane Manas: 615-352-7777.

Nov 27 MONTHLY MEETING. Backpackers among us will testify: nothing finishes off a day on the trail like a leisurely survey of the night sky. Kinda balances all that looking down during the hike. Our special guest is Kris McCall, Director of the Sudekum Planetarium, who will enrich our stargazing experience with her great knowledge and enthusiasm. No specific topic had been fixed as of press time, but you can bet the sky's the limit.

Don't forget, we are now meeting at:
St. Bernard Academy
2021 21<sup>st</sup> Ave S.
½ MILE North of the
I-440 / 21<sup>st</sup> Ave intersection



#### **PLANNING AHEAD:**

Dec 1 Newcomers\* Hike, Radnor Lake State Natural Area. Nashville, TN. With the trees bare or almost bare, the trunks and branches standing out black against the sky, and the lake more visible from the trails than in summer, we will have views of the lake through most of our hike. The wildlife here is accustomed to seeing people and doesn't scare easily so there is a good possibility of seeing deer, owls, heron and the few ducks that make RLSNA their home. We will meet at 8:30 CST in the parking area of the park's visitors center for this 4-mile moderate hike by combining the Ganier Ridge, Lake, and South Cove trails. This park charges a daily use fee of \$3 per car, unless you have the annual State Park pass, so bring \$3. For additional information and to register, call Dan Brennan: 615-837-4324.

\*Are you new to Nashville? Hiking? Interested in checking out a hiking club? Or, just want a gentler hike? This is the hike for you. Meet new, as well as seasoned hikers who also share your desire to being outdoors. You are encouraged to use this time to learn about hiking and TTA while enjoying the great outdoors with friendly people.

(Planning Ahead cont. on pg. 6)

## **NASHVILLE**

(cont. from pg. 5)

#### PLANNING AHEAD cont.

Grundy Forest Day Loop, Fiery Gizzard and Dec 1 Dog Hole Trails, Grundy Forest State Natural Area. Tracy City, TN. Members of the Northwest chapter will join us. This is a great opportunity to hike with members we don't see very often. The combination of trails we hike creates this loop trail, approximately 8 miles in length and considered moderate to strenuous. The Fiery Gizzard trail is a rock-hop where you will be watching the placement of your feet each step of the way. Travel through this area will be slow, challenging and the strenuous portion for the day. Our destination (and lunch) is Raven Point, which provides a panoramic view of the Fiery Gizzard Creek gorge. Hiking boots are required! Bring snacks, lunch and water. For additional information, meeting time and location, and to register, call Richard Horvath: 270-586-0178.

#### < < < AFTER THE HIKE >>>

Compete in the "Tennessee Cook-off," a backcountry culinary competition planned by Chris Fox of the Northwest chapter. For details, see Northwest's announcements.

<u>Dec 2</u> Bearwaller Gap Hiking Trail. Carthage, TN. This is Corps of Engineers property where the trail follows the shoreline of the Cumberland River and provides many overlooks, from the bluffs we pass along the way, of Cordell Hull Lake and Dam. The views are dramatic and often wild turkeys and waterfowl can be seen. This is a one-way hike and requires a car shuttle between the Tater Knob Overlook and Defeated Creek Recreation Area. The trail is 5.7 miles and rated moderate for the several rolling hills we will climb. Hiking boots are a must. Bring snacks, lunch and water. We will meet 8am CST in the Kinko's parking area of the K-Mart on Donelson Pike (Exit 216C off of I-40). For additional information and to register, call Jim or Marietta Poteet: 615-824-7666.

<u>Dec 2</u> Pre-winter Hike in Beaman Park. Joelton, TN. Liz Garrigan is our hike leader through this gem of a park, that is still undeveloped, with many beautiful geological sights and yet so close to home. Beaman Park is not officially opened to the public, use is by permit only and space is limited. We will be meeting at 1pm CST, and at the time this newsletter was going to the printer, a meeting spot had not been determined. Therefore, when making your reservation with Nancy Dorman (615-299-9586), ask her for the meeting location.

#### NPLD (cont. from pg. 1)

Volunteers dug 24 postholes and put together the new signs with bolts and screws. As a result of our efforts, 12 new trail signs were installed. Also, a second work crew removed blow-downs on 6½ miles of trail.

The day was not all work, volunteers took time to socialize, view wildflowers, hike the Devil's Jump Overlook and Crack-in-the Rocks, a unique geologic formation the trail goes under.

Special thanks to the following for a very successful NPLD event: Richard Horvath, Jim & Marietta Poteet, Keith Mertz, Jo Ann Rose and members of the Hillside Hikers from Somerset, KY.

## NORTHWEST CHAPTER

(UT at Martin / Weakley County)

#### **CHAPTER OFFICERS:**

Jim Clark

Joe Seago

731-587-7369 / 2225 jclark@utm.edu 731-588-5836

ioeseago@backpacker.com

MEETS: 2<sup>nd</sup> Thur, 7pm, UT Martin Campus, Boling University Center, Room 231

website: www.utm.edu/~jclark/trails/

Please visit our website, regularly, for announcements about upcoming meetings, hikes and events.

**Nov 8 MONTHLY MEETING.** Come learn hiker safety tips, hear about past and upcoming hiking trips, meet/greet members/friends and see a fun-filled program presentation from a like-minded outdoor enthusiast. Lots in store! See you 7pm at the Boling University Center on the UT Martin campus, Room UC 231.

Nov 9-11 ANNUAL MTG C-U in Newport, TN.

Nov 24 Thanksgiving Weekend Hike, Fort Pillow State State Historic Area. Henning, TN. All the details of this outing were not available at the time this newsletter was going to press. Don't wait until the last moment to call and get information, call Jim Clark: 731-587-2225, or you can email Jim: <a href="mailto:jclark@utm.edu">jclark@utm.edu</a>

### **PLANNING AHEAD:**

PART 1 of 2 Grundy Forest Day Loop, Fiery Gizzard Dec 1 and Dog Hole Trails, Grundy Forest State Natural Area. Tracy City, TN. We will be joining the Nashville Chapter members for PART 1 of this day's events. This is a great opportunity to hike with members we don't see very often. The combination of trails we hike creates this loop trail, approximately 8 miles in length and considered moderate to strenuous. The Fiery Gizzard trail is a rockhop where you will be watching the placement of your feet each step of the way. Travel through this area will be slow, challenging and the strenuous portion for the day. Our destination (and lunch) is Raven Point, which provides a panoramic view of the Fiery Gizzard Creek gorge. Hiking boots are required! Bring snacks, lunch and water. For additional information, meeting time and location, and to register, call Chris Fox: 731-586-4744, or email him: towndawg@hotmail.com

#### < < < AFTER THE HIKE >>>

PART 2 of 2 "Tennessee Cook-off," Grundy Forest/South Cumberland State Natural Area. Tracy City, TN. This is an add-on event to the Fiery Gizzard/ Raven Point/Dog Hole Loop dayhike. Everyone is invited to participate in the cook-off, even if you did not do the hike before the cook-off. This said, here's an opportunity to show off your "back country" culinary talents. There is no fee to enter. You just need to make enough to share with the judge(s) and others competing. Rather than making the drive home, the plan is to camp in the vicinity of Foster Falls, be it the campsite at Foster Falls or the TVA campground nearby. The fee to camp will be divided among those present. (Everyone is responsible for his/her own camping equipment, food and transportation to the park. Carpooling is an option.) COOK-OFF RULES: All ingredients have to be within the realm of "backpacked" in. No coolers, propane grills or MREs!

Visit Chris' website for cook-off announcements: <a href="http://members.tripod.com/towndawg/cookoff.htm">http://members.tripod.com/towndawg/cookoff.htm</a>, or for additional information and to register, call Chris Fox: 731-586-4744, or email him: towndawg@hotmail.com

## PLATEAU CHAPTER

(Crossville)

#### **CHAPTER OFFICER:**

Bill Haynes 931-707-7606 billhaynes@citlink.net

MEETS: 3rd Thurs, 7pm, Crossville Housing Authority

There is an informal, leaderless hike every Wednesday morning at 8:30am CST. Meet at the boat launch area of the Cumberland Mtn. State Park. The hikes are moderately paced and may average 5-6 miles. For information, call Bill Haynes: 931-707-7606. Rain cancels.

<u>Nov 2-3</u> Volunteer Work Weekend. Grassy Cove (Crossville, TN.) and Obed WSR Segments (Wartburg, TN.) of the Cumberland Trail. The Plateau Chapter will work on our adopted segment of the CT, the Grassy Cove Segment, as well as participate in building new trail on the Obed WSR Segment of the CT. We will be joining the Cumberland Trail Conference for their annual Fall Cabin Weekend of "adult" volunteers to perform trail building, maintenance, inspection, and cleanup. Bring lunch and plenty of water. Tools will be provided. We will meet 7:30am CST at the Cumberland Mtn. State Park visitors center. For information and to volunteer, call Tanya Pile: 931-456-6259 (CTC Office).

Nov 9-11 ANNUAL MTG C-U in Newport, TN.

**Nov 15 MONTHLY MEETING.** Come learn hiker safety tips, hear about past and upcoming hiking trips, meet/greet members/friends and see a fun-filled program presentation from a like-minded outdoor enthusiast. Lots in store! See you at 7pm CST at the Crossville Housing Authority.

Nov 24 Grassy Cove Segment of the CT, Brady Mountain. Crossville, TN. Ate too much turkey and dressing the other day? Time to walk it off while enjoying this scenic 7½-mile segment of the CT through the Grassy Cove area. The terrain is rated easy to moderate. Bring lunch and water. We will meet 8am CST at the Cumberland Mtn. State Park visitors center. For additional information and to register, call Bill Eldridge: 931-456-4459.

#### LOOKING AHEAD:

<u>Dec 8</u> Stone Door to Ranger Falls, South Cumberland State Recreation Area. Beersheba Springs, TN. Come explore the "Stone Door" on this 6-mile outing. The terrain is rated as difficult due to the many rocks, covered by fallen leaves, we walk (stumble) over. Bring lunch and plenty of water. We will meet at 7am CST at the Cumberland Mtn. State Park visitors center. For additional information and to register, call Charles or Leigh Jones: 931-277-3228.

<u>Dec 13</u> **ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY.** (Replaces our monthly meeting.) Bring your appetite, a potluck dish, and gift (don't forget the gift exchange!) as we gather for socializing, eating and merriment, at the home of Sandra and Bill Haynes (1026 Holiday Dr., Crossville) for our Annual Holiday Party. Festivities start at 6pm CST. For directions, call Bill or Sandra: 931-707-7606.

### Moved? Have a New Address?

THESE ARE A FEW WAYS YOU CAN NOTIFY US OF YOUR CHANGES:

- Internet: Visit our website (<u>www.tennesseetrails.org</u>), navigate to "Member Services," select and fill out the "Electronic Address Change Form."
- Mail: Using the New/Renewal Membership Form (on pg. 10), fill in your new information, write on the form "address change" and mail to the address shown on the membership form.
- Phone: Call our Membership Director, Anne Wesley: 615-851-1052.

## UPPER CUMBERLAND CHAPTER

(Sparta / Cookeville)

#### **CHAPTER OFFICERS:**

Helen Angelmier 931-858-5947 helena@cookeville.com Sue Bass 931-528-1386

take-a-hike@onemain.com

Nov 9-11 ANNUAL MTG C-U in Newport, TN.

Nov 10 Hidden Passage Trail, Pickett State Park. Jamestown, TN. The Hidden Passage trail is named for the natural sandstone tunnel through a bluff. We enjoyed hiking this one last winter and wanted to experience it in other seasons as it is called "a trail for all seasons." The hike is 10 miles and rated easy for the terrain, moderate for the distance. Bring plenty of water and lunch. We have two locations to pick up a carpool. The first one meets at 7:30am CST at the First Star Bank in Sparta on Highway 111. The second meets at 8am CST at the Penney's in Cookeville. For additional information and to register, call Valrie McNeal: 931-520-3424.

Honey Creek Loop Trail, Big South Fork Nov 17 National River and Recreation Area. Jamestown, TN. This is a hike many of us have wanted to do for a long time. This 5 mile loop trail is one of the most difficult in TN. Difficult for the uneven terrain, slippery creek bed we must walk along and the tree roots all over the trail. It is also one of the most beautiful, green all year due to the laurel and rhododendron that provide cover. Plan to hike this area slowly and be out most of the day. Hiking boots that provide ankle support are required! Bring snacks, lunch and plenty of water. We have two locations to pick up a carpool. The first one meets at 7:30am CST at the First Star Bank in Sparta on Highway 111. The second meets at 8am CST at the Penney's in Cookeville. For additional information and to register, call Bonnie or Wayne Broadway: 931-837-3696 or 931-520-8827. Or, you can email them: jwb@multipro.com

#### **HIKE REPORTS:**

On Sep 13, nineteen people gathered for a barbecue potluck dinner at Cane Creek Park in Cookeville. Both companionship and food were terrific (we have an abundance of great cooks), and we look forward to the hikes enthusiastically planned for the months ahead.

On Sep 15, four of our hikers started the fall hiking season early by taking a spontaneous hike on the Rim Trail at Stone Door in the South Cumberland State Recreation Area. It was a little warm, but then a nice breeze would come through to cool us off. We saw several different types of fall wildflowers.

On Sep 25, twelve hikers went to Laurel Falls, in the Virgin Falls Bowater Pocket Wilderness area, and had a nice hike. They reported seeing many varieties of fall wildflowers.

On Oct 6, nine of us hiked the Pawpaw Trail, at Fall Creek Falls State Park, plus all three of the overlooks. The weather was pretty questionable when we started out, but it became a most beautiful fall day. After a pleasant lunch at the park restaurant, we decided to hike the lake trail. We eventually walked over eight miles while enjoying the fall colors.

## CUMBERLAND TRAIL CONFERENCE

#### **CUMBERLAND TRAIL CONFERENCE CONTACTS:**

Executive Director ....... Rob Weber..... robweber@usit.net
Resource Manager ...... Arleen Scheller ..... scheller@usit.net
Program Coordinator ..... Tanya Pile..... tmeachen@onemain.com
Office Manager ...... Susan Weber ..... sweber1@usit.net

Office Location 19 East 4<sup>th</sup> Street

Crossville, TN 38555

Office Hours 8am-5pm Phone: 931-456-6259 Fax: 931-456-4934

Email: <a href="mailto:cumberlandtrail@rocketmail.com">cumberlandtrail@rocketmail.com</a>
Website: <a href="mailto:www.cumberlandtrail.org">www.cumberlandtrail.org</a>

## Pathways for People...People for Nature Campaign Update

Arleen Scheller and Rob Weber of the Cumberland Trail Conference (CTC) are happy to report that all six of the *Pathways for People ... People for Nature* capital campaign kickoff events hosted, in Crossville, Oak Ridge, Nashville, LaFollette, Knoxville, and Chattanooga, received rave reviews from guests. The kickoffs have generated a lot of interest and enthusiasm for the Cumberland Trail (CT) and educated over 1,000 guests who attended the events, as well as 3,000 more who received letters and information about the CT.

Many chapters of the Tennessee Trails Association (TTA) have also kicked off their internal gift-giving campaign for the CT, with Rob Weber and/or Arleen Scheller having made presentations to the Clarksville, Cove Lake, Nashville, Murfreesboro, Memphis, and Plateau chapters. Stay tuned for presentations in the Columbia, East Tennessee, Big South Fork, and Northwest chapters. The goal is to obtain 100% participation from TTA members. (The bill for CTC's first major Cumberland Trail land acquisition comes due Dec. 15, 2001, for \$1.2 million dollars . . . so please be generous when making contributions!)

The Pathways for People ... People for Nature capital campaign will be successful using the same strategy the CTC is using to build the Cumberland Trail - lots of people and communities working together. The "big" donations are wonderful and have helped to get Pathways for People ... People for Nature capital campaign jump-started, but never underestimate the power of the "little" donations. Just as volunteers are donating thousands of hours of time (over 43,000 hours recorded in the past four years) building the trail yard-by-yard, and mile-by-mile, thousands of donations of all sizes will bring us closer to the campaign goal of \$3 million.

Fund-raising possibilities are limitless ...

- Check with your employer to see if they will match your donation
- Challenge your friends to match your gift.
- Host a fundraising dinner at your home
- Put Cumberland Trail brochures out at work
- Get kids involved collect change at schools
- Lead a hike on the Cumberland Trail to get donors interested

Rob Weber and/or Arleen Scheller will be happy to do a Cumberland Trail presentation to an organization, club, or business in your community. Just give 'em a call, or email 'em! Chances are one of them will be in or near your community on a regular basis! Rob, Arleen and staff of the Cumberland Trail Conference can provide you with any Cumberland Trail brochures and maps as well as *Pathways for People ... People for Nature* capital campaign brochures, pledge cards, etc. Just call. 931-456-6259.

#### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Cumberland Trail Conference Immediate F/T Job Opening

Program Coordinator

Help develop the Cumberland Trail State Park. Provide organization and leadership to CTC's non-profit Volunteer Trail Building & Educational Programs. Must have transportation. Position based in Crossville, TN. For more information or to schedule an interview, call the CTC office: 931-456-6259. For a complete job description, visit our webpage: www.cumberlandtrail.org/jobs.htm

## Volunteer Outings on the Cumberland Trail

No Experience? On-site trail training is available.

Nov 2-4 Volunteer Cabin Weekend. Join CTC and friends for an adult weekend of trail construction on the Obed Segment. That's right, Rob has finally given us the go ahead on completing the last four miles of the Obed Segment from Devils Breakfast Table to Hebbertsburg Road. CTC will host an evening of great food and quality entertainment following work on Sat. in appreciation of all our volunteers who have worked with us throughout the year. The group will stay in cabins at Cumberland Mountain State Park.

Nov 2-Dec 15

A National Civilian Community Corps
AmeriCorps Team will be coming to
Tennessee again this winter to help build the
Cumberland Trail! The team of 12 will be
housed at Cove Lake State Park and will
work to continue trail construction on the I-75
corridor to Devil's Racetrack. Come on out,
meet and work along side these special
volunteers who come year after year to help
us.

Nov 17-18 FrontCountry Outing on the I-75 Corridor. This two-day outing takes us to the area along the I-75 corridor in hopes of completing the trail from the Cove Lake trailhead to the Devil's Racetrack. We will be staying at the Cove Lake State Park nature center and ranger residence. Volunteers are responsible for their own sleeping bag and mat, mess kit, and food.

For more information and to volunteer, call Tanya Pile: 931-456-6259 or, email her: <a href="mailto:tmeachen@onemain.com">tmeachen@onemain.com</a>

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Newsletter Editor

Diane Manas 615-352-7777

dianemanas@home.com

## **Newsletter Deadlines:**

Announcements and articles received on/before November10<sup>th</sup> will appear in our

December 1<sup>st</sup> newsletter

Articles submitted are subject to editing and will be included as space permits.

Please send all submissions to:

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

e-mail: dianemanas@home.com

## ADOPT-A-TRAIL NEWS

#### **ADOPT-A-TRAIL OFFICER:**

Harold Draper 865-689-7757 h.m.draper@att.net

Have you considered ...

Maintaining a particular trail or section of trail?

Through the cooperation of land managers, who periodically inform us of volunteer opportunities, TTA can put you in touch with several Adopt-A-Trail programs, or offer suggestions on how to approach local land managers in your area.

The Adopt-A-Trail program is quite simple and flexible. Volunteers or chapters select the trail they wish to adopt and at the same time determine the level of trail maintenance they wish to undertake. Their only commitment is to hike, inspect, and report on the trail's conditions and maintenance needs twice per year. Light trail maintenance (clipping, pruning, trash and minor blow-down removal) is encouraged during each inspection. Serious trail problems identified will be reported to the local land management agency for resolution.

To obtain an Adopt-A-Trail or Trail Inspection form, call Harold Draper: 865-689-7757

# TENNESSEE RAILS-TRAILS ADVISORY COUNCIL (TRAC)

#### **BOARD REPRESENTATIVE:**

Jim Deming 615-354-9767 jdeming49@aol.com website: http://members.aol.com/trac2trail/depot.htm

MISSION: To act as a resource and mentor for 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.

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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!!!

YES, I WANT TO JOIN TENNESSEE TR	Please Mail This Form To:				
A NEW MEMBER		Membership Director P.O. Box 41446			
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(Memberships are for one year, unless you have a L	ifetime Membership.)				
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Life Member \$500.00	Home Phone ()	Zip			
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\$50.00 or other)	email				
,		n the TTA Annual Membership Directory			
Please list me with the following chapter:					
Big South Fork	Murfreesboro	volunteer ?			
Clarksville	Nashville	endless opportunities available			
Columbia	Northwest(UT at Martin/Weakley)	contact your local Chapter Officer			
	Plateau(Crossville)	(			
East TN(Oak Ridge/Knoxville)	Upper Cumberland(Sparta/Cookeville)				
	At Large				
When you become a TTA member, you will receive a					
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 mem					
many parks for a weekend of hiking, camaraderie and					
As a mambar of TTA you are	walaama ta attand all TTA	/ CTC / TDAC functions			