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



The Big Dig! TTA Turns Out For National Trails Day!

At least 22 TTA members converged on Soddy Daisy to celebrate National Trails Day on June 7. They put fire rakes to the duff, mattocks to the soil, bars to the rocks, clippers to the roots, and loppers to the limbs – leaving a fine trail behind them as they hiked out of Possum Creek gorge. Well, perhaps I should say, they left a fine trail behind them as they slogged, rather than hiked, out of Possum Creek gorge. The weather, after all, decided that an intense "rinse" of the area was in order.

We salute the courage and determination of those who braved the elements to build the Cumberland Trail on that Saturday. After all, they could have turned off their alarm clocks, squinted at the rain outside, turned over in their nice comfy beds, and slept for a few extra hours. But, the "Call of the Trail" was more insistent than their wish for more sleep ... or maybe it was knowing that Carol and Ray Haley, Betty Porter, and Elizabeth Wright were cooking up a scrumptious meal for them upon their return from the outing. (We've learned many things during this, our first, Big Dig. One, is that good food is a very powerful motivator!)

So, a special thanks to the following TTA friends who came out to create this new trail, which will provide healthy enjoyment to hikers for generations to come:

♦ Andy Arbuckle ♦ Fount Bertram ♦ Marvin Caine ♦ Vera Churcher ♦ Charlie Doggett ♦ Harold Draper ♦ Libby Francis ♦ Jenice Johnson ♦ Jim Johnson ♦ Jennifer Kasten ♦ Martin McCullough ♦ Carolyn Miller ♦ Brent Morris ♦ Beverly Neurock ♦ June Parker ♦ Jim Schroeder ♦ Russ Sims ♦ Russell Smith ♦ Barry Spearman ♦ Alan Stokes ♦ Richard Wallace ♦ Anne Wesley ♦ Clara Whitmire ♦

(cont. on pg. 2)

Pathways for People, People for Nature Campaign Update

We are very pleased to report that the Merck Family Fund of Boston, MA., recently awarded a \$25,000 grant for the Pathways for People, People for Nature campaign, and we received a \$25,000 grant from the Benwood Foundation of Chattanooga. Other foundation or corporate gifts received since the last Cumberland Trail Conference newsletter include Bell South \$10,000, Baptist Health Foundation of Knoxville \$10,000, Alexian Foundation \$5,000, Federal Express \$5,000, and Exxon Mobil \$2,000.

These gifts, along with individual donations, bring the campaign's total to \$1.7 million. We are in the process of gearing up for Phase II of the campaign, "The Gorgeous Gorges of the Eastern Cumberland Plateau" to raise funds to acquire another four river gorges (6,000 acres) for the Cumberland Trail State Park - North Chickamauga, Laurel-Snow, Piney River, and Stinging Fork Pocket Wilderness Areas - some of OUR FAVORITE HIKING PLACES!!

Board of Directors' Meeting Saturday, August 2, 2003 St. Bernard Academy Building Nashville, TN.

TTA's Board of Directors will be meeting on Saturday, August 2, in the Nature Conservancy Conference Room in the St. Bernard Academy Building at 2021 21st Ave. South in Nashville, TN.

The members of the *Budget Committee* are asked to meet at 12:00pm CT, prior to the start of the general Board of Directors' meeting.

The general board meeting begins at 1:00 p.m. CT.

ALL! TTA members are invited and encouraged to attend. If you cannot attend and have an issue you wish presented, forward your concerns prior to July 29 to your local Chapter Officer or Regional At-Large Director.

The St. Bernard Academy building is ½ mile north of the I-440 & 21st Ave. intersection, and less than ½ mile south of the Hillsboro Village & Vanderbilt University area (i.e., Wedgewood Ave & 21st Ave South). A map is also available on our website at:

www.tennesseetrails.org/nashmap.php

All TTA Members Are Invited

TTA's Annual Meeting Nov 14-16, 2003 Townsend, TN

Six Miles Northwest of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park

CUMBERLAND TRAIL CONFERENCE

CUMBERLAND TRAIL CONFERENCE STAFF:

| Executive Director | .Rob Weber | robweber@usit.net |
|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Resource Manager | . Arleen Scheller | scheller@usit.net |
| Program Coordinator | . Mark Stanfill | mstanfill@onemain.com |
| Office Manager | .Susan Weber | sweber1@usit.net |

Cumberland Trail Conference's Auction Results

The house was packed with bidders for the 3rd Annual CTC Auction on April 12 in Oak Ridge. We raised \$11,975.00 to help fund The Big Dig 2003 - enough to hire 12 college students to work as trail crew leaders the entire six weeks of the program. The Garden Plaza Hotel provided a delicious dinner buffet and Joy Schrotenboer of Oak Ridge entertained guests with classical and jazz piano. A special thanks goes to Bear Stephenson of Stephenson Auction & Realty, who donated his superb auctioneering skills on behalf of the Cumberland Trail.

TTA Turns Out for NTD (cont. from pg. 1)

Come hike the exciting new trail in these gorges (more than 8 miles worth in Rock Creek alone!). You'll be impressed and pleased by the work of your friends and neighbors. Or, come on out yourself and help add to the mileage – Fall programs are in the planning stages, watch for announcements in upcoming newsletters and on the CTC website. The beauty of these Gorgeous Gorges will touch your heart – and the camaraderie of working with your hiking buddies is just plain fun!

TTA's Calendar

The following dates in 2003 refer to statewide activities involving TTA as a whole. Please refer to this calendar often to prevent scheduling conflicts or to volunteer to get involved with major activities planned (i.e., TTA's Annual Meeting, etc.).

*Calendar will be revised as needed.

In Memorium

John David Hassler, one of the founders of the Tennessee Trails Association in 1968, passed away at his home on May 22, 2003. He was 83 years old and still active in many worthwhile organizations.

Dave and his wife, Robbie, were Charter Members of TTA and were active in building the Cumberland Trail in the early days. Robbie was TTA's first Secretary ('70-74) and designed the embroidered round patch still in use today. (cont.)

Office Location 19 East 4th Street

Crossville, TN 38555 8am-5pm

Phone: 931-456-6259
Fax: 931-456-4934
Email: cumberlandtrail@rocketmail.com
Website: www.cumberlandtrail.org

Jim Gray Gallery Supports Cumberland Trail

Office Hours

Jim Gray Gallery of Gatlinburg has made arrangements to donate 25% of all sales generated through a special donation page on their website to the Cumberland Trail Conference to help finish the Cumberland Trail. Jim Gray is famous for his superb nature and wildlife paintings and many of you are probably already fans of his work. Now you can support his art and benefit the CT at the same time. Just visit the Gallery webpage (www.JimGrayGallery.com) and type in "CTBIGDIG" in the donation box in the upper corner of the page. Do your online shopping as usual and the Gallery will donate 25% of the sale to CTC. Tell your friends about this outstanding opportunity!

Cumberland Trail's Hike-A-Thon

Congrats to the Fairfield Glade Hiking Club, who sponsored a Hike-A-Thon on May 2 to benefit the Cumberland Trail *Pathways for People, People for Nature* campaign. Nearly 40 hikers raised \$1,865.00 for the CT! Thanks to Bob and Helen Callis for coordinating this successful event. Hikers walked five miles in Fairfield Glade to an overlook on Daddy's Creek.

... Your Generosity Benefits All ...

When you join or renew your Tennessee Trails membership, you have the opportunity to become a Supporting Member by donating a little (or a lot) above the regular dues. TTA recognizes the following Supporting Member for July 2003:

Kevin Bowden - Nashville chapter

In the past, Supporting Member donations in excess of the regular dues were allocated to TTA's general operating fund. At the November 2001 Annual Meeting, TTA's Board of Directors voted to allocate Supporting Member donations to the Evan Means Small Grants Fund. Your tax-deductible Supporting Member donations will now directly benefit trail projects throughout the state of Tennessee. We thank you all for your support of TTA at any membership level, but we hope you will enrich Tennessee's trail system by joining or renewing as a Supporting Member.

Dave served as director-at-large for the Tennessee Ornithological Society. In 1939, he spent the summer in Co.1471 Civilian Conservation Corps. This company, along with Co. 447, built Pickett State Park and developed Pickett State Forest. (cont. on pg. 8)

BIG SOUTH FORK CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER: Julian Bankston 423-628-2845 jrbankston@nxs.net

BOARD REPRESENTATIVE: Bob Hemminger 423-628-5145

hemminrl@math.vanderbilt.edu

OUTINGS COORDINATOR:

(call & volunteer to lead an outing)
Kathy Hicks 865-938-6846 khudson3@utk.edu

July 12 Hidden Passage Trail, Pickett State Park. Jamestown, TN. We will join Jim and Marietta Poteet and hikers from the Nashville Chapter for this hike. Blueberries should be at or near their peak for snacking along this trail that follows the 1,500-ft. contour above Thompson Creek and Rock Creek. The 10-mile loop passes Indian rock houses, interesting rock formations, and a waterfall. The trail is rated easy for the terrain (flat) and moderate for the distance (10 miles). Please wear sturdy boots and dress for the weather. Bring plenty of water, snacks, and lunch. For information and to register, contact either Jim or Marietta Poteet at 615-824-7666 or jpoteet@genesco.com PLANNING AHEAD:

<u>Nov 14-16</u> (Fri-Sun) TTA's Annual Meeting is being hosted by the Big South Fork, Cove Lake, and East Tennessee Chapters. Your help is vital. If you have not volunteered for a committee, fear not, it's not too late. Please contact your Chapter Officer to get involved!

CLARKSVILLE CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER: Bill Hamilton 931-920-2760

billhamilton@charter.net

OUTINGS COORDINATORS:

(call & volunteer to lead an outing)
Faye Balbac 931-553-6826
Sandi Hamilton 931-920-2760
billhamilton@charter.net
Sandra Koenig 931-645-2048

MEETS MONTHLY: 3rd Tuesday at 7pm CT Crow Community Center 211 Richview Rd

<u>Jul 12</u> Polly Branch Falls Trail, Bridgestone Firestone Centennial Wilderness Area. Sparta, TN. Polly Branch Falls Trail is 3 miles each way and leads us to the Caney Fork River, which is easy going in – all downhill. However, you must climb 2-300 feet over ¾-mile to get back out. Therefore, this hike is rated moderate for the climb out, and the uneven, rocky terrain. Because we are hiking to the Caney Fork River, we will also add swimming to this outing (bring swim/dry clothes). For information and to register, contact either Sandy Janus (931-645-9177) or James Neblett (931-387-3317).

Jul 15 MONTHLY MEETING. Learn hiker safety tips; hear about past and upcoming hiking trips and meet/greet members/friends. New hikers are always welcome! Lots in store! See you at 7:00pm CT at the Crow Community Center.

Jul 19 <u>CHAPTER PICNIC</u>. Dunbar Cave State Natural Area. Clarksville, TN. We will be gathering at Dunbar Cave SNA at 4pm CT for a hike, socializing and picnic. Please bring a potluck salad, casserole or dessert to share. For more information, call Suva Bastin at 931-645-2849. (cont.)

CLARKSVILLE (cont.)

OTHER ACTIVITY:

<u>Jul 26-27</u> Car Camping & Whitewater Rafting in the Nantahala River Area. Bryson City, NC. For information, call Bill Hamilton at 931-920-2760.

PLANNING AHEAD:

Aug 2 Buggy Top Trail. Sewanee, TN. A creek emerges from Lost Cove Cave's Buggytop entrance, one of the plateau's most impressive cave entrances – an 80-ft mouth carved out of a 150-ft cliff. We will hike 2.2 miles each way to see this spectacular sight. The terrain is rated moderate to difficult for the rough footing, high bluffs and steep descent. For information and to register, call Darryl Butts at 931-645-9177.

COLUMBIA CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER: Russell Smith 615-790-1833

carving082334@aol.com

OUTINGS COORDINATORS:

(call & volunteer to lead an outing)
Tanya Juday 931-490-0856
Rick Lausten 615-0373-0029
saturncar1@aol.com

Meetings: Resume September 2.

CHAPTER NEWS:

Due to summer vacations, our regular monthly meeting has been suspended for both July and August. We will resume our monthly meeting on the first Tuesday of each month, beginning September 2nd.

OTHER ACTIVITY:

<u>Jul 19</u> Canoe/kayak Scenic Duck River. Columbia, TN. For more information, call Pam Frakes at 931-388-2197.

HIKE REPORT:

On May 17, two hardy hikers joined Marvin Caine on the Sewanee Perimeter Trail. The hike was 9 miles and along the way – in spite of the rain – there was plenty to see: wildflowers, interesting rock formations, bluffs and waterfalls. Everyone reported having a good time and enjoyed the beautiful scenery. Thanks Marvin!

COVE LAKE CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER: Richard Helm 865-426-4472

RHelm@ahss.org

CO-CHAIR: Mari Haslam 423-562-3227

pittsteelersfan@earthlink.net

MEETS MONTHLY: 2nd Monday at 6pm ET LaFollette Recreation Center's Craft Room, 201 S. 9th St.

Each Wednesday, during Daylight Savings Time, Richard Helm will lead after-work hikes on different sections of the Cumberland Trail in our area. We will meet at 6pm ET at the Eagle Market parking lot. Please register each week, since hikes are subject to change/cancellation, with Richard

Helm at 865-426-4472 or rhelm@ahss.org.

Jul 14 MONTHLY MEETING. Learn hiker safety tips; hear about past and upcoming hiking trips and meet/greet members/friends. New hikers are always welcome! Lots in store! See you at 6:00pm ET at the Craft Room in the LaFollette Recreation Center, 201 South 9th Street.

cont. on pg. 4

COVE LAKE (cont. from pg. 3)

Jul 19 LaFollette Nature Trail. LaFollette, TN. This trail follows the bank of lovely Big Creek in downtown LaFollette. Our chapter is looking to adopt and revitalize this easy, 1½-mile nature trail, which in the spring sports many wildflowers. We will meet at 1:30pm ET in the parking lot behind the City Police Station. Rain date: July 26. For information and to register, call Faith Dippold at 423-566-8026.

HIKE REPORT:

On Memorial Day (May 26), a group of 12, led by Richard Helm, hiked over 6 miles on the Sugarland Mtn. Trail in the GSMNP. The mountain laurel was in full glory, regaling the forest and trail for most of the way to the Husky Gap Trail junction, where we stopped for lunch. We also saw orange Flame Azalea in bloom, along with the white spikes of Beetleweed, the delicate blossoms of Cow Wheat, and the tiny pink flowers of Twinberry. Two of our number arrived back to the trailhead early enough to take a quick trip to Laurel Falls. The weather was cool and partly cloudy, making for a pleasant adventure that was enjoyed by all.

PLANNING AHEAD:

| <u>Aug 17</u> | Wilderness Road Trail, Cumberland Gap NHP. | | |
|---------------|--|--|--|
| | Vance Lawson 423-562-6856. | | |

| Sep 8 | Monthly | Meeting. | Topic: | "Goldenrods" | with |
|-------|---------------|----------|--------|--------------|------|
| | Richard Helm. | | | | |

<u>Sep 13</u> Pickett SP & lunch at Baccarra's. Vance Lawson, 423-562-6856.

Oct 18 Fall Creek Falls. Ed & Mari Haslam 423-562-3227.

Nov 2 House Mountain. Vance Lawson 423-562-6856.

Nov 10 Monthly Meeting. Topic: Planning 2004 hikes.

Nov 14-16 (Fri-Sun) TTA's Annual Meeting is being hosted

by the Big South Fork, Cove Lake, and East Tennessee Chapters. Your help is vital. If you have not volunteered for a committee, fear not, it's not too late. Please contact your Chapter Officer to get involved!

CUMBERLAND GAP CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER: Rosemary Register 423-869-2251 *cugatrails@yahoo.com*

CHAPTER NEWS:

Due to busy schedules and prior commitments, we did not plan any meetings/outings for the month of July. Watch upcoming newsletters for future announcements and outings. Until then, you are always welcome to participate in any of our other chapter's (13 to choose from) outings, events and meetings.

Don't Miss an Outing Plan Ahead, Register Early!

There are times when a hike leader must limit (due to park regulations, etc.) the number of participants on an outing. Please do not wait until the afternoon or evening before the outing to RSVP. Plan ahead and register early.

EAST TN CHAPTER (Oak Ridge / Knoxville)

CHAPTER OFFICER: Beverly Neurock 865-220-9679
bneurock@bellsouth.net

<u>Jul 12</u> Clinch River. Kingston, TN. Join us for an easy 5.4-mile evening jaunt on paved walking trail along Clinch River in Kingston, followed by dinner at Mama Mia's Restaurant (bring \$ to pay for your meal). We will meet at 6:30pm ET at Fort Southwest Point parking lot, one mile south of downtown Kingston on U.S. Highway 58 (take exit 352 off of I-40). For information and to register, contact Melanie Harmon at 865-376-4982 or *ddiversified@juno.com*.

Jul 24 (Thu) After Work Hike at Ijams Nature Center. Knoxville, TN. If you haven't visited before, you are in for a pleasant surprise. Ijams Nature Center is an 80-acre environmental education center and park, and located in southeast Knoxville, only three miles from downtown. Imagine, in just 80 acres, there is a nature oasis of plants, trees and animals, and the terrain is varied from river bluff, including a boardwalk overhanging the Tennessee River, to creeks and marshy ponds, to mature hardwood forested hills. The hike is an easy 2½-3 miles on maintained trails. This is a great outing for families with children, and grandchildren. For those interested, we will adjourn to a local eatery for dinner (bring \$ to pay for your meal) after this "grueling" hike. We will meet at 6:15pm ET in the Ijams Nature Center's parking lot. For information and to register, contact Phil Cavanaugh at 865-376-1511, 865-617-1934 (cell) or pcav@icx.net.

PLANNING AHEAD:

Aug 23 CHAPTER PICNIC. This will be a potluck picnic, with the chapter providing hamburgers and hot dogs. RSVPs are due by July 15 to obtain a headcount, as well as for organizing what each person will be bringing to share, such as salad, casserole, dessert, beverage, etc. For information and to RSVP, contact Beverly Neurock at bneurock@bellsouth.net (e-mail preferred) or 865-220-9679.

<u>Nov 14-16</u> (Fri-Sun) TTA's Annual Meeting is being hosted by the Big South Fork, Cove Lake, and East Tennessee Chapters. Your help is vital. If you have not volunteered for a committee, fear not, it's not too late. Please contact your Chapter Officer to get involved!

HIKE REPORTS:

On May 3, twelve members and guests where honored to have the opportunity to hike to the Twin Arches at Big South Fork National River & Recreation Area with Russ Manning. The trail was loaded with wildflowers, including one sighting of an awesome Pink Lady Slipper. Russ provided the group a wealth of information on the rock formations along the trail. Thanks Russ for an excellent day!

On May 10, nine members and guests attended our Black Mountain hike led by Carol Anderson. The hike was pretty tough but well worth the views, and there were tons of Pink Lady Slippers along the trail. Thanks to you too, Carol!

On May 17, six members braved the weather and headed to Max Patch located in High Springs, NC. This hike was led by Rick Jones (with help from Carol!) and was fabulous. Along the way, we saw one large Showy Orchis, 11 Pink Lady Slippers, a brief sighting of a Cooper's Hawk, and a Ruffed Grouse on the way back. The highlight of the day was the Wisconsin visitors who used the bald at Max Patch to launch their slope soaring airplanes. Thanks to Rick and Carol for a really fun day!

HIGHLAND RIM CHAPTER

(Tullahoma Area)

CHAPTER OFFICER: Doug Ratliff 931-455-0249

dougratliff@hotmail.com

OUTINGS COORDINATOR: Alan Bryan 931-728-0765

BryanAlan@BFUSA.com & pbryan5@bellsouth.net

MEETS MONTHLY: 3rd Tuesday at 7pm CT

D.W. Wilson Center, 501 N. Collins St., Tullahoma

Jul 9 (Wed) Old Stone Fort State Archaeological Park, Manchester, TN. Join us for a mid-week evening hike at Old Stone Fort SAP. We'll hike the scenic Backbone Loop Trail that follows the Duck River. The hike is approximately 3 miles long and rated moderate for a few short climbs. We'll meet at the park's museum at 4:15pm CT. For information and to register, contact Brent Morris at 931-454-1718 or bmorris@edge.net.

Jul 15 MONTHLY MEETING. Come hear about past hiking trips and help with planning our future outings. This is an opportunity to express what kind of hikes you would prefer to see on the schedule, and go on. We will take into consideration the trail's length and how long it takes to drive to the trailheads, etc. New hikers are always welcome. See you at 7pm CT at the D. W. Wilson Community Center in Tullahoma.

Jul 19-20 Backpacking in Savage Gulf State Natural Area. We'll start at the Savage Gulf Ranger Station on Saturday morning and end our journey at the Stone Door Ranger Station Sunday afternoon. The total combined distance for both days is approximately 20 miles. Because of the distance and the rough terrain, this outing is rated moderate to difficult and is recommended for experienced backpackers. Group size is limited. For information and to register, contact Brent Morris at 931-454-1718 or bmorris@edge.net.

<u>Jul 26</u> Grundy Forest Day Loop, South Cumberland Recreation Area. Tracy City, TN. We will be hiking the Grundy Forest Day Loop, which is 2 miles and rated moderate for the rocky and uneven terrain. Along the way we will take a side trip to Chimney Rock and Sycamore Falls, which will add an additional mile over terrain that is rated easy. For information and to register, contact Doug Ratliff at 931-455-0249 or dougratliff@hotmail.com.

THE "10* ESSENTIALS"

Before you head out on the trail, check your pack to be sure it contains the following items:

- whistle
- water
- $\bullet \ hat/sunglasses$
- foodcompass
- mapflashlight
- 1st aid kit
 fire starter
- rain gear/extra clothing

Other considerations:

- leave someone a copy of your hiking plans
- hiking poles
- common sense
- * This list is not to be considered cast in concrete and should be customized to each outdoor enthusiast's needs.

MEMPHIS CHAPTER

OFFICER: Betty Porter 901-755-4740 CO-CHAIR: Norma McMinn 901-785-1479 BOARD REPRESENTATIVE: Gloria Lenski 901-213-0604

glorialenski@yahoo.com

MEETINGS WILL RESUME IN SEPTEMBER

ATTN. MEMPHIS AREA MEMBERS:

It's vacation time! No chapter meetings or hikes are scheduled in July. In the meantime, you are always welcome to participate in any of our other chapter's (13 to choose from) outings, events and meetings.

OTHER ACTIVITY:

Jul 4 (Fri) PICNIC. We have been invited by the Sierra Club's Chickasaw Group to join them at their "4th of July" picnic. The picnic starts at 6pm CT. At the time this newsletter was going to the printer, a location had not been determined. For more information, call Carolyn Pierce at 901-755-5635.

PLANNING AHEAD:

Aug 24 CHAPTER PICNIC. Details forthcoming.

ATTN. JACKSON AREA MEMBERS:

<u>Jul 13</u> Full Moon Hike around Union University. Jackson, TN. The hike is 2 miles long; however, we can do the loop twice and make it 4 miles. Before the hike, we will be gathering at 6:30pm CT for dinner (bring \$ to pay for your meal) at Perkins Restaurant (off Van Drive) or you can join us for just the hike, which starts at 7:30pm and also meets at the restaurant. For information and to register, call Ellen Volet at 731-427-3666.

MURFREESBORO CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER: Martin McCullogh 615-896-1043

mam1932@earthlink.net

OUTINGS COORDINATOR: (call & volunteer to lead an outing)
Ray & Linda Eckerson 615-847-0322 reckerson@comcast.net

MEETS MONTHLY: 2nd Tuesday at 7pm CT, Barfield-Crescent Park's
Wilderness Station, 697 Barfield Rd., Murfreesboro

Barfield Crescent Park, Murfreesboro. We will be gathering at the Wilderness Station in Barfield Crescent Park at 6pm CT for our annual picnic. Please bring a potluck salad, casserole or dessert to share, and we will provide the hamburger/hotdogs and buns. As always, your family and friends are welcome. Our brief business meeting will focus on planning hikes through the remainder of the year, so bring your wish list of places (maps) you'd like to go.

Jul 26 Leatherwood Ford to Bandy Creek, Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area. Jamestown. TN. This is a combined outing with the members of the Nashville chapter and a great opportunity to meet fellow TTA'ers. We will begin hiking at Leatherwood Ford and follow a section of the John Muir Trail to the Angel Falls Overlook, considered by many to be the best view in the park. From there, we will continue on the John Muir Trail via a section of Grand Gap Loop before connecting to the John Litton Loop via the Fall Branch Trail, and end at the Bandy Creek Visitor's Center. Total mileage hiked will be 9 miles over terrain that is rated moderate because it is uneven, with several narrow ledge crossings, boulder passages, ladders, and bluffs at the overlook. Wear sturdy footwear, and bring snacks, lunch, and plenty of water. Because this is a one-way hike (not a loop), it is necessary to park cars at each end of the trail. For information and to register, contact either Ron Dunn (615-867-3301 rdunn@genesco.com) Andy Arbuckle (616-331-7787 / andy.arbuckle@comcast.net).

NASHVILLE CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER: David Furse 615-353-6435 *dfurse@comcast.net* **OUTINGS COORDINATOR:** (call & volunteer to lead an outing)

Elizabeth Gerlock 615-356-6260 eygerlock@aol.com

MEETS MONTHLY - 4th Tuesday at 7pm CT St. Bernard Academy Building, 2021 21st Ave South **HIKING HOTLINE -** 615-367-7045

<u>Jul 5</u> First Saturday Hike in Beaman Park. Joelton, TN. Join us as we explore one of Nashville's newer parks being developed by volunteers. Our hike will be from 9am until 12-noon CT on terrain rated easy to moderate. We will meet at the spring on Little Marrowbone Road. For information and to register, contact Nancy Dorman at 615-299-9586 or nancydorman@yahoo.com.

Jul 6 Greeter Falls Hike, South Cumberland Recreation Area. Beersheba Springs, TN. This is a 5½-mile hike down into the gulf from the Stone Door Ranger Station to Greeter Falls where we can take a swim and relax for lunch. This hike is rated difficult due to large rocks and some steep hills but is a rewarding hike. After the hike, we'll stop for dinner (bring \$ to pay for your meal) on our way home. We will meet at 8am CT and carpool from the Target (I-24/Bell Rd). For information, contact Jerry Hendrixson at 615-423-7019 or cheifwagee@aol.com.

Jul 11-13 (Fri-Sun) Hiking & Car Camping in Pickett State Park. Jamestown, TN. Pickett State Park is a wonderful, but little known, park near the Big South Fork National River & Recreation Area. We will "car camp" (meaning bring your camping gear in your car, not your backpack) two nights and dayhike for three. Registration is required before July 8. There is a small fee for camping at Pickett State Park and will be shared by those attending. On Fri., we will explore Pickett State Park on any number of scenic trails that range in length from one-half a mile to three. On Sat., we will join Jim & Marietta Poteet's hike (see Jul 11 below) on the Hidden Passage Trail. On Sun., we'll hike the Twin Arches Loop (5½ miles) that is rated moderate to difficult, and if time permits, we'll visit Colditz Cove (1½ miles) in the afternoon. For information and to register, contact Nancy Juodenas at 615-643-0936, 615-419-7775 or juodenas@comcast.net.

Jul 12 Hidden Passage Trail, Pickett State Park. Jamestown, TN. A July bonus on this lovely trail is the BLUEBERRIES. Hiking jointly with the Big South Fork chapter, we will follow the 1,500 ft. contour above Thompson Creek and then above Rock Creek. This 10-mile loop trail passes Indian rock houses and other interesting rock formations and a waterfall. The trail is rated easy for the level terrain; however moderate for the length. Please wear sturdy boots, and bring water, snacks and lunch. For information and to register, contact either Jim or Marietta Poteet at 615-824-7666.

Newcomer's Hike at Percy Warner Park. Nashville, Jul 13 TN. Warner Park is a great park, and so close to home. We will hike the 4½-mile Mossy Ridge Trail (rated moderate due to several hills that we will ascend/descend) then go to Bruegger's Bagel Bakery for conversation and a quick bite to eat. Bring water, and wear sturdy hiking shoes. We will meet at 9am CT at the Deep Well parking lot. (the stone entrance on the left side of Hwy 100, about 1½ miles south from the Hwy 70/100 split in Belle Meade, or about 2 miles north on the right side of Hwy 100 from the Old Hickory Blvd/Hwy 100 intersection). For information and to register, contact Hugh Tobin 615-790-9567 at HTobin@hotmail.com.

Stone Door to Greeter Falls, South Cumberland Jul 19 Recreation Area. Beersheba Springs, TN. Let's go hiking and swimming!! We will hike the Stone Door Trail into the gorge and pick up the Big Creek Gulf Trail. Along the way we will take the short spur trail into Ranger Falls. After Ranger Falls, we will backtrack to continue along Big Creek Gulf Trail to the Greeter Falls Trail where there is swimming!!! The hike is approximately 9 miles and rated difficult due to rocky, uneven terrain and the long climb out of the gorge. Please wear sturdy hiking boots, and bring plenty of water, snacks and lunch (and extra clothes if you want to go swimming). Because this is a one-way hike (not a loop), it is necessary to park cars at each end of the trail. You can meet us at either the Target on Bell Road (7am CT) or at the Stone Door trailhead (9am CT). For information and to register, contact either Dan Brennan (615-837-4324 / osrwodan@aol.com) or Marie Chitwood (615-519-2599 / mchitwood1@msn.com).

Jul 20 Beat the Heat Sunrise Hike on the Warner Woods and Mossy Ridge Trails in Warner Park. Nashville, TN. Better reach for your coffee as soon as the wake-up clock goes off, or you're going to miss this one entirely. These 2 trails total 7 miles and are rated moderate due to several short hills, uneven terrain and speed (~2-2½ miles/hr) at which we will be hiking them - gotta beat the heat! Wear sturdy hiking shoes, and bring water and snacks. Afterwards, we will regroup for bagels and more coffee at Bruegger's Bagel Bakery (bring \$ to BYOB - buy your own bagel). We'll meet at 5:30am CT (Yep, not a typo!) and be finished by 9:00am. To register and obtain meeting location, call Diane Manas at 615-352-7777.

Monthly Meeting In late 1968, Mack Pritchard and Bob Brown helped organize the Tennessee Trails Association. In the thirty-five years since, they've established unmatched records of stewardship of the state's natural resources. This month, Mack and Bob join us to reminisce, to celebrate and to consider the future of hiking Tennessee trails. See you at 7pm CT at the Nature Conservancy Conference Room in the St. Bernard Academy Building, 2021 21st Ave. South.

cont. on pg. 7

Attention: Hike Coordinators (aka Hike Leaders)

A TTA <u>Release of Claims</u> & <u>Hold</u>
<u>Harmless</u> <u>Agreement</u> form (aka "Liability
Waiver") must be signed by everyone <u>before you start</u>
<u>your hike</u> or before carpooling to your hiking destination.
They can be obtained from your local Chapter Officer or
downloaded easily from our web site:

www.tennesseetrails.org/release.php

NASHVILLE (cont. from pg. 6)

Jul 25-27 (Fri-Sun) Backpacking in the Smokemont & Appalachian Trail Areas of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Because Fri. morning will be spent on driving (we're leaving Nashville around 6am CT), we won't arrive in the Smokies until late morning; therefore, we will dayhike during the afternoon in the Newfound Gap area. A group campsite in Smokemont has been reserved for Fri. night so we can begin our backpacking trip early on Sat. morning. Each day, we will be hiking on terrain that is uneven with roots, rocks, mud, and the usual GSMNP ascents/descents; therefore, this outing is only open to experienced backpackers. The group size is limited to 8 and registration is required - CALL AFTER July 12 and **BEFORE** July 20. A \$5 non-refundable deposit will secure your reservation, and cover your share of the campsite's cost. Everyone is responsible for her/his own gear (tent/tarp required because there aren't any backcountry shelters), food and transportation. On Fri., (7.4 miles) we will dayhike the A.T., Sweat Heifer and Kephart Prong Trails and exit on Newfound Gap Rd. On Sat., (9.6 miles) we will backpack along the A.T., Dry Sluice Gap and Cabin Flats Trails to campsite #49. On Sun., (7 miles) we will return to Smokemont Campground by the Cabin Flats, Bradley Fork and Smokemont Loop Trails. Please refer to your Smokies guidebooks for narratives on the trails' characteristics. For more information and to register, call Diane Manas at 615-352-7777.

Leatherwood Ford to Bandy Creek, Big South Fork **Jul 26** National River and Recreation Area. Jamestown. TN. This is a combined outing with the members of the Murfreesboro chapter and a great opportunity to meet fellow TTA'ers. We will begin hiking at Leatherwood Ford and follow a section of the John Muir Trail to the Angel Falls Overlook, considered by many to be the best view in the park. From there, we will continue on the John Muir Trail via a section of Grand Gap Loop before connecting to the John Litton Loop via the Fall Branch Trail, and end at the Bandy Creek Visitor's Center. Total mileage hiked will be 9 miles over terrain that is rated moderate because it is uneven, with several narrow ledge crossings, boulder passages, ladders, and bluffs at the overlook. Wear sturdy footwear, and bring snacks, lunch, and plenty of water. Because this is a oneway hike (not a loop), it is necessary to park cars at each end of the trail. For information and to register, contact either Andy Arbuckle (616-331-7787 / andy.arbuckle@comcast.net) or Ron Dunn (615-867-3301 / rdunn@genesco.com).

*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 be outdoors. You are encouraged to use this time to learn about hiking and TTA while enjoying the great outdoors with friendly people.

<u>Jul 27</u> Newcomers' Hike on the Cumberland River Bicentennial Trail. Ashland City, TN. The hike is very flat and good for beginners, yet rated moderate for it's length of 8 miles. Afterwards, we will have lunch (bring \$ to pay for your meal) at a local catfish restaurant on the river. For information and to register, call Patt Dillon at 615 646-5351.

OTHER ACTIVITIES:

<u>Jul 6</u> Historical Tour. Brentwood, TN. The book <u>Touring the Middle Tennessee Backroads</u> by Robert Brandt is the inspiration behind this tour of historical Brentwood and surrounding areas. The tour will be by car and cover approximately 30 miles. Points of interest are not limited to and include the Moreland House, Owen Chapel and Isola Bella. For more information and to register, call Julie Walski at 615-333-6904.

<u>Jul 18</u> (Fri) Dinner and Socializing at Tabouli's, 2015 Belmont Blvd. We will meet at 7pm CT. Questions? Contact Paul Smith at 615-832-9388 or *paolov@bellsouth.net*.

<u>Jul 22</u> Pre-Monthly Meeting Dinner at Bosco's in Hillsboro Village, at 1805 21st Ave South. We will meet at 5:15pm CT, and depart for the meeting at 6:30pm. Questions? Contact Paul Smith at 615-832-9388, or *paolov@bellsouth.net*.

NORTHWEST CHAPTER

(UT at Martin & Weakley County)

CHAPTER OFFICER: Jim Clark731-587-2225 jclark@utm.edu

MEETINGS WILL RESUME IN AUGUST WEBSITE - www.utm.edu/~jclark/trails/

CHAPTER NEWS:

Our student and faculty members are on summer break; therefore, we have not scheduled any meetings or activities for July. Upon our return in August, we will post hikes and meeting announcements to our website, as well as in this newsletter. Until then, have a great summer, and remember – you are always welcome to participate in any of our other chapter's (13 to choose from) outings, events and meetings.

Tennessee Trails Association Turns 35 in December 2003

To mark this special year, a commemorative patch and t-shirt have been designed. To order yours, see the *Merchandise Order Form* on page 9.

Watch upcoming newsletters for a schedule of events planned.

TTA Gift Memberships Available Throughout the Year!

- ♦ Birthdays ♦ Anniversaries ♦ Valentine's Day ♦ Boss' Day ♦
- ♦ Mother's Day♦ Graduation ♦ Father's Day♦ Halloween ♦
 - ♦ Hanukah ♦ Christmas ♦ Just Because ♦

For the price of a regular membership, we will send the gift membership recipient a beautiful TTA logo patch enclosed in a card (customized for the occasion) announcing your gift. Gift memberships can be purchased by contacting Anne Wesley: ttahiker@msn.com, or 615-851-1052.

PLATEAU CHAPTER

(Crossville) CHAPTER OFFICER:

Charlie Jones 931-277-3228 cejones@Crossville.com

OUTINGS COORDINATOR:

(call & volunteer to lead an outing)
Carolyn Miller 931-260-6674 cardan@usit.net
MEETS MONTHLY: 2nd Thursday at 7pm CT
Community Room in Art Circle Public Library,
154 East 1st Street in Crossville

There is a leaderless hike every Wednesday morning at 8:30am CDT. We usually meet at the boat launch area of the Cumberland Mountain State Park. The hikes are moderately paced and may average five or six miles. For additional information, call Bill Haynes: 931-707-7606. Rain cancels.

Jul 10 MONTHLY MEETING. Learn hiker safety tips; hear about past and upcoming hiking trips and meet/greet members/friends. New hikers are always welcome! Lots in store! See you at 7pm CT at the Community Room in the Art Circle Public Library in Crossville.

Jul 12 Hike to Lost Creek Falls & Cave, Sparta, TN. It's hot weather, so we will hike to Lost Creek Cave to see the 50-foot waterfall. The cave is tall enough that you will be able to walk to the waterfall with no need to crawl. The hike is 1½-miles each way and rated moderate to difficult due to the climb over some rocks and boulders. A flashlight and extra batteries are required. Wear sturdy hiking boots, and bring water, lunch and snacks. Registration is required. We will meet at 8am CT and carpool from the Kroger Parking lot on Highway 70 in Crossville. For more information and to register, call Bill Harris at 931-484-9152.

<u>Jul 26</u> Piney River Trail, Bowater Pocket Wilderness Area. Spring City, TN. Hike, swim and picnic. This is a short, 2-mile hike to the overlook and down to the river where there is a swimming hole. Wear hiking boots and clothes appropriate for swimming or wading, and bring water, lunch and snacks. We will meet at 9am CT and carpool from the Cumberland Mountain State Park Visitor's Center. For information and to register, contact Bill Haynes at 931-707-7606 or billhaynes@citlink.net.

SODDY DAISY CHAPTER

Leigh Jones 931-277-3228 cejones@crossville.com Fount Bertram 615-765-5357 fwbertram@heartoftn.net

CHAPTER NEWS:

Susan Turner recently accepted a wonderful opportunity to return to school to learn how to operate a semi-tractor trailer so she can team with her husband, Carl, who is also a driver. (Congrats!) Unfortunately, Susan won't have time to do the Chapter Officer duties; therefore, we are seeking someone to fill this vital position through the remainder of the year (and beyond). We (the Board of Directors) will give our assistance and support to the person(s) who steps forward. In the interim, you are welcome to attend any of our other chapter's (13 to choose from) outings, events and meetings.

UPPER CUMBERLAND CHAPTER

(Sparta / Cookeville)

CHAPTER OFFICER: Richard Savage 931-526-2035

savage_richard@hotmail.com

OUTINGS COORDINATOR:

(call & volunteer to lead an outing)
Sue Bass 931-528-1386 take-a-hike@charter.net

Please register for hikes so you can obtain hike details and be notified when/if there are any last minute changes. Hiking boots are recommended for all hikes. Bring plenty of water, snacks and/or lunch, and wear clothing appropriate for the weather.

Jul 12 Charlie's Bunion, Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Our hike begins at Newfound Gap and will follow the Appalachian Trail to Charlie's Bunion, a huge rock outcrop with views all around (providing that the weather cooperates). An optional side trip to the "Jump-off" will be offered if the group is interested. The trail remains in the 6,000-ft range, so the temperatures should be pleasant. The hike is 8 miles (9 with the "Jump-off") and is rated moderate, due to the uneven and rocky terrain. We have several options for meeting/carpooling. First, from Penny's in Cookeville at 6:30am CT. Second, is at our breakfast stop at the Cracker Barrel in Crossville, around 7am. For information and to register, contact Richard Savage at 931-526-2035 or savage_richard@hotmail.com.

HIKE REPORTS:

We did it! On June 7, after talking about it for over two years, eight of us made it to the top of Mt. LeConte. It was a challenging hike, with a downpour of rain most of the way up and we were incredibly wet. The area on the Alum Bluff Trail where you pass the cables and waterfalls were a bit treacherous. The rhododendrons and mountain laurel were both in bloom and awesome. It was a remarkable hike!

Memorium (cont from pg. 2)

Dave was a member for at least 30 years of the Resources Conservation and Development Council (RC&D). During this period, the city of Byrdstown received help in rerouting a creek and building a drain for flood control, as a result of an RC&D project. He helped organize the first water district in Pickett County. On September 18, 1989 he received a service award for "outstanding service to the Upper Cumberland area" by the Hull-York RC&D and in 1995 was awarded "Tennessee's outstanding RC&D Council Member for exemplary service as a member of Hull-York RC&D Council and to the citizens of the area." In Oct. 2000, along with his wife, Robbie, he was presented the Friends of Conservation Award for "outstanding service to the Pickett County Soil Conservation District and for countless hours given" as Resources Conservation Directors for Pickett County.

Dave was a long-time worker in and member of the Rural Abandoned Mines Program (RAMP), having served as President of the Tennessee Committee. He was chairman of the Pickett County Library Board and a member of the Regional Board for 18 years. He was also active in the Community Health Program and helped implement the 911 Emergency service for the area.

By an act of legislature in 1989, Dave was appointed chairman of the Cordell Hull Advisory Council to advise the state in the creation and the operation of the Cordell Hull Birthplace State Park. Officially appointed County Archivist, he was considered to be one of Pickett County's best historians. On May 15, 1995 Dave was given the Tennessee Historical Commission Certificate of Merit for "having made significant contributions to the preservation of the historical and architectural heritage of Tennessee."

OFFICERS:

President

Leigh Jones 931-277-3228

cejones@crossville.com

Vice-President

Fount Bertram 615-765-5357

fwbertram@heartoftn.net

Treasurer

June Parker 615-832-5418

jmparker13@hotmail.com

Secretary

Anna Clark 731-587-2225

aclark@utm.edu

Past President

Libby Francis 615-889-5718

libbyslibbys@comcast.net

Past President

Jim Poteet 615-824-7666

jpoteet@genesco.com

West TN At-Large Director

Jerry Lenski 901-255-6574

jlenski@yahoo.com

Middle TN At-Large Director

Brent Morris 931-454-1718

bmorris@edge.net

East TN At-Large Director

VACANT

Membership

Anne Wesley 615-851-1052

ttahiker@msn.com

Cumberland Trail Conference Representatives

Barry & Sandra Spearman 931-839-2320

sandbar@multipro.com

TN Rails To Trails Advisory Council

Jim Deming 615-354-9767

jdeming@tals.org

CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVES ON THE BOARD ARE LISTED WITHIN EACH CHAPTER'S HEADER

Newsletter Editor

Diane Manas 615-352-7777

 $editor @ \it tennes see trails. or g$

Newsletter Deadlines:

Deadlines for chapter announcements and articles of special interest are due as follows:

<u>Due</u> <u>For Newsletter Dated</u> July 10 August 1

NOTE: August 1 September1

June 10 July 1
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

editor@tennesseetrails.org

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 jdeming@tals.org

WEBSITE www.TNRailsTrails.org

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.

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

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| | _Columbia Cove Lake | Memphis Murfreesb | | Soddy Daisy Upper Cumberland (Sparta/Cookeville) |
| | _Cove Lake _Cumberland Gap | Nashville | | Opper Cumberiand (Sparta/Cookeville) At Large |
| hiker res opportuni Members where you weekend | u become a TTA member, ponsibilities, etc. (2.) TTA ties, chapter meeting anno hip Directory, listing membu will enjoy diverse program of hiking, camaraderie and | s monthly newsletter, of uncements, as well as evers by chapter and how s, socializing and refresh where the board members | 's Hiking Handbook, a reference book containing information on hiker safe vents occurring within TTA's Associate to reach them. You are invited to attements. In addition, in the spring and fals s can meet to exchange ideas and hea | c containing information about TTA, trail etiquette, sty, upcoming hikes / overnight trips, volunteer e Organizations: C.T.C. and T.R.A.C. (3.) Annual end any number of monthly meetings scheduled, II we meet at one of Tennessee's many parks for a |

July 2003