

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 II May 16–June 26 The Sequel

Just like Arnold's "I'll Be Back!", the BIG DIG is ready to return to Soddy Daisy, and conquer the Rock/Possum/Soddy Segment of the Cumberland Trail for another 20 miles of trail to build. If you participated last year, then you know what it's all about. For everyone else, the BIG DIG is our most ambitious program. It is six weeks and opened to everyone! For BreakAway, we have the students, but with the BIG DIG we need the volunteers. Volunteer participants will come from various places, including the local community. Last year, we saw representatives from AHS Volunteer Vacations, AmeriCorps, TN State Parks; various outdoor clubs such as Tennessee Trails Association, Chattanooga Hiking Club, ALDHA, Cherokee Hiking Club, Benton MacKaye Society, Hiwassee Hiking Club, Ozark Highland Trail Association, Smoky Mountain Hiking Club, Landmark Volunteers (a nationwide premier high school service organization), and dedicated individuals from across the nation.

Last year, CTC launched the BIG DIG for the first time. This year, we will continue the momentum. How will it be different this year?

- ♦ **More Staff?** There will be more staff hired. Last year, we had 14; this year we will hire 24. The larger staff will instruct and lead teams of volunteers along side our WagonMasters who will be leading teams as well.
- ♦ **More food?** Well, you have seen Carol Haley's Adopt-a-Food Program. She has done a fantastic job in coordinating the kitchen and food areas.

- ♦ **More activities?** We will add more programs to the list that will include community outings such as RiverFest, Movie Nights, Baseball Outings, and Mountain Opera.

- ♦ **More volunteers?** That is where YOU come in! We need you to sign up and tell others.

We will continue to use the Dogwood Lodge Camp where there is enough, bunk, and shower space for everyone. Last year, volunteers enjoyed the "swimming hole" after a hot day on the trail. We will transport you to the work site and bring you back to where a fine evening of dining and entertainment awaits. Just think, each day you will be going to work in "gorgeous gorges," on hillsides, among trees that tower above you, in rhododendron and mountain laurel patches, and on wide slopes that hold the promise of wildflowers as spring progresses.

Sign up today on page 4! Find out ways to help with BIG DIG II! See "Adopt-a-Food Drive" below!

Adopt-a-Food Drive

During TTA's Annual Meeting this past November, Carol Haley (Memphis) presented a unique, fun and easy opportunity for us to help subsidize a major expense associated with the 2004 Spring BreakAway and Big Dig programs: Adopt-a-Food.

Every Big Dig volunteer will receive breakfast, lunch and dinner each day that they work. Imagine, 42 days, 60 volunteers per week and 3 meals per day, that's 7,650 meals! Stocking the pantry for this event will cost over \$8,600.

Your help is greatly appreciated and needed in order for this campaign to be successful. There are several options available to help. *See page 3 for details!!*

Walking with Fount

I have made it a goal to make TTA a very familiar name and presence in the communities where we exist. I would like that to extend into potential areas where we would be able to grow and expand our membership. I have taken some steps toward accomplishing this end. I contacted our local radio station and will be featured in a 30 minute talk show. This will have already aired by the time this article reaches you. Also I will be introducing TTA to the Middle Tennessee District of Boy Scouts adult leaders at MTSU. That also will have happened by the time you read this. I have requested an appearance on a Murfreesboro radio station and they sound like it will be something that they will be most interested in. During these appearances I am going to volunteer myself and TTA to present programs for organizations that have a program with their meetings. I have already done a presentation to the Rotary Club in Tullahoma. I have a Power Point program worked up and with your permission, will present it when I visit your chapter.

My point is simply this...we can promote our organization in a lot of different ways. There are a lot of people that would love to know about us and it's our responsibility to make ourselves available to them. I was very pleased when one of the Nashville Chapter members told me that an invitation at work to some of the people there resulted in them attending a meeting and joining TTA.

We have much to offer and much to gain. Let's make a concentrated effort to let people you know who we are and what we are about. It is very rewarding to introduce someone to the outdoors and watch them grow and become an avid participant. There is an interest growing again and I am very pleased to see the numbers of our people...and new people...that are now showing up for our meetings and hikes. I suppose my motto for this term as president will be...*Enthusiasm is contagious...Let's start an epidemic!*

Happy trails...
Fount Bertram

TTA's Calendar*

The following dates in 2004 refer to statewide activities involving TTA as a whole. Please refer to this calendar often to either prevent scheduling conflicts or to volunteer to get involved with major activities planned (National Trail Days, etc.).

Mar 29–Apr 4	TN State Natural Areas Week
Apr 22	Earth Day
Apr 24-25	Southeastern Foot Trails Coalition's Leadership Council (AL)
May 1	Board of Directors' Meeting (Location TBA)
May 16-Jun 26	Cumberland Trail BIG DIG II
Jun 5	National Trails Day
Aug 7	Board of Directors' Meeting (Location TBA)
Sep 28	National Public Lands Day
Nov 5-7	TTA Annual Meeting Pickwick Landing State Park.

**Calendar will be revised as needed.*

State Natural Areas Week March 29—April 4, 2004

Tennesseans from across the State are encouraged to join together in a weeklong celebration of State Natural Areas Week to be held March 29–April 4. Natural Areas Week will be celebrated across the state with hikes, canoe floats, and interpretative programming at many of Tennessee's 68 State Natural Areas. These unique lands are preserved in perpetuity, and protect habitat for many species of rare plants and animals.

The State Natural Areas Program was established in 1971 by the Tennessee Natural Areas Preservation Act. Today, there are 68 Natural Areas located throughout the State covering more than 100,000 acres of ecologically significant lands. State natural areas are diverse landscapes that are often cooperatively managed with county, state and federal agencies and non-profit land trusts. They protect some of Tennessee's most pristine wetlands and swamps, globally rare glades and diverse barrens, vast gulf forests, and mountainous landscapes.

For more information about Natural Areas Week events in each state region call: (northeast) 865-594-5601, (southeast) 423-634-5774, (middle) 615-741-9205, (west) 731-512-1369 or go to the natural areas webpage at www.state.tn.us/environment/nh. The Natural Areas Program is administered by the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation.

Adopt-a-Food Drive

(cont' from cover)

- You or your chapter may buy* the items and bring them to the CTC office (other delivery/pick-up options may exist, call the CTC office to further discuss).
- You or your chapter can send money for the kitchen committee to purchase items (the committee has a tax exempt Sam's card).

* Please contact Carol Haley before heading to the grocery to purchase items.

For additional information, contact either your chapter officer or Carol Haley at 901-388-9163, Hav2Hike@aol.com.

Here is a small sampling of some of the items and quantities needed (at the time this newsletter was going to the printer):

Big Dig Lunch Items

350 @ 4 oz applesauce

200 @ 4 or 8 oz canned fruit

50 lbs @ Brown Sugar

14 lbs @ Saltine Crackers

60 lbs @ Rice (plain)

Other Items Needed:

15,000 Napkins

(Even McDonalds can donate)

5,000 Ziploc Sandwich bags

4000 Brown Lunch Sacks

Spring Fling!

The Murfreesboro and Nashville Chapters, along with the Friends Of Edgar Evins State Park and the Park will co-sponsor the second annual Spring Fling event at the Park on April 2,3,4, 2004. A lot of events will take place...beginning Friday evening and continuing through Sunday morning.

There will be hikes on both the trails TTA built on Saturday and Sunday. The short hike will be about 3.5 miles and the long one right at 9 miles. In addition to those, there will be a birding hike, wildflower hikes and slide shows. The Friends Group will sponsor a cookout Saturday evening and there will be a campfire with story telling, bluegrass music by a local band and lots of fun things.

The Park will offer discounted camping rates for participants. Plan to come Friday afternoon and camp for the weekend. It promises to be even bigger and better than last year's very successful event.

For more information and to register for the event call Fount Bertram (615) 765-5357 or e-mail fwbertram@heartoftn.net.

CUMBERLAND TRAIL CONFERENCE

CUMBERLAND TRAIL CONFERENCE STAFF:

Interim Executive DirectorBarry Spearman..... barry_spearman@yahoo.com

Development DirectorArleen Decker..... deckerstudio@bellsouth.net

Program Coordinator.....Mark Stanfill..... mstanfill@onemain.com

Office Manager.....Susan Weber..... sweber1@usit.net

CTC Advisor.....Rob Weber robweber@usit.net

Office Location 19 East 4th Street
Crossville, TN 38555
Office Hours 8am-5pm
Phone: 931-456-6259
Fax: 931-456-4934
Email: cumberlandtrail@rocketmail.com
Website: www.cumberlandtrail.org

The Cumberland Trail STOMP

April 24, 2004

Mark your calendars...we're gonna hike the Cumberland Trail to raise money for the BIG DIG II. Various community organizations, hiking clubs, and churches along the Cumberland Trail corridor from Chattanooga to Cumberland Gap will host a series of 8-10 hikes. Host organizations will be rounding up hikers, and hikers will be rounding up pledges. Last year, the Fairfield Glade Hiking Club in Crossville raised almost \$2,000, and the Oak Ridge Pathways team raised \$4,000 on fundraising hikes for the *Pathways for People, People for Nature* campaign.

If your chapter would like to participate as a host organization or as hikers, or you'd like to help on an individual basis, please contact Arleen Decker at 931-456-6259 (CTC Office), 865-856-9679 (HM) or deckerstudio@bellsouth.net.

Don't Delay!
The Big Dig Volunteer
Registration Form



Is on Page 4!

2nd Annual Cumberland Trail Conference's The Big Dig!!

What is it?

- ◆ The Cumberland Trail Conference's ambitious program to BUILD the Cumberland Trail
- ◆ Up to 100 VOLUNTEERS a day Building the 30-mile Rock/Possum/Soddy Segments

When and Where is it?

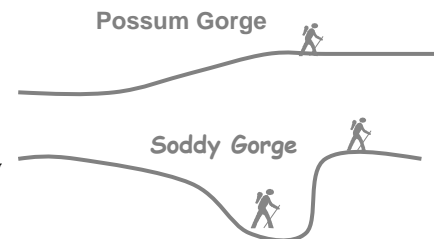
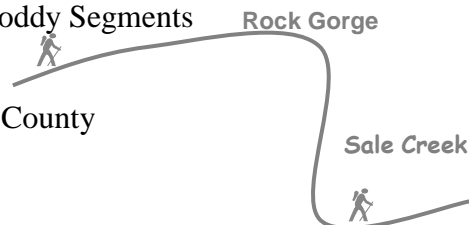
- ◆ May 16th to June 26th, 2004...Rock/Possum/Soddy Gorges...Hamilton County
- ◆ Housing Provided at the Dogwood Camp in Bakewell/Soddy-Daisy

Why are we Doing it?

- ◆ To complete the Cumberland Trail...a 300-MILE Tennessee State Scenic Foot Trail
- ◆ How soon you say...a completed trail by the year 2008 from Signal Point National Historic Park above Chattanooga north to Cumberland Gap NHP...goodness

We need your HELP and SUPPORT...HOW?

- ◆ TRAILBUILDERS...volunteer BELOW to build the Cumberland Trail
- ◆ COOKS...to oversee the daily activities at the Dogwood Camp
- ◆ DONATE FOOD...100 folks a day over 36 days...that's 3,600 mouths!
- ◆ SPONSOR the BIG DIG...every dollar goes right back into your community
- ◆ DONATE MATERIALS...tools and first aid kits...lumber & screws



Name/Organization: _____ Date: ____/____/____

Address: _____ City, State, Zip: _____

Work phone: _____ Home phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Yes, I will VOLUNTEER on the following TRAIL DAYS (Check Monday to Saturday):

Week 1 (May 16-22nd):	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
Week 2 (May 23-29th):	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
Week 3 (May 30-Jn 5th):	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
Week 4 (June 6-12th):	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
Week 5 (June 13-19th):	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
Week 6 (June 20-26th):	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat

CAMP LODGING: CIRCLE those NIGHTS where lodging/food is required (Sunday to Saturday).

Vegetarian meal preferred: Yes _____ No _____

How can I help (circle): Trailbuilder _____ Cook _____ Sponsor Big Dig _____ Donate Food/Materials _____

I want to help sponsor the BIG DIG: _____ \$35 _____ \$50 _____ \$100 _____ \$500 _____ Other _____

I want to help donate food or materials (please list): _____

Return Form to: CTC BIG DIG, 19 East 4th Street, Crossville, TN 38555; Fax to 931-456-4934; E-mail cumberlandtrail@rocketmail.com. For more information: 931-456-6259 or www.cumberlandtrail.org

Local Big Dig Coordinators: Chattanooga/SoddyDaisy-Barbara Levi (423-332-5784); Nashville-Al Churcher (615-373-8314), Bakewell/Sale Creek-Bill Leiper (423-332-6671); Knoxville/Oak Ridge-Warren or Carol Devine (865-483-7894)

Cumberland Trail Conference, an associate organization of Tennessee Trail Association, is a

501 © 3 non-profit organization, and donations are tax-deductible. Please consult your tax-advisor.

Volunteer for The Big Dig!

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

Our hike coordinators are volunteers. Make it easier for them to contact you in the event their hike needs to be cancelled by registering! 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.

Attention: Hike Coordinators

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

BIG SOUTH FORK CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER: Thomas Howell

423-628-5521, tshowell@nxs.net

SECRETARY-TREASURER: Benita Howell

423-628-5521 or 865-974-7797, bhowell@nxs.net

BOARD REPRESENTATIVES: Tim and Lynn Takacs

615-824-7048, lynntakacs@comcast.net

OUTINGS COORDINATOR:

(call & volunteer to lead an outing)

Kathy Hicks 865-938-6846 or 423-628-2873, khudson3@utk.edu

Apr 17 Brady Mountain Trail, Grassy Cove Segment of Cumberland Trail, south of Crossville, TN. We will hike from the southern (Jewett Road) parking area and trailhead to enjoy views of Grassy Cove from Donnelly's Overlook and the Lost Overlook on Brady Mountain, a total distance of approximately 8 miles. The hike is rated moderate because of the ascent and terrain. Bring water, snacks, lunch, boots and clothing appropriate for changeable spring weather. Hikers should meet at 9:00 am ET at the Harrow Road Café in Rugby to carpool. To register and/or to arrange to meet Rugby hikers at the parking area, contact Tom or Benita Howell at 423-628-5521, tshowell@nxs.net.

OTHER ACTIVITIES:

Apr 10-11, Apr 17-18 Frozen Head State Park for Spring Wildflower Pilgrimage. If you'd like to join a group from Rugby for the walk scheduled for 10:00 am ET on April 10, contact Tom Howell by April 6 at 423-628-5521, tshowell@nxs.net. For information about the Wildflower Pilgrimage, contact Frozen Head State Park at 423-346-3318.

CLARKSVILLE CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER: Bill Hamilton

931-920-2760, billhamilton@charter.net

OUTINGS COORDINATORS:

(call & volunteer to lead an outing)

Suva Bastin 931-645-2849

Sandra Koenig 931-645-2048

MEETING: Monthly - 3rd Tuesday at 7:00 pm CT,
Crow Community Center
211 Richview Rd

Apr 3-4 Ft. Pillow State Park, near Henning, TN. This park is tucked away next to the Mississippi River. We will camp at the park campground. We've got a 5-mile hike planned for Saturday afternoon, and another 5-mile hike for Sunday morning.

THE "10* ESSENTIALS"

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

- whistle
- food
- compass
- rain gear/extra clothing
- water
- map
- flashlight
- hat/sunglasses
- 1st aid kit
- fire starter

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.

(cont') CLARKSVILLE CHAPTER

(cont') Apr 3-4 These hikes go around the Civil War Fort remains and along the earthworks. The hikes are rated easy with only a few short hills. Please contact Sandi Hamilton to register, 931 920-2760.

Apr 17 Frozen Head State Park. Enjoy the wildflowers and the company as we hike up Frozen Head Peak. We will be car camping overnight. This 7-mile hike is rated moderate. For information, contact Manuel McKnight at 931-358-2115 or Suva Bastin at 931-645-2849

Apr 24 Earth Day. This will be a trail maintenance day. We will work on Rotary Park, trimming and cleaning the trail, about 3 miles. Or if you would rather work on the North South Trail at Land Between the Lakes, we've adopted about 7 miles that need tending. Please contact Sandy Janus at 931-645-9177.

May 1 Rails to Trails, Ashland City. This is a flat trail that runs along the Cumberland River on an old railroad track. The hike can be any combination of the 2.5-mile Eagles Nest section, or the 4-mile section that contains an old railroad bridge. To register, call our local expert Charlie Putnam at 931-362-3669.

COLUMBIA/FRANKLIN CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER: Rick Lausten

615-373-0029, saturncarl@aol.com

OUTINGS COORDINATOR:

(call & volunteer to lead an outing)

Tanya Juday 931-490-0856

MEETING: Monthly - 1st Tuesday at 6:30 pm CT
Grand Buffet (North of Spring Hill)

Apr 6 MONTHLY MEETING The Grand Buffet Chinese Restaurant, 5228 N. Main Street, in Spring Hill, TN. Our speaker will be Granville "G.T." Sanford. This program will focus on Wilderness Survival. Information will be presented on wild plants that are edible and or used for cordage (rope) and other purposes. G.T. will bring examples of cordage that he has made from plants. In addition, G. T. will bring a draw bow and example of "dry tenders" to explain how to start a fire with this method. There is a possibility that we will have some follow up field work at our annual cookout in June. All members, please come out for this interesting program and enjoy a great meal together. New members are ALWAYS welcome and we always adjourn by 8:00 pm CT. Remember to bring food staples for the Cumberland Trail Big Dig II. See page 3 for information and a suggested list of items.

(cont') COLUMBIA/FRANKLIN CHAPTER

Apr 9-10 Overnight backpack trip to Frozen Head State Park. The trail is up to the top of Frozen Head Mountain about 3 miles and a 4-mile hike back the next day. Expect to see some great sights and lots of wildflowers. Plan to meet at the trail head at 11:00 am ET, remember you loose an hour. It is a 3.5 hour drive. Directions are: Go East on Interstate 40 towards Knoxville. Take exit #347 Hwy. 27 north towards Harriman. Drive thru Harriman staying on Hwy. 27 towards Wartburg. In Wartburg, turn right on Hwy. 62 and as you leave Wartburg watch for the signs to Frozen Head State Park. Turn left on Flat Fork Road and go around the prison and then turn right into the park. In case of prison break, Kerry is having everyone to his house for pizza. There is a fee to enter and park your vehicle for both days. Drop your money in the drop box, then go to the ranger station to check in. For more information contact Kerry Summers at 615-790-4013, 615-419-8598, or Karofishes@aol.com.

Apr 17 Short Springs Natural Area near Tullahoma. Approximately 4 miles with wildflowers and several water falls. Rick Lausten will lead. Register with Rick at 615-373-0029 or Saturn1@aol.com.

COVE LAKE CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER: Richard Helm

865-426-4472, RHelm@ahss.org

CO-CHAIR: Mari Haslam

423-562-3227, pittsteelersfan@earthlink.net

MEETING: Monthly - 2nd Monday at 6pm ET

LaFollette Recreation Center's Craft Room, 201 S. 9th St.

Apr 12 MONTHLY MEETING We will be making up our hike schedule for the second half of the year. Bring your ideas for hikes.

Apr 14 Trail-work Day. We have set aside the Wednesday following our monthly meeting as our standing trail-work day. We will be working either on our local project, the LaFollette Nature Trail, or on the Cumberland Trail in our local area. Bring sturdy boots, work gloves, snacks, and water. For time and location, contact Faith Dippold at 423-566-8026.

Apr 18 LaFollette Nature Trail. This is an easy 3-mile hike along Big Creek in downtown LaFollette. This old trail, presently being restored by our chapter, boasts a wide assortment of spring wildflowers. Meet 1:00 pm ET at the downtown parking lot behind City Hall. For more information, contact Vance or Wanda Lawson at 423-562-6856.

Apr 24 Cumberland Trail "STOMP" at 9:30 am ET. Join us hiking the Cumberland Trail to raise money for the BIG DIG II.

Note: our previously published hike for April 25 has been cancelled.

HIKE REPORTS:

On Sunday Feb. 15, a group of nine hikers met at the Grantsboro Church parking lot for a hike on the Lawson Farm. The hike was shortened a bit because of the weather; first it was rain, then snow. We enjoyed a nice hike, seeing a pre-Civil War log cabin, and watching one hardy hiker venture a short way into the cave. When the snow began to fall we cut the hike short. (We had about 6 inches of snow from that storm, which, as we learned later, forced one couple into an additional 3-mile hike home.)

PLANNING AHEAD:

May 22-23 Camping at Kentucky Mushroom Farm. Jerry & Sharon Phillips 423-563-0867.

Jun 20 Pickett State Park. Vance & Wanda Lawson 423-562-6856.

EAST TN CHAPTER (Oak Ridge / Knoxville)

CHAPTER OFFICER: Rosemary Marshall
rosemary_1@hotmail.com

OUTINGS COORDINATOR:

(call & volunteer to lead an outing)

Bob Uhren

snowcap34@charter.net

TREASURER: Harold Draper

h.m.draper@att.net

Apr 10 Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Cucumber Gap and Little River Trails. 7.4 miles. Best times of the year are early April or October. Highlights are wildflowers, waterfall, Little River Cascades, cultural history. Easy to moderate hike. Little River Trail follows an old logging grade used by the Little River Lumber Company. You can expect to see dwarf-crested irises, trilliums, and other wildflowers. Bring water, lunch, money and hiking gear. Dress for the weather. We may go to eat dinner afterwards! Meet at the "Y" in Townsend at 8:30 am ET. We will carpool to the trailhead. For information, contact Betty Ezell at 865-688-8663 or bse@comcast.net.

Apr 17 Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Albright Grove hike. We'll meet at Cosby campground (markers are on Hwy 321, approximately 15 miles north of Gatlinburg) at 9:00 am EST and take as few cars as we can pile into to the Maddron Bald trailhead, which can't accommodate many cars. We'll hike up the Maddron Bald trail to the Albright Grove Loop Trail, which goes through a small grove of old growth trees, including a tulip poplar that's 25 feet in circumference. If you haven't seen this grove, this hike is a must. We'll continue through Maddron Bald to the Snake Den Ridge Trail, which will take us back to Cosby campground. This hike is about 12 miles, so good boots, lunch, water, and snacks are a must. Also, be prepared for any weather. We'll go unless we have a bunch of snow. For information, contact Jay Ross at jmrfeb6@aol.com (preferred), or 865-776-7845.

HIGHLAND RIM CHAPTER (Tullahoma Area)

CHAPTER OFFICER: Doug Ratliff

931-455-0249, dougratliff@hotmail.com

MEETING: Monthly - 3rd Tuesday at 7pm CT

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

Apr 4 The Friends of Short Springs invite you to join them in observing State Natural Areas Week. Wildflower walks are scheduled at 10:00 am and 2:00 pm CT at the Short Springs State Natural Area near Tullahoma, TN.

Apr 10 Franklin State Forest near Sewanee, TN. This is an easy to moderate hike. The route and length will be determined on the day of the hike. Initial plans are to meet at the Blue Chair restaurant in Sewanee for breakfast at 9:00 am CT. For more information and to register, call Joan Bentley at 931-455-5849.

Apr 17 Grundy Forest Day Loop/Fiery Gizzard Trail, Grundy Forest State Natural Area, Tracy City, TN. We will be hiking Grundy Forest Day Loop with a side trip on the Fiery Gizzard trail to Chimney Rocks and Sycamore Falls. Trail features include Hanes Hole Falls, Blue Hole Falls, a 5-foot-wide by 30-foot-deep gorge named the Black Canyon, and a 500-year-old hemlock tree. Total hiking distance is approx. 3 miles and the hike is rated moderate for rocky and uneven terrain. After the hike, we will visit the Dutch Maid Bakery. For information and to register, contact Doug Ratliff at dougratliff@hotmail.com or 931-455-0249.

(cont') HIGHLAND RIM CHAPTER (Tullahoma Area)

Apr 20 MONTHLY MEETING Join us as David England, a park ranger at Tim's Ford State Park, presents a program about the state parks in Middle Tennessee. New hikers and guests are always welcome. See you at 7:00 pm CT at the D. W. Wilson Community Center, 501 N. Collins St., Tullahoma.

JACKSON CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER: Lee Sparks

731-298-1658, leesq@bellsouth.net

MEETING: Monthly: 1st Tuesday at 7:00 pm CT

Lambuth University, 705 Lambuth Blvd,

Hyde Hall in basement on Maple Street

Apr 3 Shiloh National Military Park 142nd Anniversary Living History Event. Join us for a 3-5 mile walk through the park. Meet at the park museum at 9:30 am CT or to carpool, meet at Shoney's on Highland. Carpoolers will depart at 8:00 am CT. Other activities: visit period campsites, 1850-1860's era civilian demonstrations, artillery, infantry and cavalry demonstrations. Contact Sara Hakim at 731-425-3260 or hakim@lambuth.edu.

Apr 6 MONTHLY MEETING Dr. Nancy Warren, Director of Nursing at UT Martin, will present a slide program on an extreme, high altitude climb up Mt. Kilimanjaro (19,340 ft) along with her African safari adventure. Come and experience the adventure and find out why Nancy will never go back! New hikers and guests are always welcome! Join us at 7:00 pm at Lambuth University.

Apr 17 Big Hill Pond State Park, Pocahtontas, TN. Join us for an 8-mile loop hike rated moderate including the 0.8 mile boardwalk crossing Dismal Swamp, a unique area with abundant wildlife. Bring lunch and water. Meet at the boat dock in the park at 9:30 am CT. Boots strongly recommended. Please note there is a \$3.00 entrance fee to the park. For more information or to carpool, call Ellen Volet at 731-427-3666

Apr 24 Tishomingo State Park. Join us for a 7-10 mile hike winding along rocky ridges with spectacular views, through shallow, fern-filled canyons, and across the Bear Creek swinging bridge constructed in the 1930's. Bring lunch and water. Registration required. For carpool information and to register, contact Ann Knighton at alittleless50@msn.com.

MEMPHIS CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER: Carolyn Pierce

901-755-5635, cedpierce2000@yahoo.com

BOARD REPRESENTATIVE: Gloria Lenski

901-213-0604, glorialenski@yahoo.com

MEETING: Monthly (Sep-May) 3rd Thursday at 7pm CT
Germantown Library

Apr 15 MONTHLY MEETING: "From a Different View: Hiking Poetry and Related Stories." Anna Clark, faculty member in the English Department at UT Martin and a member of the Northwest Chapter of TTA, will read seven poems about her hikes on trails in Tennessee (Ft. Pillow, Fall Creek Falls, the Smokies) and in far places (Colorado, Grand Canyon, Japan, and Peru), show several slides related to those hikes, and explain how other members of the Clark family, some critically and some creatively, also began to venture into verse. Join us for an enjoyable experience.

(cont') MEMPHIS CHAPTER

Apr 3 Meeman-Shelby Forest Full Moon Hike. Join us for a 2-mile easy night hike at Meeman Shelby Forest State Park! Beginning at the Visitor's Center at 7:00 pm CT. Ranger Samantha Morouney will lead us over the paved bike trail down towards the river bottoms where many barred and great horned owls reside. You won't find wilder night life than this on a Saturday evening! New hikers welcome! For information, call Norma McMinn 901-785-1479.

Apr 10 Collierville, Rossville, LaGrange Boardwalks. Bring water, snacks and binoculars. For meeting time and location, call Betty Porter at 901-744-4740.

Apr 15 ATTENTION MEMPHIS TTA MEMBERS! Join us at 6:00 pm CT at Woody & Carolyn Pierce's home to discuss the 2004 Annual Meeting Events. Jim and Anna Clark, and other Northwest Chapter members will meet with the Memphis group prior to our regular monthly meeting. For directions, call Carolyn at 901-755-5635.

Apr 17-18 Cumberland Trail - Crossville area. Join us for a weekend of hiking on the Cumberland Trail. On Saturday, we will hike on Black Mountain with views overlooking the Grassy Cove area and Sequatchie Valley. The 6-mile trail is rated moderate with some elevation changes and rocky areas. There are rock formations and a wide variety of fauna and flora. There should be an abundance of wildflowers at this time of year. On Sunday, we will meet for a short hike before driving home. Registration required. For meeting location, lodging information, and to register, call Carolyn Pierce at 901-755-5635.

Apr 25 River Walk, Memphis Downtown Social Walk. Join us for a 3-4 mile easy walk along the River Bluff. We will meet at 2 pm at the I-40 Information Center off Riverside Drive. Wear comfortable shoes. For additional information, call John Martin at 901-386-3722.

May 1 Overton Park Old Grove. Overton Park Walk "Spring Flower Hike" Join us at 10:00 am at the bridge at the end of Old Forest Lane east of the Memphis College of Art and adjacent to Rainbow Lake playground parking lot in Overton Park. This is an easy 1 to 1 1/4 mile hike. For more information, contact John Martin at 901-386-3722.

MURFREESBORO CHAPTER

CHAPTER OFFICER: Anna Bertram (also Board Rep.)

615-765-5357, abertram@heartoftn.net

OUTINGS COORDINATOR:

(Call & volunteer to lead an outing)

Ron Dunn

615-867-3301, trekkingtn@yahoo.com

MEETING: Monthly - 2nd Tuesday at 7:00 pm CT

Barfield-Crescent Park's Wilderness Station

697 Barfield Rd., Murfreesboro

CHAPTER NEWS: It is good to know TTA members are always prepared! On the February 21st hike on Cardwell Mountain Nabil Wakid of the Murfreesboro Chapter slipped on a mossy rock while crossing a stream and fractured a wrist. Both Ron Dunn, Murfreesboro, and Anne Wesley, Nashville, had the foresight to be carrying SAM splints in their packs! Retired physician Dr. Wally Bigbee, Upper Cumberland Chapter, administered first aid care. Anne stayed with Nabil until the hikers were off the trail. Ron Dunn accompanied Nabil to the hospital. We're sorry this accident occurred but glad such good and caring help was available. Nabil says he'll be hiking again soon!

(cont') MURFREESBORO CHAPTER

We are saddened to lose one of our Murfreesboro Chapter members, Sarah Jane (McBride) Tolbert, age 51. Sarah died unexpectedly February 9th due to a brain aneurysm. She hiked with us on New Year's Day and seemed in the best of health. She'll be remembered for her bright smile and sweet personality. Our sympathy is extended to her husband, Larry Tolbert, and family.

Apr 13 MONTHLY MEETING Newer members may not have been fortunate enough yet to meet J.R. "Model-T" Tate of the Clarksville Chapter. Older members will be glad to know J.R. will present his informative, inspiring, and often humorous account of his experiences hiking the Appalachian Trail, not once, but three times! This retired Marine Corps lieutenant colonel is a celebrity in his own right, and the author of a successful book, "*Walking On The Happy Side Of Misery*." He'll be available after the meeting to autograph one of his books for you. Other chapters and the public are invited.

Apr 17 Black Mountain, Crossville, TN. A component of the Cumberland Trail and inspiration for the famous fiddle tune Black Mountain Rag, Black Mountain offers excellent overlooks into the Grassy Cove on one side and the Sequatchie Valley on the other. Along the way, we will be treated to wonderful rock formations, flora and fauna as well as the "Sundquist Overlook," formerly known as the Grassy Cove Overlook. This joint hike with the Memphis and Jackson chapters is approximately 6 miles long and rated moderate for elevation changes and rocky footing. Those who choose are welcome to camp or rent cabins Friday at Cumberland Mountain State Park (CMSP), founding place of the Tennessee Trails Association. (It was here that the first organizational meeting was held.) Saturday evening we will enjoy dinner at the park's restaurant and plan a shorter hike for Sunday, possibly in the CMSP. Bring sturdy footwear, water and lunch. Since this is a one-way hike shuttles will be necessary. Contact Fount Bertram at 615-765-5357 or fwbbertram@heartoftn.net.

Apr 24 Long Hunter Day Loop, Long Hunter State Park, Hermitage, TN. In the mid 1700's men who stayed in the Cumberland wilderness for extended periods of time were referred to as Long Hunters. Such a man was Uriah Stone, for whom the Stones River gets its name. This 4.1-mile loop for newcomers and beginners is rated easy as it meanders through a forest of mixed oak and hickory, rocky areas of cedar and along rugged bluffs overlooking the dammed-up waters of the Stones River (Percy Priest Lake). Bring water and a \$3 offering for the state if you haven't purchased a 2004 Tennessee park pass. Contact Jeanne' Hoechst-Ronner at 615-890-9084 or hoaxie@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@bellsouth.net

MEETING: Monthly - 4th Tuesday at 7:00 pm CT

TN Wildlife Resources Association meeting room at Ellington Agricultural Center, 5105 Edmondson Pike

HIKING HOTLINE - 615-367-7045

Apr 1-3 Edgar Evins State Park. This will be a joint outing with the Murfreesboro Chapter and Friends of Edgar Evins. There will be camping, a 9 mile hike on Saturday, wildflower viewing and entertainment. See page 3 for "Spring Fling" information or call Diane Manas at 615-352-7777.

(cont') NASHVILLE CHAPTER

Apr 2 Saturday Hike in Beaman Park, Joelton, TN. Join Friends of Beaman Park as we explore one of Nashville's newer parks being developed by volunteers. We will enjoy the park with leaves off the trees providing better views into the woods. There might be some wildflowers too. Our hike is from 9:00 am until 12:00 noon CT on terrain rated easy to moderate. We will meet at the spring on Little Marrowbone Road. For information and to register, contact the Warner Parks Nature Center at 615-352-6299.

Apr 4 Perimeter Trail, Montgomery Bell State Park. Burns, TN. The Perimeter Trail is 11½ miles and rated easy for the terrain; however, moderate for the length. There should be wildflowers and we may even see some deer or 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 information and to register, call Brian Dion at 615-331-7331 or Brian.Dion@state.tn.us.

Apr 8 (Thurs.) Wildflower Hike, Frozen Head State Park. Wartburg, TN. Over the course of the next two weekends, Frozen Head State Park becomes the destination to see wildflowers. To avoid the crowds, we're going mid-week (Thursday). By combining the Panther Branch, North Old Mac, Tower, South Old Mac and Old Mac Trails, we will hike a total of 8 miles. The terrain is rocky and uneven; therefore sturdy hiking shoes/boots are required. Due to the ~2,000-foot climb over the first half of the hike, this outing would normally be rated strenuous; however, since we will be traveling at a much slower pace in order to enjoy and identify the wildflowers, it will be considered moderate. There is a fire tower at the very top and if the weather is clear, we may be able to see as far as the Great Smoky Mountains' ridgeline. The last half of the hike is down hill (easy). Bring plenty of water, snacks, lunch and any wildflower ID books you may have, and wear clothes for layering (it will be colder at the higher elevation). Frozen Head State Park charges a \$3/carload State Park Access Fee. If you don't already have an Annual State Park Pass, bring \$3 (or small bills to pay your share of this charge). For carpool meeting time and location, call Diane Manas at 615-352-7777.

Apr 10 Piney River Trail Segment of the Cumberland Trail. Spring City, TN. This lovely trail winds along streams and the Piney River most of its 10 mile length. Often there are many wildflowers along the way, including lady's slippers. The trail is rated easy for the terrain and moderate for the distance. Wear boots, and bring water, lunch, and snacks. For information, call Jim Poteet at 615-824-7666.

Apr 11 Newcomer's Hike, Radnor Lake, Nashville, TN We will hike the Ganier Ridge Trail and part of the Lake Trail. Come out and hike with a great bunch of people, see some wildflowers and get a little exercise in the bargain. Meet at the west parking lot at 1:30 pm CT. For information and to register, contact Sue Waldrop at 615-662-7594 or boots1028@bellsouth.net.

Apr 17 Naturalist Rally, Standing Stone State Park. Throughout the day, which starts at 7:30 am CT, Standing Stone will be having a series of events to learn about the park; it's birds, wildflowers, folklore, reptiles, and the nature of the Cumberland. There will be wildflower walks, bird walks, and presentations by experts. The closing event, at 6:30 pm CT, will be a slide presentation by Mack Prichard, State Naturalist, about the history and nature of the North Cumberlands. Make plans to attend this very special event in support of Standing Stone State Park.

Apr 17-18 Collins Gulf Backpack, South Cumberland Recreation Area, Gruetli-Laager, TN. This will be a short hike in to Saw Mill campsite on Saturday and then back out the same way on Sunday. It will be a good introduction for less experienced backpackers because of the short distance. The terrain is rugged but we will pass by waterfalls, creeks and wonderful wildflowers. Sturdy hiking boots are a must. You are responsible for all your own gear, water and food. For more information and to register, contact Nancy Juodenas at 615-419-7775 or njuodenas@hotmail.com.

(cont') NASHVILLE CHAPTER

Apr 18 Cloudland Canyon State Park, Rising Fawn, GA. There are three trails here. We will hike two of them. The first is the Waterfall Trail. This is a short .7 miles but includes 500 stairs. There are two different waterfalls and a rock overhang. The other trails are the West Rim Trail (4.9 mi) and the Backcountry Loop (5.4 mi.). We can decide as a group which one of these two we will hike upon our arrival. Both offer beautiful vistas of the gorge formed at the north end of Lookout Mountain. Other than the stair climb to the waterfalls, the hikes are rated moderate. The park is located west and a bit south of Chattanooga, just off I-59 (exit 11). For registration and information, including meeting time and place, contact Carl Appelt at 615-673-6408 or riskkid@yahoo.com

Apr 18 Perimeter Trail, University of the South, Sewanee, TN. We will hike 9 miles of this 20 mile trail that circles the University of the South. Spring is an excellent time to view the wildflowers and bluffs. The hike is rated moderate for some climbing and rock scrambling, and requires a shuttle. You will need hiking boots, water, and snacks. We will meet at 8:00 am CT at the Target on Bell Rd. (1-24, exit 59). For information, contact Brian Dion at 615-331-7331 or Brian.Dion@state.tn.us.

Apr 23-25 Backpacking in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. We'll leave Nashville early on Friday morning to allow plenty of time to backpack the 4.7 miles to our shelter for the night. On Saturday, we'll backpack (8.6 miles) down Welch Ridge and Jonas Creek Trails, and up a short segment of Forney Creek Trail to our campsite for the night. On Sunday, we'll ascend approximately 3,600 feet (over 7.2 miles) on Forney Creek and Forney Ridge Trails. Over the course of this outing, we should see lots of wildflowers, and there will be several un-bridged creek crossings and rock-hops, as well as the typical Smokies terrain: uneven with a mixed combination of roots, rocks, ruts and mud. Due to the varied trail conditions and ascents/descents, this backpacking trip is rated strenuous and open to those having backpacking experience. Everyone is responsible for bringing his/her own backpacking equipment and food. The group size is limited to 6 and registration is required (to ensure your spot, register early!). For information and to register, call Diane Manas at 615-352-7777.

Apr 25 Triple Bagel Hike, Warner Park, Nashville, TN. For this hike we will be hiking 12 miles in both Percy Warner Park and Edwin Warner Parks by combining the Warner Woods, Mossy Ridge, Connector and Harpeth Woods Trails. The hike is rated difficult due to elevation changes and the distance. Bring water and snacks, and wear sturdy boots. After the hike, we will go to Bruegger's Bagel Bakery at the Hwy. 70/100 split. We will meet at 1:00 am CT at the "Deep Well" parking area (stone entrance into park on Hwy. 100 about 1½ miles from the Hwy. 70/100 split). For information and to register, contact David Furse at 615-353-6435 or dfurse@comcast.net.

April 27 MONTHLY MEETING BACKPACKING THE HIGH SIERRA TRAIL Come and join "Team Kaweah" for a presentation on an 8-day, 77-mile trek across California's Sierra Nevada Mountains on the High Sierra Trail. Included will be a discussion of the High Sierra Trail; planning and preparation, (including a planning checklist handout); a power point show of the trip; and time for questions. "Team Kaweah" members are Bill Dayton, Diane Manas, Doug Burroughs, Sue Lefferts and Herb Kneeland. This will be the first meeting at our new gathering location. We're now gathering in the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Association meeting room on the campus of Ellington Agricultural Center at 5105 Edmondson Pike. Here are directions: From Nolensville Road, go south on Edmondson Pike. Just after Whitfield Park take a right into the Ellington Ag. Center back entrance. At about a half-mile, bear right up the hill. At a quarter-mile, TWRA is on the right. There is plenty of parking in front of the building. Give yourself some extra time, and join us at 7:00 pm CT sharp!

NORTHWEST CHAPTER (UT at Martin / Weakley County)

CHAPTER OFFICER: Jim Clark

731-587-2225, jclark@utm.edu

MEETING: usually the 2nd Thursday

Call for confirmation or visit our chapter website.

Meetings start at 7:00 pm CT

UT Martin Campus, Boling University Center, Room 231

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

Apr 8 MONTHLY MEETING Join us for our monthly meeting. New hikers and guests are always welcome. See you at 7:00 pm CT at the UT Martin Campus, Boling University Center, Room 231.

Apr 17 Bell Smith Springs, Shawnee National Forest. Eddyville, IL. Eight miles of bluff tops, springs, water-eroded rocks, and the tallest natural bridge in Illinois. There should still be lots of spring-blooming flowers. Hikers on the trip to nearby Jackson Hollow this time last year were treated to a sea of Dog Tooth Violets that were not quite ready to bloom, perhaps this year these will be out en masse. There are several stream crossings, perhaps not over the boot tops, but if you don't have waterproof boots, you will get wet! For information and to register, contact Jim Clark at 731-587-2225 or jclark@utm.edu.

PLATEAU CHAPTER (Crossville)

CHAPTER OFFICER: Carolyn Miller

931-260-6674, cardan@usit.net

MEETING: Monthly - 2nd Thursday at 6:30 pm CT, Art Circle Public Library's Community Room, 154 East 1st Street in Crossville

There is a leaderless hike in the Crossville area every Wednesday morning. Visitors are welcome to join the group. For information, call Bill Haynes at 931-707-7606. Rain cancels the hike.

Mar 31 (Wed.) Piney Falls State Natural Areas. Grandview, TN. This is a short, fairly easy hike with two scenic waterfalls and a nearby fire tower that offers a spectacular view of the surrounding area. The wildflower displays are usually splendid and, if the weather cooperates, we'll see the displays of trout lilies, which grow in profusion on the banks above Soak Creek. For more information, contact Jim McCullough at 931-484-8222 or sue1290@frontiernet.net.

Apr 3 Standing Stone State Park, Hillman, TN. This is a moderate, 5-mile hike around the lake. It is rated moderate due to some elevation changes and uneven footing. This should be a good hike in which to enjoy the spring weather and see some wildflowers. It offers views of the lake, a beautiful stone dam and recreation buildings built by the WPA in the 1930's. For more information and to register, contact Charles or Leigh Jones at 931-484-5298 or cejones9@earthlink.net.

Apr 8 MONTHLY MEETING Meet at 6:30 pm CT at the Community Room of the Art Circle Public Library. No program scheduled, but come socialize with other members of the chapter and help plan hikes for the rest of the year.

Apr 10 Devil's Breakfast Table Segment of the Cumberland Trail, Catoosa Wildlife Management Area, Crossville, TN. This is a joint hike with the Upper Cumberland Chapter. We will hike a part of the Cumberland Trail beginning at the Devil's Breakfast Table trailhead.

(cont') PLATEAU CHAPTER (Crossville)

(cont') Apr 10 The trail goes through the gorge of Daddy's Creek under sheer bluffs. The many rock steps, laid by volunteers, earned this trail the name, "a trail of a thousand steps." The hike is about 7 miles and rated moderate to strenuous because of the rocky terrain. Bring water, snacks, lunch, and sturdy hiking boots. You can meet us at 8:00 am CT in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville or the BP/Dairy Queen at Exit 320 from I-40 in Crossville at 8:30 am. For information and to register, contact Mary Jane Powell at 931-738-4500 or mjhike@blomand.net, or Jim McCullough at 931-484-8222 or sue1290@frontiernet.net.

Apr 24 Black Mountain, Crossville, TN. As part of a local Earth Day celebration entitled, "The Nature of Cumberland County," the Plateau Chapter will assist with leading a hike to Black Mountain. For more information and to register, contact Carolyn Miller at 931/456-4465 or cardan@usit.net.

Apr 24 Piney River, Spring City, TN. This is a moderately difficult 10-mile hike, primarily due to the distance. We will pass by an old mine site, remnants of a Dinky railroad line from the early 1900's and observe many wildflowers. We will do a car shuttle so that we can hike downhill. Meet at the Visitor Center at Cumberland Mountain State Park at 8:00 am CT. For more information and to register, contact Carolyn Miller at 931/456-4465 or cardan@usit.net.

SODDY DAISY CHAPTER

Arleen Decker 865-856-7262 deckerstudio@bellsouth.net

This chapter is being reorganized. For further information, contact Arleen Decker at 865-856-7262 or deckerstudio@bellsouth.net. In the interim, you are welcome to attend 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

Apr 3 Collins Gulf Loop/Horsepound Falls, Savage Gulf State Natural Area, Palmer, TN. Highlights of this hike include Horsepound and Suter Falls, numerous overlooks, and the historic Stagecoach Road built in the 1830s. The wildflowers were spectacular in the gulf last April. We will descend into the gulf along the Collins Gulf Trail to Suter and Horsepound Falls. (Those wanting a shorter hike can return to the beginning from Horsepound Falls for a total hiking distance of 5 miles which is rated moderate.) We will continue by ascending from the gulf on the Stagecoach Road and following the Collins Gulf Loop to the beginning. This hike is 13 miles and is rated strenuous. Bring snacks, water, and lunch. Hiking boots are required. You can meet us at 7:30 am CT in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville or at the US Bank across from McDonald's in Sparta at 8:00am For information and to register contact Louise Miniard at 931-528-9115 or lminiard@flowserve.com.

Apr 3 Sellar's Farm Archaeological Area Workday, Lebanon, TN. Meet at 8:30 am CT. (Rain day is April 10) This is a well preserved Native American village occupied from about 1000 A.D. until 1300 A.D. Volunteers are asked to bring tools, such as brush cutters, chain saws, good gloves, sturdy work boots, a desire to be a part of history, etc. Heavy equipment such as a tractor and wagon will be provided. Bring water and a picnic lunch and join us on the breathtaking banks of Spring Creek for a picnic. For information contact, Alicia Gray at 931-526-9437 or aliciagray@charter.net.

(cont') UPPER CUMBERLAND CHAPTER (Sparta / Cookeville)

Apr 10 Devil's Breakfast Table Segment of the Cumberland Trail, Catoosa Wildlife Management Area, Crossville, TN. This is a joint hike with the Plateau Chapter. We will hike a part of the Cumberland Trail beginning at the Devil's Breakfast Table trailhead. The trail goes through the gorge of Daddy's Creek under sheer bluffs. The many rock steps, laid by volunteers, earned this trail the name, "a trail of a thousand steps." The hike is about 7 miles and rated moderate to strenuous because of the rocky terrain. Bring water, snacks, lunch, and sturdy hiking boots. You can meet us at 8:00 am CT in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville or the BP/Dairy Queen at Exit 320 from I-40 in Crossville at 8:30 am CT. For information and to register contact Mary Jane Powell at 931-738-4500 or mjhike@blomand.net, or Jim McCullough at 931-484-8222 or sue1290@frontiernet.net.

Apr 17 Radnor Lake State Natural Area, Nashville, TN. This hike is 4.5 miles and is rated easy to moderate. A longer hike is available for those interested. We hope that the flowering trees will be very nice at this time. Bring water, snacks, and lunch. Wear hiking boots or walking shoes. You can meet us at 8:00 am CT in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville. For information and to register, contact Nina Lunn at 931-526-2250 or nlunn@charter.net.

Apr 24 Savage Gulf Waterfalls, Savage Gulf State Natural Area, Altamont, TN. Highlights of this hike include six of the major waterfalls of Savage Gulf and spectacular spring wildflower displays. The hike will begin at the Greeter Falls parking lot. We will see Upper and Lower Greeter Falls and Boardtree Falls before descending into the gulf and taking the side trip to Ranger Creek Falls. (For a shorter hike it is now possible to ascend to the rim through the Stone Door). We will then continue along the Big Creek Gulf and Connector Trails before ascending from the gulf on the Collins Gulf Trail past Horsepound and Suter Falls. The hike is about 14.5 miles and rated strenuous. Bring snacks, water, and lunch. Hiking boots are required. You can meet us at 7:00 am CT in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville or at the US Bank across from McDonald's in Sparta at 7:30 am For information and to register, contact Richard Savage at 931-526-2035 or Savage_Richard@hotmail.com.

May 1 Collins River Nature Trail and Eagle Trails, Rock Island State Park, Walling, TN. We will hike the Collins River Nature Trail which is a 3-mile loop and rated easy. After lunch at the Blue Hole Picnic Area, we will hike the Eagle Trail, which is also 3 miles and rated moderate because of elevation changes. Bring snacks, water, and lunch. You can meet us at 9:00 am CT in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville or at the US Bank across from McDonald's in Sparta at 9:30 am CT. For information and to register, contact Hix Stubblefield at 931-526-2312 or hixstub1@citlink.net.

LEAVE NO TRACE PRINCIPLES

- ❑ Leave what you find.
- ❑ Minimize Campfire Impacts.
- ❑ Respect wildlife.
- ❑ Be considerate of other visitors.
- ❑ Plan ahead and prepare.
- ❑ Travel and camp on durable surfaces.
- ❑ Dispose of waste properly.



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Cumberland Trail Conference

Representatives

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TN Rails To Trails Advisory Council

VACANT

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

Newsletter Editor

Tina Dean editor@tennesseetrails.org

Newsletter Deadlines

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

Due For Newsletter Dated

April 5 May 1

May 5 June 1

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

Please send all submissions to:
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)

website: www.TNRailsTrails.org

TRAC is in the process of being reorganized. Stay tuned for further information.

MISSION: To act as a resource and mentor for 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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Round embroidered patch commemorating TTA's 35th
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City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone hm: (____) _____ wk:(____) _____

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*Mail your check payable to: Tennessee Trails Association
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Hendersonville, TN 37075*

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Tennessee Trails Association
P.O. Box 41446
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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!!!

YES, I WANT TO JOIN TENNESSEE TRAILS ASSOCIATION, I AM ...

☐ **A NEW MEMBER**

Apr 04

☐ **RENEWING MY MEMBERSHIP**

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

Gift Memberships are also available. Contact our Membership Director,

Toni Reeves 615-790-3839 tonir@bellsouth.net

Please Mail This Form To:

Membership Director

P.O. Box 41446

Nashville, TN 37204-1446

PLEASE, PRINT CLEARLY.

___ Individual \$25.00

___ Family \$35.00

___ Student (FULL-TIME) \$15.00

___ Supporting (\$50.00, \$100.00 or more)

___ Life Member (Individual) \$500.00

___ Life Member (Family) \$750.00

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Home Phone (____) _____ Zip _____ -- _____

Work Phone (____) _____

e-mail _____

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

Please list me with the following chapter:

___ Big South Fork ___ Cumberland Gap

___ Clarksville ___ East TN (Oak Ridge/Knoxville)

___ Columbia/Franklin ___ Highland Rim (Manchester/Tullahoma)

___ Cove Lake ___ Jackson

___ Memphis

___ Murfreesboro

___ Nashville

___ Northwest (UT at Martin/Weakley)

___ Plateau (Crossville)

___ Soddy Daisy

___ Upper Cumberland

(Sparta/Cookeville)

___ At Large

When you become a TTA member, you will receive: (1.) TTA's Hiking Handbook, a reference book containing information about TTA, trail etiquette, hiker responsibilities, etc. (2.) TTA's monthly newsletter, containing information on hiker safety, upcoming hikes / overnight trips, volunteer opportunities, chapter meeting announcements, as well as events occurring within TTA's Associate Organizations: C.T.C. and T.R.A.C. (3.) Annual Membership Directory, listing members by chapter and how to reach them. You are invited to attend any number of monthly meetings scheduled, where you will enjoy diverse programs, socializing and refreshments. In addition, in the spring and fall we meet at one of Tennessee's many parks for a weekend of hiking, camaraderie and where the board members can meet to exchange ideas and hear reports on TTA's progress.

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