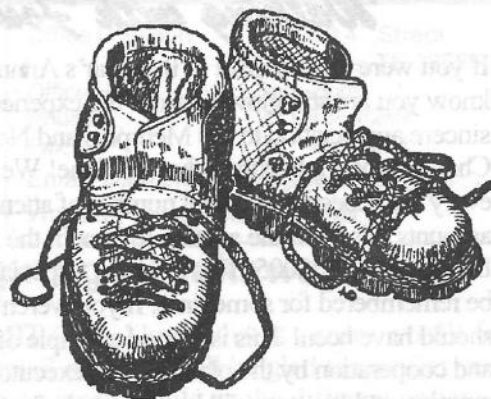


# TENNESSEE TRAILS

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



## Sign Me Up Today for Spring Breakaway

Hope everyone had enough holiday cheer and you're stoked to build some trail in the spring! The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring BreakAway Program will be underway February 27 – March 26 at the fabulous Dogwood Lodge in Soddy Daisy TN. As of today we have 18 colleges and universities, an Americorp team, and a high school group, which totals about 250 students. Each school will spend a week for their spring break during the 4-week program. We need you to make plans to help complete the Rock/Possum/Soddy Segment of the Cumberland Trail. What do you need?

**Trail builders** – We need experienced and not-so-experienced trail builders to help lead these students out on the trail. Trail building is fun and anyone can do it, but students need guidance and direction from people who have done it before.

**Kitchen Crew** – Anyone who has been on our programs, know how important this job is. The people in the kitchen cook and prepare food, do the grocery shopping, and make sure that there is enough food for everyone. Many of the same people that helped last year are back, but I'm sure your help will be needed.

**Adopt-A-Food** – If you are unable to be at the program, you can still participate as an individual/TTA chapter. In January, we will be contacting the TTA Chapters to be in charge of raising food items. This worked out great last year and gave everyone the opportunity to help out. We will assign each chapter a food item to purchase. I will make arrangements to pickup the food items from your chapter before BreakAway. If you would rather donate funds and let us take care of purchasing, that would be great as well.

**Camp Help** – There is plenty to do around camp that would help out everyone. There will be food and materials to pick up, tools to be sharpened, & camp to be cleaned. Plenty to do! (see Page 3)

## Record Breaking 2004 Auction TTA Auction Sets New Record! \$8,243.33

Fellow TTA Members,

True to our TTA spirit of volunteering and enthusiasm, we as an organization and kindred spirits of the hiking world came together at Pickwick Landing State Park in November, heard a lot of history and made history of our own. The work and efforts of the Memphis and Northwest Chapters, the hosts of the event, have been rewarded in many ways. There were record sales, record number of items for auction and silent auction, and record attendance. We were most rewarded by your participation, encouragement, camaraderie, smiles, and occasionally your patience as we assessed how to proceed.

To the many hikers who solicited auction items from through-out the state, those who personally donated items to the auction as well as white elephant and bake sale, a heartfelt THANKS. Your efforts have resulted in a wonderful donation of \$8,243.33 to the Cumberland Trail Conference 2005 Spring BreakAway. You can and should be proud of our collective persevering wills in this effort. Lastly, as the Memphis Chapter Chair and member of the steering committee for the 2004 annual meeting, I must express my gratitude to **Gloria Lenski, Jim Clark, Anna Clark, Betty Porter, Carol Haley, Jerry Lenski, Woody Pierce** and my fellow committee members. The blending of skills and resources, the complementing temperaments of this small group, made working on this project a fun and rewarding experience on many levels. Please see the following list of credits for numerous contributions to the TTA Annual Meeting.

See you on the Trail,  
Carolyn Pierce  
Memphis Chair  
(see Page 4)

## *Walking with Fount*

If you were a participant in this year's Annual Meeting I know you are still glowing from the experience. Our sincere appreciation to the Memphis and Northwest Chapters for a job extremely well done! We set records at every turn...besting the total number of attendees and amounts raised on the auction to benefit the Spring BreakAway for 2005. This one was a special one and will be remembered for some time. If you weren't there...you should have been! This is a good example of hard work and cooperation by the planners and executors of the meeting and I'm sure will be an example for future chapters to aspire to. It's going to be a hard act to follow!

We were able to honor some of our members for their outstanding contributions to the organization and to the hiking community. Recipients of these awards are:

**Tennessee Trails Award:** This is given annually to the person(s) who have demonstrated exceptional contributions to the overall hiking community and have promoted trails and hiking over and beyond the call of duty. This year the award went to **Rob and Susan Weber**. Rob and Susan have been the backbone of the Cumberland Trail and have devoted years to that end. This honor is richly deserved and we present it with our gratitude.

**Bob Stutz Award:** This is given each year to the person(s) who has demonstrated exceptional leadership and devotion to the Tennessee Trails Association. This year's winner is **Jerry Lenski**, Memphis Chapter and West Tennessee Representative At Large. Jerry has shown outstanding dedication and leadership in his role involving the West Tennessee Chapters. He was instrumental in the formation and development of both the Northwest Chapter at Martin and the Jackson Chapter. He has devoted many hours and personal expense to these efforts. Jerry is continuing in his efforts to promote and develop TTA interests in his area. We are proud to present this token of our appreciation to him.

**Golden Squirrel:** This award is presented in a good natured, lighthearted spirit to those among us who have managed to somehow misplace hikers, a trail, hiking destination or other pertinent aspects of a hike. It's an award that isn't for the weak or timid and certainly not for couch potatoes. It is however given to those who make a hike an adventure! This year's winner was **Doug Burroughs**, Nashville. The ubiquitous golden squirrel statue is returned to the Annual Meeting every year to be sent home with another winner for a place of prominence in their home for a year. Congratulations to Doug for a job...well...done!

We are anticipating another grand send up for 2005 with our annual multi-chapter New Years Day Hike.

We will again gather with all our New Years goodies and hike to the Screw Bluff Overlook at the Bridgestone/Firestone Centennial Wilderness. If you haven't made your plans to join us, now is the time! We always have a great turnout and we'll be looking for you this year.

Don't forget to make your plans to be a part of the upcoming Spring BreakAway on the Cumberland Trail. The response has been good from the colleges and universities. The kids are coming and we need to be there to support their efforts. You can get the information you need from the CTC section of the newsletter and you need to make that commitment right now!

I trust that the Holiday Season has been a time of joy for all of you. It is a chance to re-evaluate a lot of things and prepare for things yet to come. I hope to complete my chapter visits in the coming year and I'm looking forward to being able to visit with all of you.

Happy Trails...

Fount

### **\$2 million in federal funds to go toward preserving hiking trail**

November 30, 2004 in *Knoxville News Sentinel*

NASHVILLE, Tenn. -- A mammoth spending bill Congress recently passed includes \$2 million that will be used to preserve the historic Fiery Gizzard Trail.

The money approved last month will buy about 4,000 acres of the private land the hiking trail crisscrosses.

The Fiery Gizzard, part of the South Cumberland State Recreation Area, is between Monteagle and Tracy City, about 35 miles northwest of Chattanooga.

The trail is 12.3 miles long, leading past one hemlock that is estimated to be 500 years old, rock chimney formations and a 70-foot waterfall.

The Civilian Conservation Corps built much of the trail, 90 percent of which is on private property, during the Depression.

The late Marvin Runyon, former postmaster general and top executive at the Tennessee Valley Authority, and Sen. Lamar Alexander, R-Tenn., were among those who helped to secure the federal money.

"Marvin and I fell in love with the South Cumberland Plateau in the 1980s," said Sue Atkinson, Runyon's widow. "We spent a great deal of time on the mountain and came to appreciate what a totally unique resource our state has."



# CUMBERLAND TRAIL CONFERENCE

## CUMBERLAND TRAIL CONFERENCE STAFF:

Executive Director..... Paul Freeman..... [paul.freeman@frontiernet.net](mailto:paul.freeman@frontiernet.net)  
 Trail Development &  
 Maintenance Coordinator Mark Stanfill [mark.stanfill@frontiernet.net](mailto:mark.stanfill@frontiernet.net)  
 Office Manager..... Nora Beck..... [nora.beck@frontiernet.net](mailto:nora.beck@frontiernet.net)

Office Location 19 East 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Crossville, TN 38555  
 Office Hours 8am-5pm  
 Phone: 931-456-6259  
 Fax: 931-456-4934  
 Email: [cumberlandtrail@rocketmail.com](mailto:cumberlandtrail@rocketmail.com)  
 Website: [www.cumberlandtrail.org](http://www.cumberlandtrail.org)

## (cont' from Cover) Sign Me Up Today for Spring Breakaway

**Basic Trail Maintenance** – If you like to be on the trail, but feel that trail construction is to much than we need people to walk the trails in the area to run chainsaw, paint blazes, clip branches, pick up litter, and tell hikers about the Cumberland Trail!

Please fill out the form and return to the office. If you would like to volunteer, or thinking about volunteering, but don't

want to COMMIT (Hey, I know that is a scary word!) feel free to call or email me and I will be glad to comfort your soul by giving you more details on the different options on how you can "Leave Your Legacy" on the Cumberland Trail.

Mark Stanfill  
 931-200-0227, [mark.stanfill@frontiernet.net](mailto:mark.stanfill@frontiernet.net)

## 2005 Spring BreakAway Sign-Up

Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
 Name/Organization: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City,State,Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Work phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I can volunteer on the Following Trail Dates:

Week 1 (Feb 28 <sup>th</sup> – Mar 4th):	Mon	Tues	Thur	Fri
Week 2 (March 7 -11th):	Mon	Tues	Thur	Fri
Week 3 (March 14 -18th):	Mon	Tues	Thur	Fri
Week 4 (March 21 - 25th):	Mon	Tues	Thur	Fri

Yes, I Will Need Lodging on the Following Nights: (If not what arrangements did you make?)

Week 1 (Feb 27-Mar 4th):	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri
Week 2 (March 6-11th):	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri
Week 3 (March 13-18th):	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri
Week 4 (March 20-25th):	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri

\*\*\*CIRCLE those days meals are needed (WED meals are not served)\*\*\*

Vegetarian meal preferred: Yes No

How can you help (circle): Trailbuilder Camp Help Donate Food/Materials/Funds

Have you participated in BreakAway before? Yes No

Have you participated in trail work before?: Yes No

Trails Development & Maintenance Coordinator: Mark Stanfill, 931-456-6259 (office)

Return Form to: CTC, Attn: BreakAway, 19 E. 4th Street, Crossville, TN 38555, or  
 Fax to 931-456-4934, or e-mail [cumberlandtrail@rocketmail.com](mailto:cumberlandtrail@rocketmail.com)

# 2004 TTA Annual Meeting: Thank You!

**THANK YOU** to the following individuals for all the hard work!

<i>Auction Chair &amp; Site Coordinator</i>	<b>Gloria Lenski</b>
<i>Registration</i>	<b>Jim Clark</b>
<i>Hikes &amp; Signs</i>	<b>Carol Haley</b>
<i>Entertainment &amp; Publicity</i>	<b>Anna Clark and Jim Clark</b>
<i>Program, Door Prizes, Welcome Bags</i>	<b>Carolyn Pierce</b>
<i>Auctioneer, Wine &amp; Beer</i>	<b>Woody Pierce</b>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<b>Carol Haley and Jim Clark</b>
<i>Registration/Check-in</i>	<i>Welcome Bags</i>
<b>Anna Clark</b>	<b>Margaret Dixon</b>
<b>Jim Clark</b>	<b>Patricia Elias</b>
<b>Sandy Davis</b>	<b>Gloria Lenski</b>
	<b>Carolyn Pierce</b>
	<b>Betty Porter</b>
	<b>Kathryn Skinner</b>
	<b>Carol Vincent</b>
<i>Bar</i>	<i>Entertainment</i>
<b>Margaret Dixon</b>	<i>Kindred Spirits,</i>
<b>Ray Haley</b>	<b>Teresa Collard and Lisa LeBleu</b>
<b>Jerry Lenski</b>	<i>Speakers</i>
<b>Ken Novak</b>	<b>Jeffrey Hunter,</b>
<b>Woody Pierce</b>	Southern Appalachian Initiative, AHS
	<b>Jim Harrison,</b>
<i>Hike Leaders</i>	Park Superintendent Big Hill Pond
<b>Roy Corley</b>	<b>Paul Freeman,</b>
<b>Freddi Felt</b>	Executive Director, CTC
<b>Carol Haley</b>	<b>Mark Stanfill,</b>
<b>Ken Novak</b>	Development Director, CTC
<b>Gloria Lenski</b>	
<b>Jerry Lenski</b>	
<b>Woody Pierce</b>	
<b>Dr. Tim Smith</b>	

*Exhibits* **Paul Freeman** - Cumberland Trail Conference  
**J. R. Tate** - Walkin' On The Happy Side of Misery  
**Anna Clark** - Northwest Chapter

*Auctioneer* **Jay Whorley**, Jay Whorley Auction Co., Selmer, TN

*Auction Workers*  
**Betty Porter** - Silent Auction Organizer  
**Patricia Elias** - Recorder

<b>Anna Bertram</b>	<b>Gloria Lenski</b>	<b>Libby Francis</b>
<b>Fount Bertram</b>	<b>Jerry Lenski</b>	<b>Carol Haley</b>
<b>Ray Burkett</b>	<b>Jim Lesch</b>	<b>Amy Kaiser</b>
<b>Martye Burkett</b>	<b>Anne Lindholm</b>	<b>Woody Pierce</b>
<b>Anna Clark</b>	<b>John Martin</b>	<b>Kathryn Skinner</b>
<b>Jim Clark</b>	<b>Regena Martin</b>	<b>Carol Vincent</b>
<b>Gary Cooper</b>	<b>Norma McMinn</b>	
<b>Margaret Dixon</b>	<b>Ken Novak</b>	
<b>Freddi Felt</b>	<b>Carolyn Pierce</b>	

If you know any of the people listed, the next time you see them, tell them "Thank You" and let them know how much you have appreciated their help and support of TTA.

## A H-U-G-E Thank You!

To the following businesses whose contributions made this year's auction a great success!

<b>Big South Fork</b>	<b>Highland Rim</b>
Grey Gables Bed 'N Breakfast Inn	Crockett's Roadhouse
Newbury House Bed & Breakfast, Historic Rugby, Inc.	
<b>Columbia/Franklin</b>	
Academy Sports	
Bleachers Sports Grill	
Blue Ridge Mountain Sports, Jed King	
Viaje Outdoors	

## East Tennessee

In the Woods, Townsend  
 Madison Day Spa, Knoxville  
 Harley Davidson Dealership

Allstate Agency, Woody Pierce  
 Borders Book Store  
 Huey's Blues, Brew & Burgers!  
 Kroger  
 Malco Theatres  
 Melvin Castle, Artisan  
 Memphis Queen Riverboat Line  
 Olympus Flag & Banner  
 Rendezvous Restaurant  
 Schering-Plough HealthCare  
 Stein Mart, Collierville  
 TN Department of State Parks  
 The Broken Pot

## Murfreesboro

Applebee's #21 Restaurant  
 Binks Outfitters on the Square  
 Murfreesboro Outdoors

## Upper Cumberland

El Tapatio, Cookeville  
 The Outdoor Experience, Cookeville

Please remember, when patronizing these merchants, tell them you're a member of TTA and let them know how much you have appreciated their support.

## A H-U-G-E Thank You!

To the following TTA members who gathered the auction merchandise making this year's auction a great success!

## Big South Fork Chapter

Thomas and Benita Howell

## Clarksville Chapter

Suva Bastin  
 Jack Bastin  
 Todd Dillingham  
 Blue Eubanks  
 Merri Hinton  
 Gail Owens  
 Barbara Wilbur  
**Jackson Chapter**  
 Roy Corley  
 Gary Cooper  
 Glen Rognstad  
 LaRenda Scarbrough

## Memphis Chapter

Carolyn Pierce  
 Woody Pierce  
 Betty Porter  
 Patricia Elias  
 Freddi Felt  
 Gil & Kathleen Griffin  
 Carol Haley  
 Barbara Harris  
 Gloria Lenski  
 Jerry Lenski  
 Anne Lindholm  
 Ken Novak  
 (see Page 10)

## Jackson

Jean's Flowers, Huntingdon  
 Old English Inn, Jackson  
 Scarbrough Realty, Huntingdon

## Memphis

J Alexander's  
 Buster's Liquors & Wine  
 DBI Distributing  
 Lora Gray, Shaklee  
 McDonald's  
 Memphis Pizza Café  
 Renasant Bank  
 Outdoors, Inc.  
 Romano's Macaroni Grill  
 Schlotzsky's Deli  
 Taco Bell  
 Tellini's Pasta  
 Wild Birds Unlimited

## Nashville

Cumberland Transit  
 Friends of Radnor Lake  
 REI

## Columbia/Franklin Chapter

Rick Lausten

Russell Smith

## East Tennessee Chapter

Rosemary Marshall  
 Janie Mert z

## Highland Rim Chapter

Joan Bentley  
 Pauline Ducker  
 Brent Morris  
 Doug Ratliff

## Murfreesboro Chapter

Anna Bertram  
 Fount Bertram  
 Tammy Day

Ron Dunn

Regenia Murdock

## Nashville Chapter

Vera Churcher  
 Libby Francis Shirley Ora  
 David Furse June Parker  
 Jenice Johnson Carol Smith  
 Jim Johnson Alan Stokes  
 Nancy Juodenas Julie Walski  
 Herb Kneeland  
 Sue Lefferts  
 Jerry Link  
 Diane Manas  
 Richard Wallace



## Multi-Chapter New Year's Day Hike

**Jan 1** New Year's Day Hike & Feast, Bridgestone - Firestone Wilderness Area, DeRossett, TN, an Annual Multi-Chapter Event! The superstition lives on! Whatever you do on New Year's Day you will continue to do all year, so come out to enjoy a day of hiking and feasting with your friends! We'll hike Polly Branch Falls Trail to Screw Bluff Overlook, which is the end of the Chestnut Mountain Trail. Here we'll put together our traditional New Year's Day Feast, socialize, and take in the views of the Caney Fork River Gorge. We will return to our cars via the Chestnut Mountain Trail. Total hiking distance 6 miles, rated moderate due to tree stubs, rocky, uneven terrain, and two small stream crossings. Sturdy hiking footwear that provides stability is essential. Everyone is encouraged to bring their own eating utensils and something to share (such as prepared black eyed peas, cornbread, greens, ham, chicken, salads, desserts, beverages, camp stoves, pots and pans, paper products, and garbage bags for carrying out the litter.) Sorry, this is not an outing recommended for children or dogs. **DON'T DELAY! REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED BY DECEMBER 29TH!** For time and carpool information and to register, contact June Parker at 832-5418 or [jmparker@bellsouth.net](mailto:jmparker@bellsouth.net) or Fount Bertram at [fwbertram@heartoftn.net](mailto:fwbertram@heartoftn.net) or 615-765-5357.

### BIG SOUTH FORK CHAPTER

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Thomas Howell

423-628-5521, [tshowell@nxs.net](mailto:tshowell@nxs.net)

**SECRETARY-TREASURER:** Benita Howell

423-628-5521 or 865-974-7797, [bhowell@nxs.net](mailto:bhowell@nxs.net)

**BOARD REPRESENTATIVES:** Tim and Lynn Takacs

615-824-7048, [lynntakacs@comcast.net](mailto:lynntakacs@comcast.net) or

[ttakacs@comcast.net](mailto:ttakacs@comcast.net)

**OUTINGS COORDINATOR:**

(call & volunteer to lead an outing)

Kathy Hicks 865-938-6846, [khudson3@utk.edu](mailto:khudson3@utk.edu)

**Jan 7 ANNUAL MEETING** The Big South Fork chapter's annual meeting will be Friday evening, January 7, 2005, at 7:00 pm ET in the Community Building at Rugby. We'll elect officers and plan hikes for 2005. Following the business meetings, Eric Wilson and Vi Biehl will present a slide talk on their summer 2004 hiking in the Snowdonia Hills and elsewhere in Great Britain. TTA President Fount Bertram will join us for this meeting.

**Jan 15** Joint hike with Nashville and Murfreesboro chapters. Snow and ice hike from Harrow Road Cafe in Rugby to the Meeting of the Waters, followed by chili lunch at Jim and Marietta Poteet's home, Shadowlands. To register and for additional details, contact Jim or Marietta at 615-824-7666 or 423-628-5890, or [jpoteet@genesco.com](mailto:jpoteet@genesco.com).

### CLARKSVILLE CHAPTER

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Bill Hamilton

931-920-2760, [billhamilton@charter.net](mailto:billhamilton@charter.net)

**OUTINGS COORDINATORS:**

(call & volunteer to lead an outing)

Suva Bastin 931-645-2849

Sandra Janus 931-551-8523

**MEETING:** Monthly - 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at 7:00 pm CT,

Crow Community Center, 211 Richview Rd

**Jan 8** Have you ever wanted to hike the entire North South Trail at Land Between the Lakes? Here is your chance to hike it in a series of dayhikes. We will begin the adventure at the North Welcome Station and hike our way south. If you're unable to make it on a section, there may be a make-up opportunity on MLK day and/or Presidents' day on an "as needed basis". Make it your New Years Resolution to hike the North/South Trail - or all of the trails at LBL! If a trail is not being offered, volunteer to lead it! To register and details on carpooling, contact Suva Bastin 931-645-2849 or Merri Hinton 270-726-3141.

**Jan 8** North Welcome station to Birmingham Ferry Rd - 10 miles

Jan 15 - Birmingham Ferry Rd to Sugar Bay - 12 miles Jan 17

(MLK day) - Make up hike or Canal loop trail (12 miles) - chance to see eagles!

### (cont') CLARKSVILLE CHAPTER

**Jan 22** Sugar Bay to Golden Pond - 10 miles

**Jan 29** Golden Pond to Bison Range - 12.1 miles

**Feb 5** Bison Range to South Welcome Station - 13.7

**Feb 12** Fort Henry loop (or possible completion of N/S trail)

All of these hikes are rated moderate to strenuous due to the length.

### COLUMBIA/FRANKLIN CHAPTER

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Rick Lausten

615-373-0029, [saturncar1@aol.com](mailto:saturncar1@aol.com)

**OUTINGS COORDINATOR:**

(call & volunteer to lead an outing)

Tanya Juday 931-490-0856

**MEETING:** Monthly - 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday at 6:30 pm CT

Grand Buffet (North of Spring Hill)

**Jan 1** New Year's Day Hike. We will join all TTA chapters to hike Polly Branch Falls Trail at the Bridgestone/Firestone Wilderness area. Derosset, TN. Please see the article above for details. Bobby Hardeman is coordinating our chapters participation. We will meet at A&D Market, the exact time will be determined but it will be early. Register with Bobby by email at [puttr22@aol.com](mailto:puttr22@aol.com).

**Jan 4 MONTHLY MEETING** 6:30 Grand Chinese Buffet 5228 N. Main Street Spring Hill, TN. Join us for dinner as we hear of the adventures of Richard Savage, a TTA member from the Upper Cumberland Chapter. Richard spent three months hiking the outback of Australia.

**Jan 8** Keith White will lead a joint hike in Big South Fork from Twin Arches to Middle Creek. This trail is eleven miles and rated moderate to difficult due to the length. Features on the trail includes the largest natural bridge complex in Tennessee. Twin Arches. Massive rock walls and overhangs, niter mines, Jake's Place, an 1884 homestead, Slave Falls, Needle Arch, Indian Rock house and much more. If weather conditions are right this trail is a winter wonderland of icicles along the rock walls and overhangs and Slave Falls is spectacular when frozen. For meeting and time call Keith White at (615) 305-9078 or email at [takehike@bellsouth.net](mailto:takehike@bellsouth.net).

**Jan 15** Cindy Kinnard will lead a hike and "pot luck" dinner at her parents cabin in "Boze Hollow" near Bethpage, TN. The hike is easy to moderate, a real hike for everyone. After our hike we will gather at the cabin for our pot luck dinner, so plan to bring you favorite dish. Also spouses and guest are invited and if they don't want to hike they are invited to enjoy the cabin while we hike. Meeting time and place will be announced. To register and for more information, contact Cindy at [cindykinnard@charter.net](mailto:cindykinnard@charter.net).

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## (cont') COLUMBIA/FRANKLIN CHAPTER

### HIKE REPORTS

**On November 5-7**, eight members from our chapter joined the other 148 attendees of TTA's annual meeting at Pickwick Landing's State Park. We participated in hikes at Tishomingo State Park in Mississippi and Shiloh National Battle Field. The weather could not have been better for hiking. Marvin Cain was personally responsible for record proceeds from the live auction. Throwing caution to the wind Marvin raised the bidding to \$75 for an \$8 camp pillow. When questioned about his actions Cain's response was "But it matches my pack perfectly!" Please see December's newsletter and Page 4 for a complete report of the meeting.

**On November 20**, Rick Lausten led 15 members from four chapters on a hike of The Walls of Jericho. Members from Murfreesboro, Nashville and the Upper Cumberland met Columbia/Franklin members in Winchester then caravanned to the trail head a mile south of the Tennessee-Alabama border. Rick reports that the hike was a challenging seven miles with an elevation change of 1130 feet. From the trailhead we hiked a very well marked trail to Turkey Creek where we changed into our "Waldies" before fording the creek. On the other side was a level, grassy meadow where troops of Boy Scouts had pitched their camp. A sign led us around the camp sight, along a stream to a gap in a barbed wire fence. Here is where the hike gets tough! The trail goes up to the Walls and it is muddy, slippery and treacherous. Trekking poles or a good hiking staff are a must. The trail is getting washed out and there are spots on it where it is really a tough hike. Several of us slipped and fell on the trail. A bout 100 yards from the Walls, as the trail ends there is a steep decent down a muddy slope to the creek. Someone had left a rope that we used to aid our decent. It would be a good idea to take a rope if anyone hikes here in case this one disappears. I don't know how we would decent without the rope, or acceded on our way back. Once you reach the creek and the Walls the scenery is simply spectacular. Steep cliffs surround the creek, hence the name The Walls of Jericho. Deep scours, a sink, water spewing from a narrow cave, words fail to adequately describe The Walls of Jericho. After retracing our rout to the trail head nine of us opt for dinner at the Davy Crockett Roadhouse in Manchester.

**On November 26**, two members from our chapter joined the Murfreesboro and Highland Rim chapters for the annual After Thanksgiving Day tradition. We hiked three miles at Old Stone Fort Archeological State Park in Manchester, TN. The weather made this another great day for hiking in Tennessee. After our hike, we returned to our favorite restaurant, Crockett Roadhouse for lunch.

### PLANNING AHEAD

**Feb 12** Spencer Knoch will host a "pot luck" barbecue at his home in Leiper's Fork. Bring your favorite side dish and desserts. More details will be given at the Jany and February meetings.

**Feb 26** Bobby Hardeman will lead a hike at Fall Creek Falls State Park. Meet at A&D Market and leave at 7:30. Six miles - we will be hiking a moderate trail. Bring water, lunch and snacks. Also plan to stop on our trip home for dinner at a very special place.

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## COVE LAKE CHAPTER

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Richard Helm

865-426-4472, [Richard.Helm@ahss.org](mailto:Richard.Helm@ahss.org)

**CO-CHAIR:** Mari Haslam

423-562-3227, [pittsteelersfan@earthlink.net](mailto:pittsteelersfan@earthlink.net)

**MEETING:** Monthly - 1<sup>st</sup> Monday,  
Doris and Gordon Early's home

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**Jan 15** Yahoo Falls, Big South Fork. The tallest waterfall in Kentucky produces a huge ice cone at the base during freezing weather.

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## COVE LAKE CHAPTER

**(cont') Jan 15** Only half a mile from the parking lot to the falls, the trail takes a long set of stairs down the face of the gorge to the base of falls. We may also extend the hike a couple more miles to see Yahoo Arch. Sturdy boots and warm clothing a must for this winter wandering. Meet at 10:00 am at Eagle Market parking lot. For reservation/information, contact Richard Helm at 423-562-1110.

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## EAST TN CHAPTER (Oak Ridge / Knoxville)

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Rosemary Marshall  
[rosemary\\_l@hotmail.com](mailto:rosemary_l@hotmail.com)

**OUTINGS COORDINATOR:**

(call & volunteer to lead an outing)

Bob Uhren

[snowcap34@charter.net](mailto:snowcap34@charter.net)

**TREASURER:** Harold Draper, [h.m.draper@att.net](mailto:h.m.draper@att.net)

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**Jan 15** Bandy Creek to Leatherwood Ford, Big South Fork National Recreation Area, Jamestown, TN. (This is a joint hike with the Upper Cumberland Chapter). We will hike a section of the John Litton Loop, the Fall Branch Trail, and a portion of the Grand Gap Loop to Angel Falls Overlook - perhaps the finest overlook in the park. We will then descend to Leatherwood Ford. Other highlights include the gorge of Fall Branch and a large rockhouse. The hike is about 9 miles and is rated moderate for uneven terrain, narrow ledge crossings, boulder passages and ladders. Wear sturdy footwear and bring snacks, lunch and water. East Tennessee members plan to meet in Oak Ridge at the Food City located at 115 S. Illinois Ave. at 9:00 am ET to car pool. For more information and to register contact Cindy Walinski at 931-394-3413 or [cwalinski@blomand.net](mailto:cwalinski@blomand.net).

**Jan 22** House Mountain: A loop trail 4 to 5 miles in length. Suitable for cabin fever and most New Year's resolutions. We'll go up the West Overlook, across the ridge and back down from the east end. A bit steep at first, but easy footing once we reach the ridge. There is a kid-size rock shelter at the west end and a substantial vine swing as we finish. Plan some time for lunch together at a neighborhood restaurant, there are lots of choices near the mall. Meet at Walmart, off I-640 near Knoxville Center at 9:00 am or at the trailhead at 9:30 am. For more information, contact Fran Cope at 865-219-0301 or [Fcope48@comcast.net](mailto:Fcope48@comcast.net).

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## HIGHLAND RIM CHAPTER (Tullahoma Area)

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Doug Ratliff

931-455-0249, [dougratliff@hotmail.com](mailto:dougratliff@hotmail.com)

**MEETING:** Monthly - 3rd Tuesday at 7:00 pm CT, D. W. Wilson Community Center, 501 N. Collins St., Tullahoma.

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**Jan 1** Multi-chapter hike at Bridgestone/Firestone Wilderness Area. Please see the announcement on Page 5.

**Jan 18 MONTHLY MEETING** Join us as David England, park ranger at Tims Ford State Park, will be speaking about Tims Ford and other area state parks. Guests and new hikers are always welcome.

**Jan 22** Carter Mountain in Franklin County. This is an 8 - 10 mile hike that is rated strenuous due to being off trail with elevation gains and losses. Expect beautiful views, waterfalls, and caves. Meet at 9:20 AM at the checking station on Highway 16. Directions: Go to the Winchester courthouse and take Highway 64 west toward Fayetteville.



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## (cont') HIGHLAND RIM CHAPTER

**(cont') Jan 22** Go about 2 to 3 miles and turn left (south) onto Highway 16. Go up the mountain and the checking station is between mile markers 23 and 24 on the left. Bring lunch, water, and sturdy hiking shoes. Call Joette Carter at (256) 776-3551 to register.

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## JACKSON CHAPTER

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Gary Cooper

731-424-5375, [gcooper52@yahoo.com](mailto:gcooper52@yahoo.com)

**MEETING:** Meeting: Monthly: 1st Tuesday at 7:00 pm CT  
Lambuth University, 705 Lambuth Blvd, Hyde Hall in basement on Maple Street. Look for TTA signs.

**Jan 4 MONTHLY MEETING** Come and meet new friends and discuss hikes. New hikers and guests are always welcome.

**Jan 22** Warner Woods & Mossy Ridge Trails, Percy Warner Park, Nashville, TN. We will get 7 miles of hiking by combining these two trails - Warner Woods and Mossy Ridge. The trail passes through mature woods with hugh oaks, tulip poplars, sassafras, sugar maples, hickories and many other trees over terrain that is rated moderate for the several hills we will ascend/descend. Bring snacks and water. Afterwards, the group will get together for a dinner. We will meet at 10:00 am CT at the Warner Woods & Mossy Ridge trailhead in Percy Warner Park's "Deep Well" picnic area on TN-100, which is 1 1/2 miles from US-70S. For information and to register, contact Sara Hakim 731-425-3260 or [hakim@lambuth.edu](mailto:hakim@lambuth.edu).

**Jan 29** Shiloh Compass Hike in Shiloh National Military Park. Near Counce, TN. Join the fun and at the same time learn more about your compass. A compass and registration is required for each participant. Bring water and lunch, and dress for some bush whacking that we will do along the way. We will meet at Ed Shaw's Cafe (located on TN HWY.22) at 9:00 am CT. For additional informational and to register or obtain carpool details, contact Roy Corley at 731-668-5070 or [roycorley@aeneas.net](mailto:roycorley@aeneas.net).

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## MEMPHIS CHAPTER

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Carolyn Pierce

901-755-5635, [cedpierce2000@yahoo.com](mailto:cedpierce2000@yahoo.com)

**BOARD REPRESENTATIVE:** Gloria Lenski

901-213-0604, [glorialenski@yahoo.com](mailto:glorialenski@yahoo.com)

**MEETING:** Monthly (Sep-May) 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday at 7:00 pm CT  
Cordova Library at 8457 Trinity Rd. The new library is located off Germantown Parkway east on Trinity Rd. 1/8 mile. It is on the right and shares an entrance with the Bert Fergerson Community Center. Our meeting room is to the right of the entrance.

**Jan 1** New Year's Day Hike - Ft. Pillow State Park, Henning, TN. Meet at Park Interpretative Center at 9:30 am for a 5-mile hike rated moderate over hilly terrain and through hardwood forests. New hikers welcome! For information call Betty Porter at 901-755-4740.

**Jan 8** Herb Parsons Lake, Fisherville, TN Join us for an easy 6-mile walk around the lake. Hike begins at 9:45 am at the lake. Bring snacks and water. Carpool meets at 9:00 am at the soccer field on Walnut Grove Road (located on the south side of Walnut Grove, west of the traffic light at Farm Road). New Hikers Welcome! For more information call Freddi Felt at 901-685-9915.

**Jan 15** Big Hill Pond State Park, Pochontas - Trail Maintenance  
Contact: Betty Porter, 901-755-4740

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## (cont') MEMPHIS CHAPTER

**Jan 20 MONTHLY MEETING** Cordova Library Karen Davis, former owner of Davis-Kidd Booksellers (1980-1997), will be doing a slide preview of the 2005 trips at our next meeting. Karen first began offering hiking trips to Europe as an extension of her business. After selling the company, Karen then took the travel aspect as a private business, KDavis Travels. She offers small group specialty travel, primarily hiking trips in Europe and cultural trips to Mexico and South America. In 2005, hiking trips are offered in Italy, England, and Scotland in May and June and a cultural trip to Mexico in September. You can see the trip descriptions at [www.kdavistravels.com](http://www.kdavistravels.com). Join us for an evening of travel, some refreshments, and good company. New hikers welcome!

**Jan 22** Meeman-Shelby Forest Chickasaw Bluff Trail Meet at the Visitor Center at 9:00 a.m. and bring water and lunch. Hike begins with a car shuttle to the north end of the trail for a 5-mile easy to moderate hike through the forest and connect up to the Woodland Trail then hike back to the Visitor Center. New hikers welcome! For information, call Jerry Lenski at 901-213-0604.

**Feb 5** Wolf River Trail Meet at the Shelby Farms Soccer Field off Walnut Grove Road at 9 a.m. for an easy 3 - 4 mile loop hike along the river through a hardwood forest. Bring water and snacks. New hikers welcome! Contact Freddi Felt at 901-685-9915 for information.

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## MURFREESBORO CHAPTER

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Anna Bertram (also Board Rep.)

615-765-5357, [abertram@heartoftn.net](mailto:abertram@heartoftn.net)

**OUTINGS COORDINATOR:**

(Call & volunteer to lead an outing)

Ron Dunn

615-867-3301, [trekkingtn@yahoo.com](mailto:trekkingtn@yahoo.com)

**MEETING:** Monthly - 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at 7:00 pm CT

Barfield-Crescent Park's Wilderness Station

697 Barfield Rd., Murfreesboro

**Jan 8** 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 2005 Tennessee state park pass. Contact Jeanne' Hoechst-Ronner at (615) 890-9084 or [hoaxie@comcast.net](mailto:hoaxie@comcast.net).

**Jan 11 MONTHLY MEETING** Election of Officers. If you're not present to vote you will forfeit your say in the selection of officers for the coming year. Program: Bertha Chrietzberg will resume the educational and entertaining program of her adventures along the historical Lewis and Clark Trail. This is the conclusion of the presentation we enjoyed at our October meeting. There still are some T.T.A. shirts, caps, and pocket calendars available so bring your billfolds and check books! Also at our January meeting, we will start a Swap and Shop. Is one of your January Resolutions to clean out your closets and storage places? Do you have items suitable for camping and hiking you no longer use?

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## (cont') MURFREESBORO CHAPTER

**(cont') Jan 11** Come a few minutes early and bring your articles. Stick a price tag on them if you wish. We'll have an "official" Swap and Shop table for displaying them. You might even find something you want too! Just take your articles home at the end of the meeting if they have not been bought or swapped. No fees or strings attached. Bring them as many times as you like. This is a reminder that at our October meeting we voted yes to a voluntary donation of our spare change at each meeting to benefit the BreakAway and BigDig Programs of the Cumberland Trail. The spare change jar will be on the sign-in table at the beginning of each meeting. Contributions will always be voluntary. The combined annual accumulated amount will be turned in at each Annual Meeting.

**Jan 15** Rugby Hike, Rugby, TN. This is our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Winter hike at Rugby with members of the Big South Fork and Nashville Chapters. We always hope for snow for this hike, so don't let snowy weather forecasts deter you...just wear extra socks or winter boots! Jim and Marietta Poteet will lead us on a 5-mile hike from Beacon Hill in Rugby to Laurel Dale Cemetery, then on to the Gentlemen's Swimming Hole along the Clear Fork River and the Meeting of the Waters, before returning to Beacon Hill. After working up our appetites we'll chow down and warm up at Shadowlands on Beacon Hill, the charming Rugby home of the Poteets. This is a great opportunity to socialize with hikers from our own and other Chapters while enjoying the gracious hospitality of Jim and Marietta. This hike is rated moderate due to elevation changes and possible snow. If there is interest and conditions permit we may also stop by and hike Colditz Cove, near Allardt, on our way home. We will car pool from Hardee's (main drag, on the left) in Woodbury, leaving there promptly at 8:00 am CT. For more information or to register, contact either Anna or Fount Bertram, [abertram@heartoftn.net](mailto:abertram@heartoftn.net) or 615-765-5357

**Jan 15-16** Savage Gulf State Natural Area, Gruetli-Laager, TN. This overnight backpacking trip will begin on the Collins West trail where we will enjoy the beauty of Suter Falls and Horsepound Falls before continuing on via the Stagecoach Road Historic trail. This section of trail is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and dates back to 1840 as the connector road between McMinnville and Chattanooga. We'll overnight at the Stagecoach camping area and hike out Sunday morning along the South Rim Trail to the Savage Gulf Ranger Station. This 12.7-mile hike is rated moderate to difficult for the 800 ft. elevation change and will require a car shuttle. In addition this January hike is subject to weather conditions. Advanced registration is required. Contact Gary Frost at 615-355-6712 or [gap\\_frost@hotmail.com](mailto:gap_frost@hotmail.com).

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## NASHVILLE CHAPTER

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** David Furse  
615-308-7988, [dfurse@comcast.net](mailto:dfurse@comcast.net)

**OUTINGS COORDINATOR:**

*(call & volunteer to lead an outing)*

Nancy Juodenas, [njuodenas@hotmail.com](mailto:njuodenas@hotmail.com)

**MEETING:** Monthly - 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday at 7:00 pm CT

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

**HIKING HOTLINE - 615-367-7045**

**Jan 8-9** 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Longhunter State Park Backpack. Let's begin the year with an easy 12-mile roundtrip backpack to the overnight campsite on the Volunteer Trail at Longhunter State Park.

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## (cont') NASHVILLE CHAPTER

**(cont') Jan 8-9** Bring your favorite "gourmet" backpacking meal to share for a potluck supper on Saturday night. For additional information and to register, contact Katherine Pendleton at 615-943-6877 or [Katibug1959@aol.com](mailto:Katibug1959@aol.com).

**Jan 8** Twin Arches to Middle Creek. Big South Fork, Jamestown, TN. This trail is 11 miles and rated moderate in difficulty, due to length. Featuring: the largest natural-bridge complex in TN, "Twin Arches", massive rock walls and overhangs, niter mines, "Jakes Place", 1884 homestead, "Slave Falls", "Needle Arch", "Indian Rock House", and many more impressive rock houses. If weather conditions are right, this trail is a winter wonderland of icicles along the rock walls and overhangs, and Slave Falls is spectacular when frozen. For meeting time and location, call Keith White 615-305-9078 or [takehike@bellsouth.net](mailto:takehike@bellsouth.net)

**Jan 9** Pot Point Loop Trail, Prentice Cooper State Forest. N. Chattanooga, TN. This offers grand views of the Tennessee River Gorge. Along the way, we will have many opportunities to view the gorge below where red-tailed hawks and birds of prey can be seen often. We'll also pass over a 30-ft high natural bridge of sandstone. The trail is rocky in places and crosses several streams. Even though there are no great changes to the elevation, this hike is rated moderate for the hills, mileage (11.9 miles) and rocky, uneven terrain. Sturdy hiking boots or trail shoes are required. Bring snacks, lunch and plenty of water for this all-day outing. For information, meeting time, location, and to register, call Diane Manas at 615-352-7777.

**Jan 15** Joint hike with Big South Fork and Murfreesboro chapters. Snow and ice hike from Harrow Road Cafe in Rugby to the Meeting of the Waters, followed by chili lunch at Jim and Marietta Poteet's home, Shadowlands. To register and for additional details, contact Jim or Marietta at 615-824-7666 or 423-628-5890 or [jpoteet@genesco.com](mailto:jpoteet@genesco.com).

**Jan 15** Bicentennial Rails to Trails. Beginners Hike Ashland City. This is an easy and flat 4-mile trip. We will meet at the Hwy. 12 Super Wal-Mart, at the corner opposite the gas station. Bring water, snacks and money for restaurant afterwards. Call Jessica Moody for time and to register at 615-792-1790/615-850-5097.

**Jan.16** Devil's Backbone/Meriwether Lewis Loops, Natchez Trace Parkway, TN. This 2 part hike starts out at Devil's Backbone as a beginner's hike with a 2.7-mile moderate loop that traverses one of Tennessee's newer State Natural Areas. This loop goes through a seldom traveled preserve of hardwood forest, including an area of wilderness that makes winter time views of surrounding hills seem "in the back of beyond" (Johnny Molloy). From there the more adventurous have the option of driving 5 miles down the Trace to Meriwether Lewis Monument. The loop at this location is 3.5 miles, rated moderate and covers some historic parts of the old Natchez Trace, including where Meriwether Lewis met his untimely end. Bring water snacks and lunch. We will eat lunch before we begin the second loop. Bring money for dinner at the Loveless Cafe afterwards. For more information and to register, contact Jerry Hendrixson at 423-7019 or Nancy Juodenas at 643-0936 or [njuodenas@hotmail.com](mailto:njuodenas@hotmail.com).

**Jan 22** 11 miles, Montgomery Bell Trail at Montgomery State Park, Hwy 70S. This trail follows the perimeter of the park and passes by several lakes, near several historic areas and crosses streams. The hike is 11 1/2 miles and rated easy for the terrain, but moderate because of the distance. Bring snacks, lunch and water. Wear boots for stream crossings. Meet at 9:00 at the trailhead. For more information and to register, call Garnett Rush 615-352-7217.



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## (cont') NASHVILLE CHAPTER

**Jan 25 MONTHLY MEETING** 7:00 pm. Our guest speaker this month is Stephen Garrett of the Tennessee Office of the Nature Conservancy. He will share a power-point presentation on the Walls of Jericho. This wilderness area south of Winchester was purchased by the Alabama and Tennessee chapters of the Conservancy in 2004. If you've yet to hike the Walls, the story and images may get you there. We meet at the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency building at 5105 Edmondson Pike on the campus of Ellington Agricultural Center. From Franklin Road, between Tyne Boulevard and Old Hickory Boulevard, go east on Hogan Road. Where Hogan ends, turn right on Marchant, up the hill onto the Ellington campus. Follow the pavement to the stop sign at the bottom of a big hill. Dogleg left and right into the TWRA parking lot. From Edmondson Pike, between Whitfield Park and Huntington Parkway, turn west into the Ellington campus. At the first right, turn into the TWRA parking lot.

**Jan 29** This will be an easy hike and so it will be suitable for newcomers. We will hike at Bowie Park in Fairview. I will keep the hike to about 3 to 4 miles, which should allow us to take in the lake trails. Afterwards we will head to the newly renovated Loveless Cafe for lunch. Hikers can call me at for details of the meeting place, which will be in Nashville. We will carpool to Fairview. Call June Parker for more information and to register, 615-832-5418 or [jmparker@bellsouth.net](mailto:jmparker@bellsouth.net).

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## NORTHWEST CHAPTER (UT at Martin / Weakley County)

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Jim Clark

731-587-2225, [jclark@utm.edu](mailto: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/](http://www.utm.edu/~jclark/trails/)

**Jan 17** Annual Martin Luther King Day hike at LBL. For the past three years, members and friends of the Northwest Chapter have gathered for a hike at the Land Between the Lakes on the Martin Luther King holiday. We have been working on completion of the North-South Trail – an effort that will, at the current rate, take several years. We have been greeted with melting snow and 60 degree temperatures and (last year) frigid temperatures of 16 degrees on leaving Martin and a high of about 28. So on this one, be prepared for anything. The hike is easy to moderate, 5-8 miles over rolling wooded hillsides with occasional stunning views of Kentucky Lake. Jan.

Upcoming events include a beginner's hike at Fort Donelson and a UTM campus walk.

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## PLATEAU CHAPTER (Crossville)

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Carolyn Miller

931-260-6674, [cardan@usit.net](mailto:cardan@usit.net)

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

There is a leaderless hike (typically 5 - 7 miles) every Wednesday morning. For additional information or to get on an e-mail list for the hikes, contact Bill Haynes at 931/707-7606 or [sue1290@frontiernet.net](mailto:sue1290@frontiernet.net) for details. Rain cancels.

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## (cont') PLATEAU CHAPTER

**Jan 13 MONTHLY MEETING** 6:30 pm at the Community Room of the Art Circle Public Library.

**Jan 15** Cumberland Overnight Trail at Cumberland Mountain State Park, Crossville, TN. This is a loop hike that goes along the ridge, across a creek (via a footbridge) and through the woods. It is rated moderate due to the distance of 6 miles. The trail has been cleared, but is still rough in spots so wear boots. Meet at the boat dock parking lot at Cumberland Mountain State Park at 9:00 am CT. For more information and to register, contact Carolyn Miller at 931/456-4465 or [cardan@usit.net](mailto:cardan@usit.net).

**Jan 22** Bridgestone/Firestone Centennial Wilderness Area, Sparta, TN. (This is a joint hike with the Upper Cumberland Chapter). We will pass by Upper and Lower Polly Branch Falls and then join the Caney Fork River Trail before hiking to Yellow Bluff Overlook. The hike will be 8 to 10 miles and is rated moderate. An alternate route is available for those wanting a shorter hike. You can meet us at 8:00 am CT in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville or at the US Bank across from McDonald's in Sparta at 8:30 or at the Polly Branch parking lot at 9:00 am. For information and to register, call Marnell Cothran at 931-738-5874 or Carolyn Miller at 931/260-6674 or [cardan@usit.net](mailto:cardan@usit.net).

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## TRAIL MAINTENANCE UPDATE

On November 20, Meredith Mullen, Interpretive Specialist for the Cumberland Mountain State Park, Louise Gorenflo with Cumberland Green and Carolyn Miller, Plateau chapter Chair led a trail clean-up on the Cumberland Overnight Trail at the park. This trail had been closed for two years due to all the trees downed as a result of the November 2002 tornado that swept through the park. The paper gave us good publicity and local hikers and community volunteers heeded the call to help open the trail. Fifty people showed up to help, including a group of 18 Young Marines who used this as one of their service projects. Mark Stanfill, Cumberland Trail Conference Staff, joined the group to lend his trail-building experience to the project. Additionally, the Cumberland Trail Conference provided fire rakes and loppers to make sure that there were adequate tools for all the volunteers. We didn't finish clearing the trail, but left with a good idea of what was still left to be done. The next day, three hardy volunteers returned with their chain saws and cleared more of the trail. The trail is now officially open, although it is still rough in places. TTA members and friends who volunteered with the trail clean-up included: Leigh Jones, Jim and Susan McCullough, Pam and Terry Brophy, Rita Senko, Joe Matlock, James Hubert, Phil Hurd, Carolyn Miller, Gary Ruetenik, Jim Hardy, and Mark Stanfill. Thanks again to all the volunteers. This is what the mission of TTA is all about.

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## SODDY DAISY CHAPTER

This chapter is being reorganized. For further information contact the T.T.A. President, Fount Bertram, at 615-765-5357 or [fwbertram@heartoftn.net](mailto:fwbertram@heartoftn.net). In the interim, you are welcome to attend other chapters (13 to choose from) outings, events and meetings.

## UPPER CUMBERLAND CHAPTER (Sparta / Cookeville)

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Richard Savage  
931-526-2035, [savage\\_richard@hotmail.com](mailto:savage_richard@hotmail.com)

**Jan 1** Milksick Mountain, Sparta, TN. Bobby Felton will lead a hike on Milksick Mountain behind his home in Sparta, TN. It will be a 5-6 mile hike, rated moderate, with a 100-ft ascent toward the end of the hike. There will be finger food furnished at the end of the hike. After hiking, we will plan outings for the coming months. You can meet us at 8:30 am CT in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville or at the US Bank across from McDonald's in Sparta at 9:00. For information and to register, contact Bobby Felton at 931-657-8660 or [ChickenCity@blomand.net](mailto:ChickenCity@blomand.net).

**Jan 8** Twin Rocks Nature Trail and Stinging Fork Pocket Wilderness Trail, Piney River and Stinging Fork Pocket Wildernesses, Spring City, TN. We will hike trails in two of the Bowater Pocket Wilderness areas on Shut-In Gap road. The Twin Rocks Nature Trail is adjacent to the Piney River Trail. It provides an over look of the Piney River valley at Twin Rocks. The trail is 2.5 miles round trip and is rated moderate. The Stinging Fork Pocket Wilderness Trail provides an overlook of the Stinging Fork River gorge at Indian Head Point and ends at Stinging Fork Falls. The trail is 3 miles round trip and is rated moderate. An optional hike of 2 miles to Piney Falls in The Piney Falls State Natural Area near Grandview may also be available. Bring water, lunch, and snacks. You can meet us at 8:00am CT in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville. For information and to register contact Lillian Ey at 615-746-8890 or [eyintn@hotmail.com](mailto:eyintn@hotmail.com).

**Jan 15** Bandy Creek to Leatherwood Ford, Big South Fork National Recreation Area, Jamestown, TN. (This is a joint hike with the East Tennessee Chapter). We will hike a section of the John Litton Loop, the Fall Branch Trail, and a portion of the Grand Gap Loop to Angel Falls Overlook - perhaps the finest overlook in the park. We will then descend to Leatherwood Ford via the John Muir Trail. Other highlights include the gorge of Fall Branch and a large rockhouse. The hike is about 9 miles and is rated moderate for uneven terrain, narrow ledge crossings, boulder passages, and ladders. Wear sturdy footwear and bring snacks, lunch, and water. You can meet us in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville at 8:00 am CT. For information and to register, contact Cindy Walinski at 931-394-3413 or [cwalinski@blomand.net](mailto:cwalinski@blomand.net).

**Jan 22** Bridgestone/Firestone Centennial Wilderness Area, Sparta, TN. (This is a joint hike with the Plateau Chapter). We will pass by Upper and Lower Polly Branch Falls and then join the Caney Fork River Trail before hiking to Yellow Bluff Overlook. The hike will be 8 to 10 miles and is rated moderate. An alternate route is available for those wanting a shorter hike. You can meet us at 8:00 am CT in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville or at the US Bank across from McDonald's in Sparta at 8:30. For information and to register, call Marnell Cothran at 931-738-5874.

**Jan 29** Fiery Gizzard, South Cumberland Recreation Area, Tracy City, TN. This hike begins on the top of the plateau within Tracy City.

## (cont') UPPER CUMBERLAND CHAPTER

**(cont') Jan 29** Then, immediately descends into a beautiful old growth hemlock forest at the head of the gorge of Fiery Gizzard Creek. There are lots of impressive rock formations in the area. Later, the trail enters younger forest and ascends further down the creek to an overlook at Raven Point. Those wanting a shorter hike can now return to the beginning via the Dog Hole Trail for a total hike of about 9 miles. The Fiery Gizzard Trail continues mostly on top of the plateau through gently rolling oak forest, reaching Foster Falls at the southern end (at about 12 1/2 miles). The trail is rated strenuous for the rocky, uneven terrain and the distance covered. Hiking boots are essential. You can meet us at 6:40 am CT in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville or at the US Bank across from McDonald's in Sparta at 7:00. For information and to register contact Richard Savage at 931-526-2035 or [savage\\_richard@hotmail.com](mailto:savage_richard@hotmail.com).

## (cont') 2004 TTA Annual Meeting: Thank You!

### Northwest Chapter

Bill Alschwede

Mary Beard

Anna Clark

Jim Clark

Nelda Rachels

### Unaffiliated

American Hiking Society

### Cash Donations

Joe & Freddi Felt

Sierra Club Chickasaw Group

### Plateau Chapter

Carolyn Miller

### Upper Cumberland Chapter

Pete Broehl

Marnell Cothran

Lillian Ey

Louise Miniard

Richard Savage

Cindy Walinski

## 2004 Auction Trivia

Attendance: 156

Pre-registration: 148

Meals Served: 393

Successful Bidders: 89

Tie for Highest Bid: \$250 Vera's Brownies and LEK1

CORTEC Poles

2nd Highest Bid: \$240 Candy Corn Shorts

Items in the Live & Silent Auction: 206

Business Contributors: 47

8 hikes with a total of 129 hikers on the trail Saturday

2 hikes on Sunday with a total of 41 hikers on the trail

## Shawneewalk

Hikers' tales  
on rainy trails,  
with boots that tramp  
through storm-swollen streams,  
laboring up and down the seams  
of lofty limestone ridge,  
mossy  
and treacherous  
limestone bridge  
to Jackson Hollow's past,  
as from the vast  
dull  
wet  
brown carpet,  
here and there,  
a bright yellow leaf  
cries out to a hidden sun.

-Bob Peckham,  
TTA Member,  
Northwest Chapter  
(Note: This poem was  
written on October 24,  
2004, after a TTA hike  
with Northwest Chapter  
friends in the Shawnee  
National Forest of  
Southern Illinois.)



## OFFICERS:

### President

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

### Vice-President

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

### Treasurer

June Parker 615-832-5418  
jmparker@bellsouth.net

### Secretary

Carolyn Miller 931-456-4465  
cmiller@aviagen.com

### Past President

Leigh Jones 931-484-5298  
cejones9@earthlink.net

### Previous Past President

Libby Francis 615-889-5718  
libbyslibbys@comcast.net

### 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

Arleen Decker 865-856-7262

### Membership

Garnett Rush 615-352-7217  
rushga01@yahoo.com

### Cumberland Trail Conference

### Representatives

Sandra Spearman 931-839-2320  
sandbar@multipro.com

### 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

Jan 5 ..... February 1

Feb 5 ..... March 1

March 5 ..... April 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, contact Harold Draper at 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.

### Tennessee Trails Merchandise Order Form

----- TTA Patch ..... 6.00  
Round embroidered patch, sew it on anything.  
----- TTA Window Decal ..... 3.00  
A must for each car.  
----- TTA 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative T-Shirt .... 16.00\*  
Choose Size: Small / Medium / Large / X-Large  
Choose Color: Sand / Yellow / Stone-Gray  
----- TTA 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative Patch ..... 6.00  
Round embroidered patch commemorating TTA's 35<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary, sew it on anything.  
----- \*Shipping & Handling on T-shirt Orders ONLY!!! 1.50

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone hm: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ wk: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail your check payable to: Tennessee Trails Association  
c/o Marietta Poteet, 324 Raintree Drive  
Hendersonville, TN 37075

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