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# TENNESSEE TRAILS

#### THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE T ENNESSEE 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.

#### **SPONSORFORTHE CUMBERLAND TRAIL**

The following dates in 2005 refer to statewide activities involving TTA as a whole. Please refer to this calendar often to help with planning a volunteer event in support of these major activities (and/or for preventing scheduling conflicts during one).

#### Feb 5

Board of Directors' Meeting (Nashville)

Feb 27-Mar 26

Cumberland Trail Conference's Spring BreakAway

Mar 28-Apr 3

TN State Natural Areas Week (awaiting confirmation)

Apr 22

Earth Day (activities will probably be on Sat., Apr. 23)

Apr 28-May 1

3rd Southeastern Foot Trails Conference (Pickens, SC)

May 7

Board of Directors' Meeting (Nashville)

May 23-Jun 25

Cumberland Trail Conference's BIG DIG

Jun 4

National Trails Day

(Theme: Take the Path to a Healthier You)

Aug 6

Board of Directors' Meeting (Nashville)

Sep 24

National Public Lands Day

Oct 14-16

TTA's Annual Meeting (Monteagle, TN)

Oct 16

Board of Directors' Meeting (Monteagle, TN)

\*Calendar will be revised as needed.

## 2005 TTA Calendar "Two Tickets To Paradise" Spring Breakaway 2005 Shop amazon.com through TTA's Website

When you buy books (or anything else) at amazon.com through TTA's website, TTA benefits!

TTA has an arrangement with amazon.com where TTA receives a commission on all items purchased (such as books, magazines, music, electronics, even perfume) when you enter their site through our website. It's very easy! Go to the TTA website (www.tennesseetrails.org), navigate to the "To Buy!" page, then follow the link to the "virtual bookstore." Commissions are earned solely on sales made through the TTA website, therefore always enter amazon.com from the TTA website, and do not sign up for their one-click service. So you have been wanting to travel to exotic lands and eat the best foods in lush accommodations. Well I got your ticket to paradise that even Eddie Money will want to sing about!! Your port of call will be in Soddy Daisy, TN on February 27 – March 26 for the 10th Annual Spring BreakAway. We now have 19 colleges and universities, an Americorp, and high school camp all ready to get it on in the Rock/Possum/Soddy gorges, but don't despair because there are plenty of things we need your help with.

(See Page 3)

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## Walking with Fount

We are off to a good start! The annual New Year's Day Hike and Feast saw 38 of us hardy souls out for the event. We had tons of traditional foods for consumption and lots of variety. The black-eyed peas and ham hock were there for good luck and from the amount eaten, there will be a lot of good luck during the year. The weather was almost perfect...near 70 and mostly sunny.

Not a bad way to get a New Year going. A special "Thank You" to June Parker for getting it put together and to Diane Manas for an excellent job leading the hike. I hope to see more of you there next year...Tennessee beat A&M even without us! If we can continue the year with the enthusiasm exhibited there we will have a grand year indeed for TTA...

Another round of applause please for the Memphis and Northwestern Chapters...and for all the contributors and bidders...over \$8,000.00 raised at the Annual Auction to benefit the spring BreakAway program for the Cumberland Trail! That is the kind of record I love to see attained. I know the CTC people are chomping at the bits to get the spring activities under way. I am looking forward to being at BreakAway the second and fourth weeks. I do love working with the kids and it looks like we are going to have a bunch of them participating this year. Mark tells me we have over 20 colleges and universities sending young men and women and there will be plenty of need for volunteers to supervise their efforts. If you haven't signed up yet...reach across the page and snare that application form and get it in. I guarantee you won't regret it! Please note the calendar of events for the year and set aside time to participate in as many of them as you can. It is one of the functions of TTA to support and take leadership roles in these activities that promote and highlight the hiking community. Our presence at these functions get us out with the hiking interests and we benefit by sharing experiences and methods with others of the same goals. A major event will be the 3rd conference of the Southeast Foot Trails Coalition at Table Rock State Park in South Carolina. The dates are April 28 to May 1.

## 2005 TTA Directory

Our Webmaster, Jim Poteet, pointed out to me that it wouldn't be necessary to send e-mail addresses in to one location to be included in the new TTA Directory. It appears I was trying to reinvent the wheel. To have your e- mail address included, here is all you need to do:

• Go to the TTA Web Site and click on Member

Services from the menu on the left side of the page.

- When that page comes up...click on the Address Change bullet. It isn't necessary to fill out the entire form. Just type in your name (both names if a family entry) and add the email addresses in the appropriate space at the bottom of the form.
- Click Submit.

See...wasn't that easy? E-Mail is a very important tool in modern day communication. Please include yours in the new directory to enable us to keep in touch with you. We promise that the address will not be sold, loaned or distributed in any way that would enable hackers and spammers access to your computer. This promises to be an outstanding event and I encourage as many as can to join us for the extended weekend. TTA has been on the cutting edge of the formation and development of the Coalition and I hope we will continue to be a leader in the organization. We have a combined membership of 28 groups and organizations with a general membership of over 55,000 individuals. With this type of group, we can make ourselves heard by those responsible for conservation and development.

I am continuing my chapter visits and will be contacting your chapter soon to schedule a time. If there is a special time you would like to have me attend a meeting or function, let me know and I will try and arrange it.

Happy Trails...and the best to all of you in the New Year!

Fount

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## **CUMBERLAND TRAIL CONFERENCE**

#### **CUMBERLAND TRAIL CONFERENCE STAFF:**

Executive Director...... Paul Freeman............. paul.freeman@frontiernet.net

Trail Development &

Maintenance Coordinator Mark Stanfill mark.stanfill@frontiernet.net

Office Manager...... Nora Beck..... nora.beck@frontiernet.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

**Trail builders** – We need experienced and not-soexperienced

trail builders to help lead these students out on the trail.

**Kitchen Crew** – 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. **Camp Help** – There will be food and materials to pick up, tools to be sharpened, & camp to be cleaned. Plenty to do!

**Basic Trail Maintenance** – If you like to be on the trail, but feel that trail construction is too 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!

**Adopt-A-Food** – See details below.

Students and volunteers will be staying either at the Dogwood Camp or the Lutheran Camp. Those who participated last year at the BIG DIG know how great the food will be. Each day, we will continue to build trail in the Rock/Possum/Soddy Gorges. We could use all the help that you can provide on the trail, in camp, donations, or funds. Feel free to ask Mark Stanfill any questions.

## Adopt-A-Food

Last year TTA Chapters assisted with BreakAway and the BIG DIG programs through our Adopt-AFood Program. Each chapter will adopt a food item and either purchase the food or raise funds for us to purchase the food item. If you would like to purchase a certain item, we need it in bulk. I have contacted the TTA Chapters so next meeting you can discuss what you would like to do. Some food items needed are:

#### **Lunch Items:**

400 4 oz applesauce

500 cheese & crackers

300 4 or 8 oz canned fruit

500 4 oz puddings

500 peanut butter & Crackers

Many jars of peanut butter and jelly

#### **Bulk Items:**

60 lbs rice (plain)

50 lbs noodles

20 lbs Lasagna Noodles

100 lbs Spaghetti

55 lbs Macaroni

100 lbs Pancake Mix
5000 Ziplock sandwich bags
4000 brown bags
5000 Napkins
Cake Mix
Brownie Mix
Coffee
Frosting
Cookies
Gallon Size Tea Bags
Oatmeal – Quick cook kind in the round can
Lemonade – Regular & Pink
MANY boxes of cereal
\*Remaining items will toward BIG DIG 3\*

## Thank You TTA!

On behalf of CTC, thank you to everyone that made the TTA Auction such a success. The many volunteers who put it all together as well as everyone who participated in the auction made it a fun event. The \$8,243.33 will all be used toward our Spring BreakAway Program to help cover the expense of housing.

# (cont' from cover) "Two Tickets to Paradise" Spring Breakaway 2005

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# 2005 Spring BreakAway Sign-Up

Date:	//				
Name/C	Organization:				
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Address	S:				
City,Sta	nte,Zip:				
Work pl	hone:		Hon	ne phone:	
E-mail:					
Yes, I c	an volunteer	on the Follov	wing Trail Da	ates:	
Week 1	(Feb 28th - N	Mar 4th):			
Mon	Tues	Thur	Fri	<u> </u>	
Week 2	(March 7 -1	1th): Mon	Tues	Thur	Fri

Week 3	(March 14	-18th): Mon	Tues_	Thur_	Fri	
	(March 21					
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Fax to 931-456-4934, or e-mail <i>cumberlandtrail@rocketmail.com</i>						
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		NKLIN CHAF	TER			
	<b>R OFFICER:</b> Ric 29, <i>saturncar1</i> @					
	COORDINATO					
	inteer to lead an	outing)				
Tanya Juday 931-490-0856  MEETING: Monthly - 1st Tuesday at 6:30 pm CT						
Grand Buffet (North of Spring Hill)						
Feb 1 MONTHLY MEETING 6:30 Grand Chinese Buffet						
5228 N. Main Springhill, TN. Kerry Sumner, one of our members will demonstrate his culinary expertise in "camp						
cooking". Kerry has been involved in various cooking						
competition world-wide. Recently returning from Zurich with the						
	olden Spatula" av	vard. nis wife Sarah, will h	nost a "cools out"			
		home in Leipers For				
		is a potluck so pleas				

favorite covered dish to share.

**Feb 19** Kerry Sumner will lead a hike or Burns Branch of the Natchez Trace. To register, contact Kerry at 615-790-4013 or *karofishes@aol.com* 

**Feb 26** Bobby Hardeman will lead a hike at Falls Creek Falls State Park. This is a easy to moderate 6 miles with creek crossings, swinging bridge and the tallest water fall east of the Mississippi River. To register, email Bobby at *puttr22@aol.com* **HIKE REPORTS** 

On December 5, Brenda Callahan led a group of 5 hikers on the Buggy Top Trail. Recent rains made the creek really flow out of the Lost Cove Cave. Three hikers took the alternate route out of the cave by climbing up the chimney in Lost Cove Cave to the plateau. This hike was a delightful prelude to the Lessons and Carols service at the All Saints Chapel at the University of the South in Sewanee. The five hikers were met by 6 additional people so we had eleven people who attended the service. The service was tremendous and is a "must see" for all. After the service, we ended the day with dinner at Jim Otten's Smoke House - a great day of hiking, worship and eating.

#### PLANNING AHEAD

Mar 12 Marvin Cain will lead a hike of the Stone Door and Big Creek Trails at the Savage Gulf.

Mar 26-27 Kerry Sumner will lead an overnight back-packing trip in the Frozen Head State Park.

## **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 or

ttakacs@comcast.net

#### **OUTINGS COORDINATOR:**

(call & volunteer to lead an outing)

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

Impromptu Hikes: In addition to regularly scheduled hikes, Big South Fork chapter will experiment with impromptu hikes on Tuesday mornings. Eric Wilson, the newly elected Outings Coordinator, will post hike information in the Rugby Week enewsletter that he publishes weekly on Sunday evening or Monday morning. If you would like to be added to the Rugby Week e-mail list, please contact Eric at ericavi@nxs.net.

Feb 5 Obed Wild and Scenic River west of Lancing. Several trail options, ranging in length from 1/2 to 4 miles, easy to

moderate difficulty, will allow hikers a choice of walks. Lilly Bluff Overlook Trail with commanding views of Clear Creek, Point Trail to Melton Mill Branch Waterfall, etc. Dress for whatever weather we are having that day. Pack water and a lunch to enjoy on the trail or at the trailhead picnic area. Meet at the Harrow Road Cafe in Rugby at 10:00 ET. (In case of bad weather on the 5th, the hike will be rescheduled for the 12th.) Hike leaders Linda Konig, Vi Biehl, Eric Wilson. ericavi@nxs.net.

## 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 website:

www.tennesseetrails.org/release.php

## CLARKSVILLE CHAPTER

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Judith Tate 931-920-2692, mamx4@charter.net

**OUTINGS COORDINATORS:** 

(call & volunteer to lead an outing)

J.R. Tate 931-920-2692

Suva Bastin 931-645-2849

Wanda McCluskey 931-906-3338

Sandi Hamilton 931-920-2760

**MEETING:** Monthly - 3rd Tuesday at 7:00 pm CT,

Crow Community Center, 211 Richview Rd

Feb 19 Work hike at Rotary Park, Clarksville. Meet 8:30 am @

Rotary Park, 1st Shelter.

Feb 26 Indiantown Bluff, Ashland City. Meet 9:30 am @ Rotary Park; John Sneed 931-920-2838, 5 miles, moderate. Alternate hike: "Newcomers/Beginners" hike @ Dunbar Cave, 9:00 am, Judith Tate 931-920-2692, 1.5 miles, easy.

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## COVE LAKE CHAPTER

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Richard Helm 423-562-1110, Richard. Helm@ahss.org

CO-CHAIR: Mari Haslam

423-562-3227, pittsteelersfan@earthlink.net MEETING: Monthly - 2nd Monday at 6:00 pm ET LaFollette Recreation Center's Craft Room, 201 S. 9th St.

**Feb 20** Hike on the Cumberland Trail to the Devil's Racetrack. This is a easy to moderate 2.5 miles up to the unique rockoutcropping

above Cove Lake State Park. The trail begins as it

follows a beautiful creek with waterfalls (blasted out when I-75

was built). Then it ascends the southwestern end of the

Cumberland Mt. chain through a series of switchbacks before it comes out on top of the mo untain near the overlook. From the top is a beautiful view of the surrounding mountains, Cove Lake, and even the Smokies on a clear day. Bring sturdy hiking boots, water, and a snack. We will meet at the parking lot behind Eagle

Mart in Jacksboro at 1:30 p.m.

# EAST TN CHAPTER (Oak Ridge / Knoxville)

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Rosemary Marshall

rosemary\_l@hotmail.com

#### **OUTINGS COORDINATOR:**

(call & volunteer to lead an outing)
Bob Uhren

snowcap34@charter.net

**TREASURER:** Harold Draper, h.m.draper@att.net **Feb 12** Great Smoky Mountains. We'll combine the Lead
Cove, Bote Mountain and Anthony Creek trails to form a
moderate loop hike of about 6.5 miles. Starting on Lead Cove
we'll ascend 1.8 miles to it's intersection with the Bote
Mountain Trail. We'll continue our ascent along the ridge line
for another 1.2 miles before reaching the Anthony Creek Trail.
From there it will be a gentle descent of 3.5 miles along
Anthony Creek. Be sure to dress appropriately for the weather
and be prepared for the likelihood of snow on the trail. Bring
snacks, lunch and plenty of water. We'll meet at 8:30 a.m. ET
in the rear parking area of the Cades Cove picnic area. For
more information, contact Bob Uhren at 865-748-9227 or
snowcap34@charter.net.

Feb 26 Walker Sisters homesite, Great Smoky Mountains. We'll meet at Metcalf Bottoms picnic area at 9:30 am ET. At that time, depending on the weather, we'll decide together whether to do a 4 mile loop or a 7 mile hike (which would require a short shuttle). Either choice will take us by the Walker sisters homesite, which was occupied for many years by various Walker families. After the last sister, Louisa, died in 1964, the land reverted to Park ownership. Either hike also includes a bit of the Little Greenbriar trail, notable as one of the least-hiked trails in the park. Be sure to bring your woollies and a lunch; we'll go unless there's a great deal of snow, which would make things a bit dangerous. For more info, contact Jay Ross at <a href="mailto:jmrfeb6@aol.com">jmrfeb6@aol.com</a> or 865-560-0100. He will have his cell phone on the morning of the 26th; the number is 865-776-7845.

## JACKSON CHAPTER

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Gary Cooper 731-424-5375 *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.

**Feb 1 MONTHLY MEETING** Hear about past and upcoming hiking trips and meet/greet members and friends. Guests and new hikers are always welcome!

**Feb 12** Ft Pillow State Park Henning, TN Join us for an 8-mile hike through hardwood forest. This hike is rated moderate due to the hilly terrain. Bring snacks,lunch & water. We will meet at 9:30 am CT at the Park's Interpretative Center. For information and to register call Candy Higgs 731-660-2332 or Sara Hakin 731-424-6692.

**Feb 26** Mousetail Landing State Park, Parsons, TN The 8-mile trail is rated moderate with some steep and rugged hills. Bring

snacks, lunch and water. You have the option of carpooling from Jackson or meeting us at the Park's Visitor's Center. For carpool/Visitor's Center meeting time, contact Candy Higgs, 731-660-2332 or 731-695-1960 *chiggs@armstrongallen.com* 

## HIGHLAND RIM CHAPTER

## (Tullahoma Area)

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Doug Ratliff 931-455-0249, dougratliff@hotmail.com

**MEETING:** Saturday, Dec 11, Time and location to be determined.

Please contact Doug Ratliff for details.

**Feb 5** Perimeter Trail, Sewanee, TN This will be an Eat, Hike, and Eat outing. Plans are to meet at the Blue Chair Bakery & Coffee Shop at 9:00 am CT, hike approximately 5 easy miles of the Perimeter Trail, and eat again at Shenanigan's. Contact Tom or Joan Bentley at 931-455-5849 or *bentley@edge.net* to register. They can be reached at cell number 931-273-6344 on the day of the hike.

**Feb 15 MONTHLY MEETING** Join us for our monthly meeting to discuss past hikes, plan future hikes, and discuss advertising about our chapter. New hikers and guests are always welcome to attend. See you at 7:00 pm CT at the D. W. Wilson Community Center, 501 N. Collins St., Tullahoma.

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## **MEMPHIS CHAPTER**

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Carolyn Pierce 901-755-5635, *cedpierce2000@yahoo.com* **BOARD REPRESENTATIVE:** Gloria Lenski 901-213-0604, *glorialenski@yahoo.com* 

**MEETING:** Monthly (Sept - May) 3rd Thursday at 7:00 pm Meeting Location: Cordova Library, 8457 Trinity Rd. 901-754-8443 Located off Germantown Parkway east on Trinity Rd. 1 1/8 mile. On the right and shares an entrance with the Bert Fergerson Community Ct.

**Feb 5** Wolf River Trail Meet at the Shelby Farms Soccer Field off Walnut Grove Road at 9:00 am for an easy 3 - 4 mile loop hike along the river through a hardwood forest. Bring water and snacks. New hikers welcome! Contact Freddie Felt at 901-685-9915 for information.

Feb 17 MONTHLY MEETING Program: "The rest of Wyoming (at least part of the rest)". We are fortunate to have Charlie Bright do a slide presentation and discuss his trip to the Big Horn Mountains National Forest in Wyoming. Charlie is an outdoors person and has fun whenever possible. He likes to wonder and to wander...and sometimes get lost. This trip is an exploratory trip to Wyoming, mostly east of you know where (Yellowstone and Grand Teton). His base camp was near the Big Horn Mountains National Forest and his day hikes were on trails that are passable and have typical (outstanding) beauty. He may also take us farther east to Devils Tower and the Black Hills. Come see some parts of the country that are new to you and inspire you to start packing/hiking. New

hikers/visitors welcome! Call Jerry Lenski 213-6040 with questions.

Feb 19-20 Wall of Jericho, about 95 miles south of Nashville The hike is about 3.5 miles each way and is strenuous. Steeply downhill much of the way in and uphill coming out. Be equipped for a serious hike (take plenty of water, snacks, dry socks, sandals, walking stick, and rain gear)! The trail is well marked but is often muddy and several streams have to be crossed. Plan on a minimum of six hours to make the round trip, which includes a two-hour stay in the gorge. Pre-registration required. For more information, contact Betty Porter at 901-755-4740. Directions: From Nashville take I-24 east toward Chattanooga. Take exit 127 on Highway 64 and turn toward Winchester. Stay on Highway 64 for about 15 miles and turn south on Highway 16. Just after crossing into Alabama, look on the right for a gravel parking area with a yellow gate and an information kiosk. Park there and follow directions on the map at the trailhead. Feb 26 Meeman-Shelby Forest Trail Maintenance Meet at the Park Visitor Center at 9:00 a.m. ready to do trail. You will need to bring water and lunch along with equipment you may have such as gloves, shovels, clippers, or a saw. Dress for the weather. For more information, call Ken

## **MURFREESBORO CHAPTER**

CHAPTER OFFICER: Anna Bertram (also Board Rep.)

615-765-5357, abertram@heartoftn.net

#### **OUTINGS COORDINATOR:**

Novak 901-377-9127.

(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

**Feb 8 MONTHLY MEETING** Karen Davis, a member of the Nashville T.T.A. Chapter and owner of KDavis Travels, will be our guest speaker. Karen's travel agency differs from most in that it specializes in hiking or walking tours in such places as Italy, England, Wales, Scotland, and Mexico. Karen gives her tours a personal touch by taking part in each tour herself. Her knowledge of the areas she travels, her photography and interesting stories will make this a very enjoyable evening.

NEW YEAR'S DAY HIKE REPORT - The gods of weather were smiling too as thirty-eight happy, excited persons met on the bright and glorious morning of New Year's Day 2005. We came from across Tennessee from seven T.T.A. Chapters, some from as far away as Jackson, to meet at the Trail Head of Polly's Branch in the Bridgestone – Firestone Centennial Wilderness near Sparta, TN. After a brief period for hugs, hand shakes, signing-in, and picture taking we began the first three mile

leg of the journey. We hiked the Polly's Branch Trail to the flat area adjacent to the Screw Bluff Overlook. Everyone crossed the two small streams without a mishap. Once at our destination we spread out a plastic "table covering" consisting of 10 garbage bags laid down end to end. Suddenly, as if by magic, there appeared a feast of ham, turkey, cheese, potato salad, deviled eggs, black-eyed peas, cornbread, rolls, a huge assortment of scrumptious desserts, and other dishes too numerous to mention. There were a few traditionalists who raised plastic glasses in a toast to the New Year. Everyone took time to savor the good foods and the great company before picking up the remains to begin another three mile trail out to the parking lot on the Chestnut Mountain Ranch Trail. For most hikers in attendance this was more important to insure a good start to 2005 than all the partying done around the world on New Year's Eve. It becomes a way of life for those who do it annually, and something to look forward to from year to year, but seldom is the weather as spring like as it was this year. If this is an omen we surely must be in for a fantastic year of hiking and fellowship in the T.T.A.! Viva la New Year's Day Hike!

## A Note on Car Pooling Etiquette

Car pooling is usually good for the pocket book and the ecology. We encourage it. This is just a reminder that it is good etiquette for riders to chip in on gasoline.

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## **NASHVILLE CHAPTER**

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Jim Johnson 615.356.6246, *jimjohnsonjr@gmail.com* 

## **OUTINGS COORDINATOR:**

(call & volunteer to lead an outing)
Nancy Juodenas, njuodenas@hotmail.com
Sue Waldrop

**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**

Feb 24 MONTHLY MEETING This month, Jim and Mareitta Poteet of the Nashville Chapter are our presenters. Last Summer, the Poteets toured Africa and Ireland and documented every step of the way (well...almost every step) with their trusty digital cameras. This time, they'll show and tell about the Irish leg of their trip. Having had a sneak peek at the images, I can assure you this is one you don't want to miss. Bring a friend and enjoy a TTA getaway to the Emerald Isle. 7:00 pm at the TWRA Headquarters building on the Ellington Agricultural Center. Directions to the TWRA Building: From Franklin Road, between Harding Place and Brentwood: At the traffic signal, turn east on Hogan Road. Go 1.3 miles to the four-way stop at Marchant Drive. The Ag Center is straight before you, but don't go through the gates. Instead turn right on Marchant and follow the pavement through the campus for a

quarter-mile. At the stop sign at the bottom of the hill, dogleg left and then right into the TWRA driveway.. The building is before you. From I-24 east of Nashville: Take the Harding Place exit 56 west. Go approximately 1.5 miles and turn left at Nolensville Road. At one-tenth of a mile, turn right onto Edmondson Pike. At about 1.5 miles, turn right into the east entrance of the Ag Center. (Look for large meadows bounded by a fence). Just past the stop sign, turn right into the TWRA entrance. From I-65 south of Nashville: Take exit 78 Harding Place east. At one-tenth of a mile, go right on Trousdale Drive. At about 1.5 miles, turn left onto Hogan Road at the four-way stop. At about one-half mile, turn right onto Marchant (another four-way stop), following the pavement through the Ag Center campus to the stop sign at the bottom of the hill. Dogleg left and then right into the TWRA driveway. From the lunar surface: ET phone home.

**Feb 5** Bagel Hike. Percy Warner Park. Nashville. This 4.5-mile hike on Mossy Ridge Trail is the first of the series of 3 "bagel" (circular trail) hikes. This local hike is rated moderate due to elevation changes. Bring water, and wear sturdy hiking boots or trail running shoes and spare shoes to change afterward in case trail is muddy. We'll hike rain, snow, or shine. Snow hikes are beautiful. After the hike, we will reward ourselves at Brueggers Bagel Bakery (at Hwy. 70/100 split) with a bagel sandwich. We will meet at 9:00 am at the "Deep Well" parking area (stone arch entrance into the park on Hwy 100, about 1½ miles from the Hwy. 70/100 split). Hike takes about 2 hours. If you need more information or get lost, contact David Furse at 615-308-7988 (cell phone) or *dfurse@comcast.net*.

**Feb 12** Double Bagel Hike. Percy Warner Park. Nashville. 7.5-mile hike in Percy Warner Park combining the Warner Woods and Mossy Ridge Trails. The hike is rated moderate-to-difficult due to elevation changes and distance.

## (cont') NASHVILLE CHAPTER

(cont') Feb 12 Bring water, and wear sturdy hiking boots or trail running shoes (bring spare shoes to change afterward in case trail is muddy. After the hike, it's Brueggers Bagel Bakery nearby for optional 2-bagel lunch. Meet at 8:30am at the "Deep Well" parking area (stone arch entrance into the park on Hwy 100, about 1½ miles from the Hwy. 70/100 split). Hike takes about 3.5 hours. Contact David Furse at 615-308-7988 (cell phone) or dfurse@comcast.net.

Feb 12 Hidden Passage Loop, Pickett State Park, Jamestown, TN. With a total hiking distance 10+ miles, and an option for a side trip to the tunnel trail, this one is for experienced hikers. Be sure to bring good boots, lunch, water, and clothing appropriate for the weather. On the way back to Nashville, we'll plan to stop by Highland Manor to restock our wine cellars, and then on to Cookeville for dinner. There's a rumor going around that there's a better place for good, quick food than El Tapatio. If you have any information about this rumor, or for further information and to register for this hike, contact Doug Burroughs at 615-587-0085.

**Feb 13** Fiery Gizzard and Dog Hole Trails, South Cumberland State Park. Tracy City, TN. The Fiery Gizzard portion of this

hike is perhaps one of the most diversified and beautiful in TN, in addition to being one of the most rugged and somewhat difficult because of the rocky (i.e. huge boulders) and uneven terrain plus, steep ascent from the gorge onto the Plateau. Upon reaching the Plateau and Dog Hole Trail, the terrain levels out and for the remainder of the day it is smooth hiking. Along the way, we will visit Sycamore Falls (12-ft. high waterfall has a gorgeous setting); pass Black Canyon (named for the organic stains on the rocks where Little and Big Fiery Gizzard Creeks merge) and lunch at Raven Point (a spectacular overlook of Gizzard Cove). The hike is approximately 10 miles and rated difficult (a presence of ice will surely cancel the Fiery Gizzard portion; but we can still go in and out on the Dog Hole Trail). Sturdy hiking boots are a must! Bring water, snacks and lunch. For more information, meeting time and location, and to register, call Diane Manas at 615-352-7777. Feb 19 Virgin Falls Virgin Falls Pocket Wilderness. DeRossett, TN. This hike follows a tumbling stream that bounds over rocks creating small waterfalls until it disappears underground. On the way to Virgin Falls the trail passes a beautiful overlook, Big Branch Falls, Big Laurel Falls, and Sheep Cave Falls. An underground stream that emerges from a cave drops over a 110foot cliff and goes back into a cave at the bottom forms Virgin Falls. The 8-mile hike is beautiful in all seasons. Sturdy boots are a most due to rocks and elevation loss and gain. Bring lunch, water, and dress in layers for the season. To register and for meeting time, contact Jim or Marietta Poteet at 615-824-7666. Feb 20 Mammoth Cave National Park. KY. This will be a joint hike with a Kentucky hiking group called KISHAW (Kentuckianana Single Hikers and Walkers). We will be meeting up with this group at the National Park visitors center at 10:00 CT, for an aboveground hike over rolling and sometimes steep terrain. From the visitor's center, there will be a short drive, which includes a ferry ride across the Green River, to Good Springs Church where the hike will begin.

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# 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/

Northwest Chapter does not have any hikes scheduled for

February. Please join other Chapter activities.

## 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 In the interim, you are welcome to attend other chapters (13 to choose from) **outings**, **events and meetings**.

## (cont') NASHVILLE CHAPTER

(cont') Feb 20 The hike is rated strenuous for the mileage (9.3 miles) and the steep terrain. Wear sturdy hiking boots; bring water, snacks, lunch and money for dinner on the way back to Nashville. This will be a great hike for multi-chapter involvement and to further more hikes with out of state groups. For more information and carpooling place and time from Nashville, contact Nancy Juodenas at 615-643-0936 or njuodenas@hotmail.com.

Feb 19-21 President's Day Weekend Frozen Head State Park. Wartburg, TN This will be a joint backpack/car camping trip with the Murfreesboro Chapter. Upon arrival at Frozen Head (about 10:30 EST) we will set up our camp in the car-camping area and then day hike the Bird Mountain Trail to the Fire Tower Trail and back down the mountain. This is a 4.5 mile loop that has an elevation gain of 1730 feet. The first half is rated difficult and the return half is rated moderate. Saturday night we will have a group potluck and campfire at the carcamping site. Sunday morning we will backpack the Chimney Top Trail to the Tubb's Spring Campsite, for our overnight near the top of Frozen Head. The trail is 7 miles with an elevation gain of 3000 feet and rated difficult. After setting up camp we can hike to the Fire Tower, at 3324 ft. (1 mile round trip). On a clear day, the Smoky Mountains can be seen from here. Monday morning we will pack up and head back down the mountain, via the Fire Tower Trail, to our cars. This return trip has many beautiful views, is 6.9 miles and rated moderate. This trip is for experienced backpackers only. Come for all or part of this multi-event trip. For more information, to coordinate for the potluck and carpooling, contact Nancy Juodenas at 615-643-0936 or njuodenas@hotmail.com.

Feb 26 Stones River Greenway Hike. Hike a newly opened section of the Stones River Greenway. The paved path follows the Stones and offers lovely views. Tennis shoes or other comfortable shoes are fine. We will hike 5 miles with an option of another 3 miles. Bring a snack and water. We will be going to a fine local deli after the hike, so bring money for lunch. Meet at the trailhead on Lebanon Road by the Donelson YMCA at 9:00. Contact Libby Francis at 615-889-5718 or, *Libbyslibbys@comcast.net* for more details and directions. Feb. 27 Old Stone Fort/Short Springs Loops. This 2-part hike is great for beginners. Old Stone Fort, in the Manchester area, is a moderate 2.6 mile hike over high river bluffs, narrow rock ledges, riverside bottomland and waterfalls circling around a 2,000 year old stone wall built by ancient American natives. We will then lunch at beautiful Rutledge Falls located a few miles down the road. The second part of the hike is about 4 miles further to Short Springs State Natural Area. This 2.9-mile loop is a moderate hike through hardwood forest with waterfalls. Bring water, snacks, lunch and \$3.00 parking fee (if you don't have a pass). Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the Target on Bell Road and I-24.

#### PLANNING AHEAD

**Mar?** Triple Bagel Hike. Percy & Edwin Warner Parks. Nashville. Last two weekends we worked up to this hike with 4.5- and 7.5-mile hikes in Percy Warner.

## (cont') NASHVILLE CHAPTER

(cont') Mar? This time we will be hiking 13 miles in both Percy 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 distance and is recommended only for experienced hikers. Bring water and snacks, and wear sturdy hiking boots or trail running shoes and change of footwear after the hike. We'll hike rain or shine. Optional trip to Brueggers Bagel Bakery nearby for 3-bagel recovery meal and to swap war stories. Meet at 8:00am at the "Deep Well" parking area (stone arch entrance into the park on Hwy 100, about 1½ miles from the Hwy. 70/100 split). Hike takes about 6 hours. Contact David Furse at 615-308-7988 (cell phone) or dfurse@comcast.net.

Mar 25 - 27 Easter Weekend at Charit Creek Lodge - Register early to participate in this beautiful backpacking trek to a rustic lodge in the Big South Fork. We will backpack 3.8 miles in on Friday, hike all day Saturday, and backpack out 0.8 miles on Sunday. Additional hikes will be available on Sunday. The cabin has three double bunks for a maximu m capacity of 12. The cost is dependant on the number of participants. There are modern bath accommodations up the hill. We will need to pack in bedding and food. Reservations must be made before March 4, 2005. For more information and to register call Garnett Rush at 352-7217 or e-mail rushga01@yahoo.com.

## PLATEAU CHAPTER (Crossville)

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Terry Brophy 931-707-7234, tpbrophy@multipro.com

SECRETARY/TREASURER: Myra Holloway

**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 (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 e-mail sue1290@frontiernet.net for details. Rain cancels.

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# UPPER CUMBERLAND CHAPTER (Sparta / Cookeville)

**CHAPTER OFFICER:** Richard Savage 931-526-2035, *savage\_richard@hotmail.com* 

**Feb 5** Big Spring, Bridgestone/Firestone Centennial Wilderness Area, Sparta, TN. This hike features a huge spring under a big bluff which goes into a stream. There is also the possibility of taking a side trip to Rose's Cave. The hike is about 4 miles and rated easy to moderate. You can meet us at 8:30am CT in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville or at the US Bank across from the McDonald's in Sparta at 9:00. Bring water, snacks, and lunch. For information and to register, call Marnell Cothran at 931-738-5874.

Feb 12 Buggytop Trail, Carter State Natural Area, Sewanee,

TN. We will hike to Lost Cove Cave's impressive Buggytop entrance which has an 80 foot mouth carved out of a 150 foot cliff. The hike is about 4.5 miles and is rated moderate. We may also hike to Sewanee's Bridal Veil Falls which is a 2-3 mile hike and also rated moderate. You can meet us at 8:00 am CT in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville or at the US Bank across from the McDonald's in Sparta at 8:30. Bring water, snacks, lunch, and good hiking boots. For information and to register, contact Richard Savage at 931-526-2035 or savage\_richard@hotmail.com.

## (cont') PLATEAU CHAPTER

Feb 5 O&W Bridge and to the Devils Den in the Big South Fork. The hike is about 2.5 miles long along the South Fork River to a classic railroad bridge and then another mile on to Devils Den. The total distance is 6 miles, moderately difficult to the bridge and a little more strenuous to the Den. Meet at the Cracker Barrel at 8:00 am CT. For information and to register, contact Terry Brophy at 931/707-7234 or by e-mail at *tpbrophy@multipro.com*.

Feb 10 MONTLY MEETING Meredith Mullen, Cumberland Mountain State Park Interpretive Specialist, will present a program about Wildflowers. This should get us ready for the spring flower season. Meet at 6:30 am at the Community Room of the Art Circle Public Library. Feb 19 Lost Creek Cave. Sparta, TN. This is a nice time of the year to explore Lost Creek Cave. We will spend a couple of hours exploring this cave west of Sparta. The cave is tall enough that you will be able to walk to the 50- foot waterfall with no need to crawl. The hike is only 1 1/4 miles one way, but is rated moderate to difficult due to the need to climb over and around some rocks and boulders. A flashlight and extra batteries are required. Wear sturdy hiking boots and bring water, lunch and snacks. Registration is required. Meet at the Kroger Parking lot on Highway 70 in Crossville at 8:00 am CT. For more information and to register, call Bill Harris at 931-484-9152.

## (cont') UPPER CUMBERLAND CHAPTER

**Feb 19** Hidden Passage Trail, Pickett State Park, Jamestown, TN. This 10-mile loop trail is noted for the rock houses and other interesting rock formations passed along the way. It is rated easy for the terrain and moderate for the length. You can meet us at 8:30 am CT in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville. Bring water, snacks, and lunch. For information and to register contact Jeremy Ey at 931-372-5407 or *kayakerscout@hotmail.com*.

# Packing up for Paradise

Packing up for Paradise I shall take me along no shoulds or mustnts or oughtas I shall go pretty much as I've come longwindy and snailfooted I won't be cooking up some perfection that can't be counted on I will carry my aberrations with me under personal effects.

Settling in to Paradise I will keep growing down and outward as much as up and at em I will try to be true to my natural undoing as of before and always I won't expect a tomorrow vastly niftier than today I intend just to bodhi-sit around and bask

I intend just to bodhi-sit around and bask in my universal mind. (1982)

- James Broughton taken from "Packing up for Paradise, Selected Poems 1946 – 1996" Volume 36 ◆ Issue 02 www.tennesseetrails.org February 2005 Page 11

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**VACANT** 

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

**Newsletter Editor** 

Tina Dean editor@tennesseetrails.org

## TENNESSEE RAILS-TRAILS ADVISORY COUNCIL ( T R A C )

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.

## **Newsletter Deadlines**

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

Due For Newsletter Dated

Feb 5......March 1

March 5......April 1

April 5 ...... May 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 blowdown 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 Trails Merchandise Order Form**

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Please do not list my e-mail address in the TTA Annual Membership Directory Please list me with the following chapter:

Big South ForkCumberland Gap Memphis Plateau (Crossville)
ClarksvilleEast TN (Oak Ridge/Knoxville) Murfreesboro Soddy Daisy
Columbia/FranklinHighland Rim (Manchester/Tullahoma) Nashville Upper Cumberland
Cove LakeJackson Northwest (UT at Martin/Weakley) (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
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Feb 05

## **Purchase Order**

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Tennessee Trails Association Color Plus Printing P. O. Box 41446 4825 Trousdale Dr, #102 Nashville, TN 37204-1446 Nashville, TN 37220 January 23, 2005 Tina Dean Leonard Chavaz 865-774-1070 615-781-1071 cell ph: 615-207-0947

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## **Newsletter Printing**

Cover Date: **February 2005** Number of pages submitted

with this purchase order: 12 pages

Printed Paper size: three - 11 x 17 sheets

printing on 2 sides

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Paper Weight: 20 pound paper weight

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## Leonard,

Mr. Hendrickson will be handling the printed copies – I believe the mailing will go out the  $25 \, \text{th}$ . I

apologize for such short notice and inconvenience. Please contact me or Mr. Hendrickson if this

deadline cannot be met. I was out of town and last-minute family issues has come up lately. Thanks

for your wonderful work! Tina Dean