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



GUIDED HIKES ALONG THE CUMBERLAND TRAIL

Led by Seasonal Interpretive Ranger Ryan Maddux

- Feb 2 Rock Creek Loop and access Hike.
 Meet at Lower Rock Creep Loop paved lot at 9 am ET. 7.5 mile hike rated moderate.
- Feb 9 Hike to Graysville Mountain Overlook. Meet at Graysville Mountain Trailhead at 9 am ET. 4 mile hike rated moderate.
- Feb 16 Piney River hike. Meet at Piney River Trailhead at 9 am ET to then carpool up to Duskin Trailhead to hike back down to Piney River Trailhead. 8.5 mile hike rated moderate.
- Feb 23 Black Mountain Hike. Meet at 9 am ET at Black Mountain Trailhead. 1.5 mile easy loop with lots of overlooks and rock formations to explore.

Be sure to wear comfortable hiking shoes and the proper clothing along with water, snacks, and/or a lunch. Looking forward to seeing you there!

For maps, photos, or general information about the trails visit www.cumberlandtrail.org.

For information about the hikes contact Ryan Maddux at 423-240-2239 or by email at trmaddux42@students.tntech.edu.

SAVE THE DATE!

Make your plans now! This year we are gathering at beautiful Fall Creek Falls State Park for our annual meeting hosted by the Plateau, Soddy-Daisy and Upper Cumberland Chapters. Mark your calendars to reserve the dates: October 25-27, 2013. Watch for details in future newsletter issues.

Joining TTA as a New Member? Membership Up For Renewal?

Your Generosity Benefits All!

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

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



Office Location 409 Thurman Avenue, Ste 102Crossville, TN 38555

Email: cumberlandtrail@rocketmail.com

Website: www.cumberlandtrail.org

Excerpted/condensed from CTC's annual report:

The year 2012 has yielded progress and success for the Cumberland Trail Conference. The CTSST's New River segment was completed, adding an additional 38-mile segment to the over-all project. At the New River section's northern terminus. Cove Lake State Park, the trail connects to the Cumberland Mountain segment, and its additional 11.6-miles, and at the southern terminus connects to the CT in Frozen Head State Park creating a 57.6-mile continuous section of the Cumberland Trail. The completion of this segment has created a connection to the other trails in both state parks producing numerous hiking opportunities. New trail construction began in the Graysville RMU, which is part of the Laurel-Snow segment, and on the western slope of Black Mountain. The Big Soddy Creek bridge project is underway and will be completed in 2013. Trail maintenance was performed in the majority of trail segments keeping the trail open and available for recreational use. To date, 192 miles of trail are being maintained.

In 2012, 11,962 recorded volunteer hours were donated to the trail project. The total volunteer hours are actually much higher because not all groups reported their volunteer time to the CTC. All of this tremendous volunteer service and dedication was accomplished at no cost to any government agency. The non-partisan coalition, Independent Sector, places a value on volunteer service at \$21.79/hr equaling \$260,652.

Moreover, this project is not only assisted by people giving of their time, but also their money. Throughout the year, funds from foundations, organizations, CTC members, and other individuals has allowed the CTC to continue its mission.

With continued support from CTC members, volunteers, organizations, project partners, and the trail communities' financial backing, the Cumberland Trail Conference/Tennessee Trails Association will strive ahead to complete the Cumberland Trail State Scenic Trail. One day a footpath will stretch from Signal Point north to Cumberland Gap, creating a lasting legacy to be enjoyed for many generations.



2013 CTC VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- Spring BreakAway event at Dogwood lodge March 3-30, 2013.
- Big Soddy bridge construction dates TBA, bridge required to be built by November 2013, contact tony.hook@frontiernet.net for details.
- Trail construction western slope Black Mountain contact tony.hook@frontiernet.net for details.

CLARKSVILLE CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: J.R. Tate 931-920-2692

clarksville @tennesseetrails.org
CHAPTER VICE-CHAIR: Suva Bastin 931-645-2849

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TREASURER: Chris Everett 931-494-8038

clarksvilletreas @tennesseetrails.org
SECRETARY: Robbin Cusic 931-542-3266

clarksvillesecy@tennesseetrails.org

OUTINGS COORDINATOR: Paul Schwab 931-645-9068

clarksvillehikes @tennesseetrails.org (call Paul & volunteer to lead an outing)

MEETS MONTHLY: 3rd Tuesday at 7:00 pm CT, Crow Community Center, 211 Richview Rd. Additional information may be seen at our web site: http://www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/clarksville

We are going to hike the Land Between the Lakes (LBL) North/South Trail in sections ending February 16.

Feb 2 - N/S Trail from Golden Pond to Forest Road 165 (Wrangler Camp Road, north of mile marker 13). 9.2 miles. Bob Lyon 931-648-2354. Meet 7:00 am CT, Kroger parking area, Dover Crossing Road, Clarksville. 57 miles to trailhead.

Feb 9 - N/S Trail from Forest Road 165 to Forest Road 211 (Ginger Bay Road, north of mile marker 8). 7.1 miles. Moderate. Suva Bastin 931-645-2849. Meet 7:00 am CT. Kroger parking area, Dover Crossing Road, Clarksville. 48 miles to trailhead.

Feb 16 - N/S Trail from Forest Road 211 to South Welcome Station. 11.1 miles. Paul Schwab 931-645-9068. Meet 7:00 am CT, Kroger parking area, Dover Crossing Road, Clarksville. 43 miles to trailhead.

Feb 19 - Monthly meeting.

Feb 23 - Indian Town Bluff, Ashland City, TN. 5 miles. Moderate. John Sneed. 931-920-3828. Meet 8:30 am CT, Madison Street Kmart, Clarksville, TN. 28 miles to trailhead.

COLUMBIA/FRANKLIN CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR:

Marvin Caine 931-486-1632 columbia @tennesseetrails.org

MEETS MONTHLY: 1st Tuesday at Grand Buffet (Hwy 31 north side of Spring Hill). Socializing and dinner at 6:00 pm CT; meeting starts at 7:00pm.

Feb 5 – Chapter Meeting. Join Libby Francis and Elizabeth Gerlock on an adventure to the Land Down Under. They will be sharing slides and stories from their 2011 trip including Sidney, Uluru, Kangaroo Island, the Great Barrier Reef and the Rainforest in Australia as well as Auckland, Queensland, and the amazing Milford Sound in New Zealand.

Feb 9 – Walls of Jericho, Chattanooga, TN - AL State Line. 7 miles. Strenuous. This shuttle hike explores the headwaters of the Paint Rock River, delving deep into a natural ravine amphitheater. The hike has been described as breathtaking, awe-inspiring and awesome. It crosses several creeks and the trail can be very slippery. It is a very steep climb out. Bring water and lunch / snacks for the trail and wear sturdy boots. We will meet behind McDonalds 4908 Main Street (Hwy 31) Spring Hill, and leave at 6:30 am CT. Please register with Robert Consalvo at 615-519-5584 or rconsalvo @aol.com.

Feb 23 - Shelby Bottoms Greenway, Nashville, TN. 5 miles. Easy. "Greenways are developed by communities throughout the country to improve the qualities that make a city desirable for work and play." Wear walking shoes or boots and bring snacks and water for the trail. We will meet behind McDonalds 4908 Main Street (Hwy 31) on the north side of Spring Hill at 7:45 am and leave at 8:00 am CT. If you prefer to meet us at Shelby Bottoms Main Trailhead, be there between 8:45 and 9:00 am. We can decide on lunch plans after the hike. We will be near Opryland so that would definitely be a consideration. For more information and to please contact Jane Coffev register. jecoffey0644@charter.net or 615-516-6551.

COVE LAKE HIKING CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR:

John Redmon 423-869-8286 covelake@tennesseetrails.org

SECRETARY/BOARD REPRESENTATIVE:

Kathy Sarvis 865-494-0374 covelakehikes @tennesseetrails.org

MEETS MONTHLY: 1st Tuesday at 7:00 pm ET at the recreation center, 300 W. Beech St., La Follette.

Hike information unavailable at press time.

DYER COUNTY CHAPTER

Graydon Swisher

901-737-3114

westregional@tennesseetrails.org

This chapter is in the process of being reorganized.

For further information, contact Graydon Swisher at 901-737-3114 or, westregional@tennesseetrails.org. In the interim, you are welcome to attend (14 to select from) other chapters' outings, events and meetings.

EAST TN CHAPTER (Oak Ridge / Knoxville)

CHAPTER CHAIR:

Rosemary Marshall 865-548-6171 easttennessee @tennesseetrails.org Elise Eustace 865-201-5806 easttennessee @tennesseetrails.org

VICE-CHAIR:

Feb 16 - Schoolhouse Gap TRail. 9 miles. Moderate. It starts at Laurel Creek Rd for 1.1 miles, turns onto Turkeypen Ridge Trail for 3.4 miles, turns onto Finley Cane Trail for 2.8 miles, turns onto Bote Mountain Trail for about 1/2 mile and then Laurel Creek Rd. This is a moderate hike at lower elevation over rolling terrain. We will meet at the trail head at 10 am ET. Pre-registration is suggested. Email Rosie at rosemary_L@hotmail.com or call 865-951-8317.

Feb 23 - Middle Creek and Slave Falls Loop Trails, Pickett State Park, Jamestown, TN. 11 miles. Easy, relatively flat terrain but difficult due to length, this trail passes impressive cliff walls and rock houses. The slender waterfall is an additional mile on a spur trail, but well worth the walk. We will stop for dinner on the way home as interest dictates. Wear sturdy boots and bring water, snacks, lunch and money for carpooling and dinner. For more information and to register call Garnett Rush at 865-268-5181 or e-mail rushga01@yahoo.com.

HIGHLAND RIM CHAPTER

(Coffee and Franklin Counties)

CHAPTER CHAIR: Linda Hudson 931-841-0540

highlandrim@tennesseetrails.org
SECRETARY Carolyn Fitz 931-598-0597

highlandrimsecy@tennesseetrails.org

Marietta Poteet 931-924-7666 highlandrimtreas@tennesseetrails.org

OUTINGS & PROGRAM COORDINATOR & NEWSLETTER
CONTACT: Joan Hartvigsen 931-962-0811

TREASURER:

Joan Hartvigsen 931-962-0811 highlandrimhikes@tennesseetrails.org

(contact Joan & volunteer to lead an outing)

MEETS MONTHLY: 4th Monday at 7:00 pm CT at the D. W. Wilson Community Ctr., 501 N. Collins St., Tullahoma.

Feb 9 - Prentice Cooper State Forest, Pot Point Trail from Snoopers Rock to Natural Bridge, west of Chattanooga. 5.6 miles round trip. Moderate, steep climbs. This hike follows the rim of the 1200 ft deep Tennessee River Gorge offering many panoramic views of the Tennessee River and Raccoon Mountain. We will start at Snoopers Rock which affords a wide view down into the Tennessee River Gorge and Raccoon Mountain across the river. We will then hike along the gorge rim to a natural bridge, an impressive 30 ft. high span of sandstone. We will enjoy lunch at a nearby bare rock promontory. Formations of rimrock, flowing streams and woodland hollows are other features of this gorgeous and interesting hike. Bring water, lunch, snacks, hiking sticks and hiking boots and binoculars. Hartvigsen 931-962-0811 Contact Joan at jhartvigs @comcast.net to register and carpool information.

Feb 16 – Eat-Hike-Eat, Segment of the Perimeter Trail, Sewanee, TN. 4 miles. Moderate. Meet at the Blue Chair at 9:00 am CT for coffee and breakfast or 9:30 am if you just want to hike. This month we will hike the Perimeter Trail between Brakefield Road Gates G13 and G9, passing Chestnut Lake, Audubon Lake, Kings Point and Armfield Bluff. Bring water and a snack. Contact Cathleen Close at 931-841-1448 or cathleenclose @gmail.com.

Feb 23 - Virgin Falls Pocket Wilderness, DeRossett, TN. 8 miles round trip. Moderate to difficult due to the 1,000 ft. elevation change. This is a beautiful hike with several waterfalls along the way before reaching Virgin Falls which drops 110 feet from one cave and disappears into another cave. We are having a very wet winter, so the falls should be quite lovely. You will need good boots, wet weather gear if the weather is bad, hiking sticks, water, lunch and snacks. Please call or email Marietta Poteet nannietta@blomand.net or 931-924-7666 for further meeting details.

Feb 25 – Chapter Meeting. Ranger J. R. Tinch will present a program on Tims Ford State Park, its history, what is happening now, and exciting plans for the park's future. Ranger Tinch's presentation will include the history of Tims Ford Dam, Tims Ford Lake and the families who lived along the Elk River. Past news stories from The Tullahoma News and The Tennesseean will be incorporated in the presentation. And we will learn about future plans for another boat ramp, smaller cabins for couples and a separate campground for large groups. Dinner at 5:00 p.m. CT at Applebee's, 1957 N. Jackson St., Tullahoma, TN.

DON'T LEAVE HOME WITHOUT IT

What good will a green plastic credit card do you 20 miles from the nearest paved road? What do you really need when out away from civilization?

Experienced outdoor enthusiasts know what items are most important to bring - even for short walks or hikes out of base camp. The "10 Essentials" are items that cannot be improvised from materials lying on the forest floor. To be found without these few items, even only a few miles from car, camp or cabin, can spell disaster. The "Ten Essentials" are the end-product of years of hard-won experience. They are intended to help outdoor enthusiasts avoid getting into trouble in the first place, and, if that doesn't work, to minimize the damage.

The standard list of 10 essentials varies slightly depending on which source you go to. For example, the Boy Scouts, Sierra Club, and The Seattle Mountaineers', each have their own lists, yet they all incorporate the same basic items.

The following list is not to be considered cast in concrete each outdoor enthusiast should customize his or her own kit for the barest minimum of supplies. Note that the first three items are for finding your way, the second three are for your protection, and the last four are for emergencies.

- Map
- Compass
- Flashlight, extra batteries and bulb
- Hat, sunglasses, bug repellant, gloves
- WATER!!! And a way to purify water. Extra food.
- Clothing: raingear, socks, sweater, space™ blanket
- Matches / lighter, candle / fire starter
- Mirror, whistle
- Pocket knife
- 1st aid kit: moleskin, antibiotic ointment, medications.
- Always tell someone else your hiking plans
- Use your common sense

By avoiding unnecessary problems and dangers you will save on your own personal wear and tear, and probably get back home in one piece. However, if something does come up, at least you know you've got those 10 important items stowed away in your pack.

JACKSON CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Vicky Moeller 731-668-9336 jackson@tennesseetrails.org

TREASURER: Anne Goodson 664-1556 jacksontreas@tennesseetrails.org

SECRETARY: Don Dresser 731-668-4190 jacksonsecy@tennesseetrails.org

Glen Rognstad 731-217-5966

jacksonhikes@tennesseetrails.org

(call Glen & volunteer to lead an outing)

MEETS MONTHLY: 1st Monday at Perkins Restaurant, Vann Drive, Jackson. Socializing & dinner starts at 6:00 pm

CT; meeting starts 6:45 pm

OUTINGS COORDINATOR:

Feb 9 - Land Between the Lakes. This will be a loop hike, partly on the Pickett Loop Trail and partly off trail using a compass. We will start at the Fort Henry trail head and proceed north towards Panther Bay. Please contact Donald Dresser for more information or to register for the hike, by calling 731-668-4190 or *donald dresser@usit.net*.

Feb 23 – Tishomingo State Park. 7-8 miles. We will meet at Panera at 8 am CT or at the park entrance station at 10:30 am. To register or obtain additional information, please contact Sara Rognstad at hakim.sara@gmail.com.

Planning Ahead:

Mar 9 -- Walls of Jericho

Mar 16 -- Mousetail

Mar 23 -- Natchez Trace State Park

Apr 6 -- Sewanee Wildflower Hike

Apr 20 -- Nathan Bedford Forrest State Park

<u>TIP</u>

In the fall, winter and spring, always bring a stocking cap or warm hat. Weather is often unpredictable, and covering your head will keep you more comfortable in a variety of conditions.



MEMPHIS CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Charlie Bright 901-829-4434

memphis @tennesseetrails.org

VICE-CHAIR: Francis Ruffin 662-701-6284

memphisvice@tennesseetrails.org

Feb 2 - Ft Pillow State Park, Henning, TN. 7-8 miles. Moderate to difficult. Meet at the Park Interpretative Center at 9:30 am CT. We will hike the 7-8 mile historic loop trail over rugged hilly terrain and through hardwood forests. Trail is rated moderate to difficult because of the terrain. Bring water, lunch and snacks. Sturdy boots recommended. For more information call Cathey at 901-486-2601.

Feb 9 - T.O. Fuller State Park, 1500 Mitchell Road. The hike will cover 4 miles of moderate to rugged terrain with some wetland. The trail includes part of the Discovery Trail of the Chucalissa Indian Village. The hike will begin at 9:30 am CT. We will break for hot chocolate! Bring water and a snack. Rain will cancel the hike. After the hike we will meet at Interstate BBQ for lunch. For more information call hike leader Francis at 901-573-9998. Directions: Go I-240 West to I-55 North, Exit 7 South to Highway 61(3rd Street) drive south approx 1 mile and turn right onto Mitchell Road, continue 3 miles west to the T.O. Fuller Park sign and turn right at the Visitor Office.

Feb 16 - Mousetail Landing State Park, Parsons, TN. Meet at 9:30 am CT at Mousetail Landing Park Visitor Center. This 8-mile trail is rated moderate with some steep and rugged hills. We will eat lunch at a shelter on a bluff overlooking the Tennessee River. For more information contact Gloria Folk at 901-277-5756. Rain will cancel hike. Directions: Take I-40 to Exit 126, south on Hwy 69 14 miles to Parson, TN. Travel east on Hwy 412 for 6 miles and cross the Tennessee River. Take a left on Hwy 438, travel 2.5 miles. The park entrance is on the left. Drive about a mile to at the park visitor center parking lot.

Feb 23 - Tour de Wolf Trail, Shelby Farms Park. Woody will lead a 6-mile easy hike along the Tour de Wolf "off road" bicycle course. This trail is not paved; so, wear sturdy shoes or boots. We will meet at the Shelby Farms Visitor Center at 9:00 am CT sharp. For information contact Woody Pierce at 901-755-5635 or woodypierce2 @gmail.com.

MURFREESBORO CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR:

Sara Pollard 615-714-3610 murfreesboro@tennesseetrails.org

TREASURER

Ann Jacobs 615-896-3935

MEMBERSHIP

murfreesborotreas@tennesseetrails.org Mary Belle Ginanni 615-895-6072

murfreesboromembership@tennesseetrails.org

PROGRAMS

Valerie Galan 615-586-2882

OUTINGS COORDINATOR:

murfreesboroprograms@tennesseetrails.org

IATOR: Cathy Bingham 615-890-9791

murfreesborohikes@tennesseetrails.org

(Call Cathy & volunteer to lead an outing)

MEETS MONTHLY: 2nd Tuesday at 7:00 pm CT, Barfield-

Crescent Park's Wilderness Station, 697 Barfield-

Crescent Rd., Murfreesboro

BLOG: www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/murfreesboro

Feb 2 - Collins Gulf Waterfall Hike. 6 miles. Moderate to VERY DIFFICULT. In past years we have had lots of ice/snow or very little to no ice/snow. We will begin at the Collins Gulf Trail Head, go past Suter Falls and then continue to Horsepound Falls, where we will have lunch. We will return the same way for a total of 6 miles. If there is no ice/snow this is a moderate hike due to some loose footing around Suter Falls. HOWEVER, if there is ice/snow this hike will be VERY DIFFICULT. Please be prepared either way with very sturdy boots and hiking pole (s). I will not cancel the hike due to ice unless the roads are impassable. If there are icy conditions on the trail, we will take our time to make sure that everyone gets through the icy part safely. The area around Suter Falls is the only really difficult area during ice. IF YOU DECIDE TO GO, PLEASE BE PREPARED FOR ANY CONDITION. For more information or to register contact Tony Jones at 615-397-4463 or awi1968@comcast.net.

Feb 9 - Virgins Falls. 8 miles round trip. Moderate to strenuous with 800 ft elevation change. One of the prettiest falls in our state, this hike also features Big Laurel Falls, Sheep Cave, 110 ft Virgin Falls and the Caney Fork River. Virgin Falls does not have a stream above or below the falls. It comes from a creek emerging from Virgin Falls Cave, located 150 ft from the top of the lake. At the base of the falls, the water disappears into Virgin Falls Pit. Bring water, lunch and wear sturdy boots with hiking poles. IN CASE OF RAIN OR TEMPS FALL BELOW FREEZING, THE HIKE WILL BE CANCELLED. To register, contact Ann Jacobs at *EANNJACOBS@aol.com* or 615-896-3935 or Jenny Jacobs at *jlj27_1999@yahoo.com* or 615-691-2636.

Feb12 - Monthly Meeting. Come join us for an educational and enlightening endeavor that could save your life if stranded in the wilderness. Speaker Ranger Tyler Blystone, from Long Hunter State Park, will speak on local flora and fauna-what is edible, and what is not.

Murfreesboro Chapter - con't.

Feb 16 - Snow and Ice Hike, Rugby/Allardt, TN. Two hikes: 3 miles, moderate and 1.5 miles, moderate to difficult. We will hike the Gentleman's Swimming Hole Trail with lunch afterwards at the Harrow Road Cafe in Rugby, which serves traditional English foods and regular restaurant fare. This 3 mile loop trail travels through hardwood, spruce, hemlock and pine forests with some spectacular bluff views along White Oak Creek and the Clear Fork River. Huge icicles are known to form on the bluffs and hang from the rock houses along the way dependent on weather conditions. After lunch we will go back to Allardt and hike the Colditz Cove State Natural Area. This is a 1.5 mile moderate to difficult trail through old growth hemlocks. The view of the gorge leading up to Northrup Falls is a must see, with an outstanding rock house at the falls which is one of a kind. To register, or for more info contact Fount Bertram at 615-765-5357 or fwbertram@dtccom.net.

Feb 23 - Long Hunter State Park. 5 miles. Easy to Moderate. We will be doing the day loop trail. The option to hike some of the Volunteer Trail is also available if anyone would like to. Good boots are recommended. Bring water and snacks/lunch. Meet at the park and ride lot on Broad Street at 9:30 am CT or at the trailhead at Bakers Grove. We will start the hike at 10:00 am. Allow 3-4 hours. To register, contact Roy Duncan at 615-848-5454 or royduncan1959@yahoo.com.

LEAVE NO TRACE PRINCIPLES



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

NASHVILLE CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR:

Doug Burroughs nashville @tennesseetrails.org

OUTINGS COORDINATOR:

Nancy Juodenas

nashvillehikes@tennesseetrails.org

(email Nancy & volunteer to lead an outing)

MEETS MONTHLY: 4th Tuesday at 7:00 pm CT in the REI

Community Room, 261 Franklin Road, Brentwood. For directions, visit: www.tennesseetrails.org/nashville.php

BLOG: www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/nashville

Gift Wrapping at REI = \$success\$\$!

Each December for over a decade, the Nashville chapter has been invited by REI to wrap customers' packages in exchange for donations (contributions received are used to offset some of the huge expense to buy food to feed the March BreakAway volunteers), and each year the gift wrapping event has been fun and quite succe\$\$ful, but none of this would be possible without our dedicated and creative "Giftwrapping Elve\$." THANK YOU to the following "Giftwrapping Elve\$" who generously volunteered their time to help with wrapping gifts for REI's customers on Saturday December 15 while at the same time introducing many of them to TTA, the Cumberland Trail, hiking and trail building opportunities in Tennessee - your help is so greatly appreciated: Karl Dupre, Libby Francis, Valerie Galan, Larry Marchese, Garnett Rush, Linda Smithyman, Amy Sutton, Belinda Vanatta, and "JW."

Each "Elf" was asked to commit to a 2-hour shift; however, due to the enormously large volume of customers wanting to have their gifts wrapped, several "Elve\$" stayed on an extra hour or two. In exchange for the beautifully wrapped creatively decorated packages, TTA received donation\$\$\$ - a total of \$375.00 dollars!!!!! Donation\$ received have been earmarked for use by the Cumberland Trail Conference (CTC) to buy food to feed the volunteers (predominantly college students, plus many TTA & CTC supporters); who come to Tennessee in March to help build the Cumberland Trail during the 2013 Spring BreakAway program. Yes, it is true that the college students have chosen to come to Tennessee; they are trading out their lazy and boring spring breaks on the hot, white sandy beaches of Mexico for the challenging and dirty work of digging on sloped hills, moving rock, accruing a few bruises and bumps while earning the glory of doing something really worthy for generations to come.

This was the 11th year that TTA-Nashville has wrapped gifts at REI and it continues to be overwhelmingly well-received by their customers and quite \$ucce\$\$ful for Tennessee Trails Association and the Cumberland Trail so . . . On behalf of the Nashville Chapter of TTA and Cumberland Trail Conference: Mega-huge thank yous to REI for inviting us into your store during the busiest and most hectic time of year, and for your continued support of the Tennessee Trails Association, Cumberland Trail and our future trail system in TN! Again, thanks to the "Giftwrapping Elve\$" for their commitment to TTA and CTC.

Nashville Chapter - con't.

Feb 2 - Sewanee Perimeter Trail, Sewanee, TN. 14 miles. We will make an early start to preserve daylight. Interested parties should contact hike leader Karl at 615-207-2250 or on-line at *karld@comcast.net* for details. The hike is around 14 miles but not overly rugged. We will pass through Shakerag Hollow in which lies David George Haskell's "Forest Unseen". Pack a lunch.

Feb 16 - Nathan Bedford Forrest SP, Eva, TN. 5 or 10 miles. We will start our adventure at the park's Folklife Center, learning about the history and natural world of the area. Then, depending on the desire of the group we will hike the 5 mile loop or there is also a 10 mile hike. This hike includes Pilot Knob, the highest point in West Tennessee. It should be a perfect TN winter hike with good views of Kentucky Lake, no ticks, no poison ivy, and just cool enough for a good walk. This will be a full day's trip, so wear good hiking shoes/boots, bring water, snacks and lunch for the trail. We will stop for dinner on the way back so bring money for that and for carpooling. For more information and to register e-mail (preferred) Nancy Juodenas at njuodenas@yahoo.com or call 615-319-8811.

Feb 23 - Bearwaller Gap, Near Carthage TN. 6 miles. Moderate to Difficult due to side sloping trails. Panoramic views of Cordell Hull Lake. On the way to the start of the hike at Defeated Creek Campground, we'll drop any shuttle vehicles at the Overlook Recreation Area. There can be an option to hike out and back for 12 miles if requested. Call Doug Burroughs at 615-283-0507 for more information and to register.

Feb 26 – Monthly Meeting. Hikers don't take retirement sitting down. Nancy Juodenas volunteered as a classroom assistant with Monteverde Friends School in Costa Rica this past fall, and went on cloud forest walks and a hike to a volcano as well. She will describe her experiences at the Nashville Chapter's monthly meeting at REI in Brentwood. Bring a friend!

TIP

Dressing in layers will allow you to adjust to different levels of exertion. Weather can change unexpectedly in the spring, fall and winter, and proper layering will help keep you comfortable, warm and dry.

NORTHWEST Chapter

(UT at Martin / Weakley County)

CHAPTER CHAIR: Scott M. Pun 731-881-7316 northwest@tennesseetrails.org

TREASURER: Sandy Davis 731-587-9134

northwesttreas@tennesseetrails.org

MEETS MONTHLY: 2nd Tuesday at 7:00 pm CT during the academic year (Feb-Apr and Sep-Dec) on the UT Campus in the Paul Meek Library, Rm 120, Media Services B1

Hike information unavailable at press time.

PLATEAU CHAPTER (Crossville)

CHAPTER CHAIR: Cheryl Heckler 931-456-6437

plateau@tennesseetrails.org

SECRETARY/TREASURER: Jan Barber 931-839-6662 Don Taylor....615-973-1814

plateausecy @tennesseetrails.org

MEETS MONTHLY: 2nd Thursday at 6:30 pm CT BLOG: www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/plateau

There is a leaderless hike (typically 5 - 7 miles) every Wednesday morning. For additional information, contact Bill Harris at 931-484-9152 or visit the Plateau Chapter Blog. Rain cancels.

Feb 9 - Yellow Bluff/Polly Branch Loop, DeRossett, TN. 7.75 mile hike. Moderate. The main features of the hike are the Upper and Lower Polly Branch Falls, the Yellow Bluff overlook of the Caney Fork Gulf, and the Joe Hollway Rockhouse. The falls are in the 15-30 foot class, but are very photogenic. Depart 8 am from Tractor Supply. Contact Jim Hardy at jim.hardy20@yahoo.com or 931-277-5154 or Steve Wesley at 2-Ramblers@live.com or 785-249-0384.

Feb 14 - Chapter Meeting. 6:30 pm CT. First United Methodist Church Annex, 69 Neecham Street, Crossville. Program: Restore Native Grasslands Plan by Lisa Huff. East Tennessee Natural Areas Manager. Dinner at Romo's Mexican Restaurant, 965 Northside Drive, Crossville at 5 Contact Chapter Chair. Chervl Heckler at thehecklers@charter.net or 931-456-6437 for additional information.

Feb 16 - Savage Day Loop, Palmer, TN. 4.2 miles. Easy. This hike is quite beautiful with lush mountain laurel, hemlock trees, waterfalls, and overlooks of Savage Gulf. The many points of interest include a suspension bridge across Boyd Branch Creek (lined with mountain laurel), Savage Falls Overlook and Rattlesnake Point Overlooking Savage Gulf. We can also take a half mile trip down the South Rim Trail, crossing Savage Creek on a suspension bridge and passing beneath a canopy of rhododendron along the cascading Savage Creek. A wooden staircase leads to the deep pool of Savage Falls. Depart 8 am from Tabernacle. Contact Cheryl Heckler thehecklers@charter.net or 931-456-6437 for additional information.

SODDY-DAISY CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR:

Bob McGavock 423-667-2960 soddydaisy@tennesseetrails.org

MEETS QUARTERLY: 1st Tuesday in Jan, Apr, Jul, Oct at 6:00 pm ET at Burk's United Methodist Church, 6433 Hixson Pike, Hixson

Additional information may be seen at our web site:

http://www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/soddydaisy

Feb 2 - Oswald Dome Trail near Benton, TN. 9 miles. Strenuous. Meet at Target parking lot on Hwy 153 at 8:00 am ET. Hike leader: George Bonneau.

Feb 5 - South Chickamauga Creek levee trail. 4 miles. Easy. Meet at Shallowford Road parking lot at 9:30 am ET. Hike leader: George Bonneau.

Feb 9 - North Chickamauga Gorge trail. 5 miles. Moderate. Meet at Walmart parking lot in Soddy at 9:30 am ET. Hike leader: George Bonneau.

Feb 12 - Enterprise South trails. 4 miles. Easy to moderate. Meet at Target parking lot on Hwy 153 at 9:30 am ET. Hike leader: George Bonneau

Feb 16 - Chickamauga Battlefield trails. Moderate. Meet at Bi-Lo parking lot in Red Bank at 9:30 am ET. Hike Leader: George Bonneau.

Feb 19 - Greenway Farm trails. 4 miles. Easy to moderate. Meet at parking lot across from dog park at 9:30 am ET. Hike leader: George Bonneau.

Feb 23 - Frozen Head State Park. 8 miles. Strenuous. Meet at Durham Street parking lot in Soddy Daisy at 8:00 am ET. Hike leader: George Bonneau.

Feb 26 - Harrison Bay State Park. 4 miles. Easy. Meet at Target parking lot on Hwy 153 at 9:30 am ET. Hike leader: George Bonneau.

Contact George Bonneau at george.r.bonneau@gmail.com or 423-842-3619.

Avoid cotton clothing as "cotton is rotten" and "cotton can kill" when outdoors in cooler temperatures. Cotton dries slowly and won't keep you warm when you get wet, while wool, fleece and other synthetics will. Reconsider wearing jeans if rain is predicted - they weigh too much and take forever to dry.

SUMNER TRAILS CHAPTER

CHAPTER CO-CHAIRS:

David & Shirley Primeau 615-424-2948 sumner @tennesseetrails.org

MEETS MONTHLY: 1st Tuesday at 7:00 pm CT Hendersonville First United Methodist Church, 217

E. Main St. Hendersonville, TN

Feb 3 - Pre-Super Bowl Hike. This is your last chance to get some fresh air and exercise before wallowing on a couch to eat nachos and watch Super Bowl XLVII. We'll head to Two Rivers Park off Briley Parkway to access the Shelby Bottoms Greenway. After crossing the Cumberland River on the breathtaking, pedestrian bridge, we'll walk a combination of trails for approximately 3-4 miles total distance. If the ground is dry, we are going to include a few of the grass trails to get us off the pavement. The exact route will be an audible from scrimmage based on the weather. Please wear sturdy shoes (you may prefer hiking boots on the grass trails which can be a bit muddy), and wear layers of clothing that you can add/subtract as we warm up. Don't forget some water and a snack to eat on the trail. Meet at 12:30 pm CT in the Glenbrook Kroger parking lot (off New Shackle Island Rd in Hendersonville). We'll be back in time for kickoff at 5:30. Bad weather will cancel. Questions?? E-mail Anne at ttahiker@att.net or 615-851-1052.

Feb 5 - Trivia Tuesday at Barefoot Charlie's Restaurant. Instead of our monthly meeting, we'll gather at Barefoot Charlie's restaurant, 125 Sander's Ferry Road, Hendersonville, to enjoy dinner and play trivia with the other customers. Please note, the trivia contest begins at 6:30 PM so we need to arrive a little before then. The last time our chapter was there, one of our teams took second place, so bone up on current events and stories in the newspaper so we can win the coveted first place prize!

Feb 9 - Waterfall Extravaganza! Join us at 2 of the most spectacular waterfall venues in the Southeast. First we'll head to Tennessee's newest state park: Cummins Falls (Jackson County). We'll hike the Overlook Trail (a fairly easy 1 mile roundtrip) to a scenic viewpoint above the falls. Please note: this is not the more rugged rock hop to the base of the falls that you may have read about, but we hope the beautiful vantage point will inspire us to come back in warmer weather to visit the swimming hole at the bottom of the falls. We will next drive about 30 minutes to Burgess Falls State Park to see 3 amazing waterfalls. This involves a steep 0.75 mile descent to the bottom of the falls via trail and stairs. Then we retrace our steps back up for a total of 1.5 miles. The path/steps at Burgess Falls can be wet and slick so hiking boots are advisable - or at least a sturdy athletic shoe with a good tread. Hiking sticks are helpful. We will stop at a restaurant for a late lunch so please bring money for your meal and a snack to tide you over. Also please be courteous and chip in for gasoline costs if you are a passenger.

Sumner Trails Chapter - con't.

We'll meet for carpooling at 9 am CT at the Hendersonville First United Methodist Church. We have approximately a 90-minute drive to Cummins Falls - so please be on time. RSVP no later than Feb 7 to hike leader Karen at Karen. Privitera @parallon.net or (615) 414-9805. Bad weather and/or icy trail conditions will cancel this outing.

Feb 16 - Volunteer/Day Loop Trail, Long Hunter State Park, Mt. Juliet. We will make a 4 mile loop of the Volunteer and Day Loop Trails, a beautiful trail, fully wooded with bluffs overlooking the shore of J. Percy Priest Lake. It is an easy to moderate trail and we will go at a leisurely pace. We will meet at the Hendersonville First Presbyterian Church at 9:00 am CT for carpooling and directions. Bring water and any desired snacks and wear sturdy comfortable shoes. Optional to join us for lunch after the hike at Panera Bread at Providence. If you have questions or would like to meet us at the trailhead contact Lea at 615-289-4842 or e-mail at whittonm@realtracs.com.

Feb 23 - Cumberland River Bicentennial Trail, Eagle Pass Trailhead to Cheatham Lock & Dam Campground. 2.5 miles. Easy. This Rails-To-Trails hike is on compacted gravel and is a continuation of the 4 mile segment from the Mark's Creek Trailhead. After the hike we'll check out the lock & dam and then go to lunch. Meet at Hendersonville First Presbyterian Church at 9 am CT or at the Eagle Pass Trailhead on Chapmansboro Rd at 10 am CT. For further info contact Dam Al at ballallenger@aol.com or (615) 347-2623 after 3 pm the day before the hike.

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UPPER CUMBERLAND CHAPTER

(Sparta / Cookeville)

CHAPTER CHAIR:

Louise Miniard 931-528-9115 uppercumberland@tennesseetrails.org

HIKE COORDINATOR: Kathleen Sullivan 931-520-6294 uppercumberlandhikes@tennesseetrails.org

Feb 2 - River Trail, Bridgestone-Firestone Centennial Wilderness, Sparta, TN. 8-10 miles. Moderate. Come hike with Pete Broehl for his 70th birthday. After the hike we will eat in Sparta at Panda Garden for his birthday celebration. We will pass by Upper and Lower Polly Branch Falls and then join the Caney Fork River Trail before hiking to Yellow Bluff Overlook. An alternate is available for those wanting a shorter hike. Bring snacks, water, lunch, and hiking boots. You can meet us at the US Bank across from McDonald's in Sparta at 8:00. For information and to register contact Louise Miniard @ 931-528-9115 and leave message or *Iminiard* @flowserve.com.

Feb 9 - Maude's Crack, Big South Fork NRRA, Jamestown, TN. Maude's Crack is a shoulder width crack in a rock cliff about 100 feet high. It was used as a shortcut by Minnie Maude Royston to bring supplies from a settlement near the bottom of the cliff to workers at the top. The hike is a loop (plus a side trip to the John Muir Overlook) that descends to the bottom of No Business Gorge, then follows the creek for a mile or so then ascends to the rim of the gorge. The last 100 feet of the climb is through Maude's Crack. The side trip to the John Muir Overlook is a steep climb. The hike is about 8.5 miles and is rated moderate to strenuous because of the rugged terrain, a stream crossing (we may need to wade the creek), and two several hundred foot climbs. Bring snacks, water, lunch, and hiking boots. You can meet us at 7:30 am CT in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville. For information and to register contact Kathleen Sullivan at 931-284-7822 or ksully@frontiernet.net.

Feb 16 - Virgin Falls, DeRossett, TN. This is an 8-mile strenuous hike to the 110 foot tall Virgin Falls. Along the way, we will pass a 30-foot waterfall, Big Laurel Falls. There is a stream crossing and some difficult footing on this hike, including the need to cross a rock field at Big Laurel Falls, so the hike may be canceled or changed due to high water, snow or ice. Therefore, register with hike leader Louise Miniard at 931-528-9115 to be informed of possible cancelation or changes. Bring snacks, water, lunch, and hiking boots. You can meet us at the US Bank across from McDonald's in Sparta at 8:00 am CT. For information and to register contact Louise Miniard @ 931-528-9115 and leave message or *Iminiard* @flowserve.com.

Upper Cumberland Chapter - con't.

Feb 23 - Above the Gulf, Savage Gulf State Natural Area, Palmer, TN. This hike will start from the Collins Gulf Trailhead. We will follow the Collins Gulf Trail across the bridge over Collins River and then on to its junction with the South Rim Trail. We will then take the South Rim Trail to the Savage Day Loop, which we will follow to the Savage Gulf Ranger Station. The hike is about 14 miles, mostly on top of the mountain. There are numerous outstanding overlooks of Savage Gulf and Collins Gulf as well as Savage Falls. The terrain is easy to moderate but the hike is strenuous due to the distance. You can meet us at 7:00 am CT in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville or at the US Bank across from McDonald's in Sparta at 7:30. For information and to register contact Richard 931-526-2035 Savage at or savage richard@hotmail.com.

<u>TIP</u>

Dehydration is serious. Drink a lot of water – more than you feel you need. One of the first signs of dehydration is a headache. If you become dehydrated, you must slow down immediately and get re-hydrated.

Each month TTA offers opportunities to volunteer – be it leading hikes, organizing events, fundraising, leadership on the Board – if you've never volunteered to help before, how about it in 2013?

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president@tennesseetrails.org

Vice-President

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CTC@tennesseetrails.org

TN Rails To Trails Advisory Council Representative

Bob Richards 615-532-0753

TRAC@ tennesse etrails.org

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

Newsletter Editor

LouAnn Partington 931-393-4835

editor@tennesseetrails.org

Newsletter Deadlines:

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

 Due
 For Newsletter Dated

 Feb 10
 Mar 1

 Mar 10
 Apr 1

 Apr 10
 May 1

All submissions are subject to editing. Articles of general interest and non-hiking events will be included as space permits.

Please send all submissions to:

editor@tennesseetrails.org

TTA 2013 CALENDAR

The following dates in 2013 refer to statewide activities that TTA as a whole participates in. Please refer to this calendar often so that you

- will know when your volunteering interests are especially needed (such as during BreakAway, National Trail Days, etc.).
- will consider organizing or leading volunteers from your chapter/region for an event listed.
- can be sure to prevent scheduling conflicts with an activity you wish to plan.

FIRST QUARTER

Feb 2	Board	of	Dire	ctors'	Quart	erly N	Леet	ing
	(Nashv	ille, T	N)					
Mar 3-9	CTC's	Spri	ng	Break	Away,	Week	1	in
	Hamilto	on Co	unty	(Sodd	y-Dais	y)		
Mar 10-16	CTC's	Spri	ng	Break	Away,	Week	2	in
	Hamilto	on Co	unty	(Sodd	y-Dais	y)		
Mar 17-23	CTC's	Spri	ng	Break	Away,	Week	3	in
	Hamilto	on Čo	unty	(Sodd	y-Dais	y)		
Mar 24-30	CTC's	Spri	ng	Break	Away,	Week	4	in
	Hamilto	on Co	unty	(Sodd	y-Dais	y)		
Mar 25	Banff M	/ltn Fi	lm F	estival	Tour, k	Knoxvill	е	
Mar 23	Earth F	lour -	8:30) pm lo	cal tim	е		

SECOND QUARTER

SECOND WOA	IX I E IX	
Apr 6-14	TDEC's Natural Areas	Week (Statewide)
Apr 20	Earth Day Observanc	es in many areas of
	TN	•
Apr 22	Official Earth Day - 42	nd Anniversary
	Board of Directors'	
-	(Location TBA)	
Jun 1	National Trails Day (St	atewide)

THIRD QUARTER

Aug 3	Board	of	Directors'	Quarterly	Meeting
	(Location				
Sep 14-21	24 th An	nual	Bike Ride	Across TN (B.R.A.T.)
	Procee	ds B	enefit the C	umberland ³	Trail
Sep 28	Nationa	al Pu	blic Lands [Day (Statew	ide)

FOURTH QUARTER

Oct 25-27TTA's Annual Meeting; hosted by Plateau, Soddy Daisy and Upper Cumberland chapters at Fall Creek Falls State Park (Pikeville/Spencer, TN) Tennessee Trails Association P.O. Box 41446 Nashville, TN 37204-1446

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



NOTICE: YOUR MAILING LABEL CONTAINS YOUR MEMBERSHIP EXPIRATION DATE.

To avoid any interruption with delivering your newsletter, we ask that you renew at least one month before the date shown. Use the Membership Form provided below.

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

YES, I WANT TO JOIN TENNESSEE TRAILS AS A NEW MEMBER RENEWING MY MEMBER Memberships are for one year, unless you have a L Gift Memberships are also available. Contact our M Tim Townley 731-607-0512 membership	Feb 13 R S H I P ifetime Membership.	Please Mail This Form To: Membership Director P.O. Box 41446 Nashville, TN 37204-1446
Titti Townley 131-001-0312 membersnip	8	PRINT CLEARLY.
Individual \$25.00	Name	Í
Family \$35.00		
Student (FULL TIME) \$15.00		State
Supporting (\$50.00, \$100.00 or more) Life Member (Individual) \$500.00		Zip ¦
Life Member (Family) \$750.00	e-mail	ess in the TTA Annual Membership Directory
** CTC Membership**	I would like to receive my newslet	ter by email.
Trail Conference if you also are joining TTA or renewing your TTA membership. CTC is building the	ease list me with the following chapteClarksvilleColumbia/FranklinCove LakeDyer CountyEast TN (Oak Ridge/Knoxville)Highland Rim (Manchester/Tullahoma)JacksonMemphis	er: MurfreesboroNashvilleNorthwest (UT at Martin/Weakley)Plateau (Crossville)Soddy DaisySumner Trails (Sumner County)Upper Cumberland (Sparta/Cookeville)At Large
When you become a TTA member, you will receive: (1) TTA's responsibilities, etc. (2) TTA's monthly newsletter, containing informannouncements, as well as events occurring within TTA's Associanter and how to reach them. You are invited to attend any noterreshments. In addition, our annual meeting is held in the fall at to learning about the progress and plans of the organization. As a member of TTA, you are well	rmation on hiker safety, upcoming hikes/ove ciate Organizations - C.T.C. and T.R.A.C. (3 number of monthly meetings scheduled, who one of Tennessee's many parks for a week	ernight trips, volunteer opportunities, chapter meeting and a common strips, volunteer opportunities, chapter meeting and a common strips, volunteer by lere you will enjoy diverse programs, socializing and lend of hiking, camaraderie and programs, in addition.