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



From the President

Spring is fast approaching and it is time to get out and enjoy the hiking trails across the state.

As part of our mission, to promote a statewide system of hiking trails, TTA has a small grants program, the Evan Means Grants program. The Evan Means Grants program was established in 1999 to honor Evan Means, one of the founders of TTA. Traditionally, these grants are awarded during the first quarter board meeting each year.

At the February board meeting, the TTA board of Directors approved the following projects:

- Partial funding of a bridge over Bobo Creek in Short Springs State Natural Area
- Trail signs for the Lakeshore Trail at Tellico Reservoir
- Trail markers at Uplands Village, Pleasant Hill
- CTC website maintenance support
- CTC for the 2015 Spring Break Program

The TTA board of directors approved the request by CTC to allow for CTC to seek its own 501(c)(3) status. There will be several steps involved in this process and it will take a period of months to complete. This subject will be discussed at the next CTC board meeting on April 18 and at the next TTA board meeting on May 1.

The TTA board voted to utilize funds from the 2015 annual meeting to support the 2016 Spring Breakaway program.

From the Tennessee Parks and Greenways Foundation

Our mission is to protect Tennessee's natural treasures. Our vision is to create a network of parks, greenways, and wildlife areas across Tennessee from the mighty Mississippi River to the Great Smoky Mountains and beyond. The Foundation strives to accomplish this vision through three strategies:

- Conserve Tennessee Treasures;
- Create Corridor Connections:
- Foster initiatives by others through Conservation Education and Advocacy.

TennGreen is preparing for its inaugural fundraiser, *Spring Fling for TennGreen*, on March 13. This year it will be in honor of Nashville Mayor Karl Dean and his wife Anne Davis, who is a lawyer with the Southern Environmental Law Center. Anne, in her capacity with the SELC, has worked diligently to protect lands where we love to hike, across the state.

If you would like to support this TennGreen fundraiser, there are several opportunities

- Corporately, by purchasing a table. The corporate table price of \$2500 has been discounted to \$1500 for nonprofit organizations.
- Donating a silent auction item of a guided hike for a limited number of people in a spectacular locale
- Purchase a Patron ticket (\$250) or a General Admission ticket (\$150)
- Patron ticket holders receive early admission to the lead sponsor-hosted Cocktail Hour with Anne and the Mayor, premiere seating, and complimentary parking.
- General admission tickets include admission to the party at 6 pm, dinner, drinks and dancing.

For more information contact Alice Hudson at alice @tenngreen.org or 615-329-4441.



Office Location 409 Thurman Avenue,

Ste 102

Highlights from the January 24 CTC Board Meeting:

Election of officers and board members for 2015:

Chair: Rob Weber

Vice Chair: Frank Jamison Secretary: Carolyn Miller

Reorganization of CTC - discussed. Committee members appointed

Spring Breakaway Program: March 8 - April 4, 2015

- Week of March 8: Michigan State University, Boston University, Florida International University
- Week of March 15: no schools scheduled. Trail work continues with volunteer programs.
- Week of March 22: no schools scheduled. Trail work continues with volunteer programs.
- Week of March 29: University of Delaware

Volunteer opportunities include:

- Work with college students to build trail in the Graysville Mountain Segment.
- Join other volunteers to build the Cumberland Trail
- Serve as a camp volunteer at Fort Bluff camp. (Only 5 miles from the trail head)
- Volunteer to present an educational program.
- Make a monetary donation to support the volunteers and pay for expenses.

To register to volunteer during the Spring Breakaway program or to make a monetary donation, please contact the CTC office.

Next CTC Board Meeting: Saturday, April 18, 2015, 9 am to 2 pm CT, Annex building First United Methodist Church, Crossville, TN.

For more information, please contact CTC Chairman, Rob Weber at weber9885@att.net or 423-517-0920, CTC Vice Chairman, Frank Jamison at jamisonf@accessam.com at 865-376-4120 or contact the CTC office.

CLARKSVILLE CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Sandy Janus 931-551-8523

clarksville@tennesseetrails.org
CHAPTER VICE-CHAIR: Lili Ball 931-552-2773

clarksville @tennesseetrails.org

TREASURER: Mary Schwab 931-645-9068

clarksvilletreas@tennesseetrails.org

Pam Gadsey 931-552-2325 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 6:00 pm CT, Crow Community Center, 211 Richview Rd. Additional information may be seen at our web site: http://www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/clarksville

Mar 7 - Stones River Greenway from Kohl's Trailhead to Percy Priest Dam & back. 4.8 miles. Easy. Paul Schwab 931-801-9484. Meet 8:00 am CT, I 24 Exit 11 commuter parking lot. 45 miles to trailhead.

Mar 14 - LBL, John Harris Hike. 7.6 miles. Moderate. John Harris 270-227-9871. Meet 8:00 am CT, at Kroger parking area, Dover Crossing Road, Clarksville. 73 miles to trailhead.

Mar 21 - LBL, Pickett Loop Trail. 2.2 miles. Easy. J.R.Tate 931-220-1359. 8:00 am CT, at Kroger parking area, Dover Crossing Road, Clarksville. 43 miles to trailhead.

Mar 17 - Monthly Meeting.

SECRETARY:

Mar 28 - Radner Lake SNA; seven trails to pick from; 4 easy, 2.6 miles; 1 moderate, 0.9 miles; 2 difficult, 2.7 miles. Suva Bastin 931.645.2849. Meet 8:00 am CT, I 24 Exit 11 commuter parking lot. 50 miles to trailhead.

IT'S THE YEAR TO VOLUNTEER!

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 2015?

We are always looking for volunteers in all capacities within TTA. As a chapter chair or TTA officer, you can be involved in planning and determining the future activities and policies of our organization. If you are interested in any of the elected positions, feel free to contact the officer currently in that position to find out more about the time commitment and experience needed. Or plan to attend a quarterly board meeting to learn more. There are many opportunities for you to be involved in determining the future of TTA.

This month, we are putting out a special appeal for individuals to serve on the Nominating Committee or the Awards Committee. Please contact Carolyn Miller at president @tennesseetrails.org for more information on committee responsibilities and time commitment involved.

COLUMBIA/FRANKLIN CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Carolyn Watson 901-652-9089 columbia @tennesseetrails.org
PROGRAM COORDINATOR: Ellen Clark 615-595-2640

columbiaprog@tennesseetrails.org
HIKE COORDINATOR:

Jane Coffey 615-516-6551

columbiahikes@tennesseetrails.org

MEETS MONTHLY: 1st Tuesday on each month. **For the March meeting only**, we will meet at Cindy Whitt's house at 6:00 pm CT for pizza, then have our regular meeting beginning at 7:00 pm. Cindy lives in the Westhaven development which is west of Franklin off Hwy 96. Her address is 305 White Moss Place, Franklin. Please feel free to use Google maps, your GPS or some other mapping program to know where to go.

Mar 3 - Chapter Meeting. NOTE THE CHANGE IN MEETING LOCATION ABOVE. Cindy Whitt will share her pictures and experiences of her 2014 trip to Uganda and Rwanda. Cindy visited some of the most remote and fascinating National Parks in Africa. In Uganda, she went to Kibale Forest National Park known for its chimpanzees, Queen Elizabeth National Park with at least 95 species of mammals and 612 species of birds, and Bwindi Impenetrable Forest National Park, known for its gorilla families. In Rwanda, she traveled to the haven of the mountain gorilla in Volcanoes National Park. Come join us as we journey through the beautiful tropical forests, primate habitats, and extraordinary wildlife of Africa with Cindy.

Mar 14 - Big Swan Headwaters Preserve at The Farm in Summertown. Cynthia Rohrbach will be our hike leader. This hike covers the northeast corner of the Preserve established by Swan Conservation Trust in 2004. We'll start at The Farm Store and hike to Green Pond, an upland vernal pool important for amphibian breeding, which should be active in March if we receive enough rainfall. We'll continue on a loop down to Cox Branch and back to The Farm Store. It will take about 3 hours, so bring snacks, water, and a walking stick. Be prepared for a couple of creek crossings (not as many as last year's hike!). We'll leave at 12:00 noon from the north-most McDonald's in Spring Hill (4908 Main Street). RSVP to Marvin Caine at mlcaine@aol.com or cell: 931-626-2754. From there we'll drive to The Farm and rendezvous at The Farm Store, The Farm Community, Summertown at 1:00 pm.

Columbia/Franklin Chapter – con't.

Mar 28 - Blue Bell Island in Franklin County and Old Stone Fort State Park in Manchester, Combined Hikes about 3.5 miles. Easy to moderate. Blue Bell Island is a small island located in the Elk River known for its spectacular display of wildflowers, particularly Virginia bluebells. The Island was purchased by the South Cumberland Regional Land Trust in order to preserve this botanical treasure. The land trust has a once a year hike to the Island during the spring bloom. We will join the hike led by naturalists with the Land Trust. The hike to the Island is an easy mile in and out, but to get on the Island requires traversing fallen logs over the Elk River. Ropes are put up to help with the crossing. After enjoying the beauty of Blue Bell Island we will stop at the Old Stone Fort State Park to have our lunch after which we will hike the 1.5 mile Little Duck River Trail. We will meet at 8:00 am CT in the Tollgate Village parking lot, which is on Columbia Ave just north of I-840 in front of the Tollgate medical center. We will leave promptly at 8:15 am for Blue Bell Island. We will stop along the way for a short restroom break as there are no facilities at the Island. Please bring a lunch and drinks. Hiking boots are recommended as are a change of clothes. To register call Fred Warner at (615) 591-2304 or e-mail fredhwarner@gmail.com.

EAST TN CHAPTER (Oak Ridge / Knoxville)

CHAPTER CHAIR:

Rosemary Marshall 865-951-8317 easttennessee @tennesseetrails.org Sherry Barber 865-209-6189 sbarber6189@comcast.net

WEBMASTER:

Mar 14 - East Lakeshore Trail. Meet at 9:00 am ET at the Glendale Branch Trailhead. We will head out to connect with the Coytee Loop Trail for a total of approximately 6.0 miles. The trail basically follows the shoreline of Tellico Lake, is relatively flat with a few small hills but nothing difficult. Wear sturdy boots, bring water, and snacks. For more information and to register contact Garnett Rush at 615-210-0660 or e-mail rushga01@yahoo.com.

Mar 28 - River Bluff Trail at Norris Lake. We will begin our hike at the trail head on Dabney Road and hike the lower section of the trail along Norris Lake. The walk along the river is relatively flat and easy. Then we will go up the bluff to make a loop. The total distance will be approximately 4.5 miles. For carpooling, we will meet at Ingles, 215 Cedar Lane in North Knoxville at 9 am ET. This is a short, easy hike and we may stop on the way back for lunch or beverages. Be sure to bring \$\$\$\$ for carpooling. Pre-register with Rosie at rosemaryL@hotmail.com or 865-951-9317.

HIGHLAND RIM CHAPTER

(Coffee and Franklin Counties)

CHAPTER CO-CHAIRS: Naullain Kendrick 931-224-6225

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

TREASURER/MEMBERSHIP: Marietta Poteet 931-924-7666
highlandrimtreas@tennesseetrails.org

OUTINGS & PROGRAM COORDINATOR & NEWSLETTER
CONTACT: 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.

Mar 7 – Wolf Cove Cave Hike, near Winchester, TN. 8 to 10 miles, off trail. Difficult. Meet Joette Carter at 9:30 a.m. CT on Hwy 16 (the Walls of Jericho Hwy.) between mile marker 25 and 26 (not the Checking Station) on the left heading south, marked with pink flagging. There are numerous caves on this hike. The Wolf Cove Cave exploration will take 1 ½ hours. Bring two light sources, water, snacks and lunch. Helmet and gloves are recommended. This cave has not previously been explored. For more information call Joette at 256-509-0918.

Mar 14 – Mary Priestley's Wildflower Hike, Downstream Gorge Trail, Rock Island State Park, near McMinnville, TN. 1.6 mile Iollipop. Easy. Prior to meeting up with Mary for her afternoon Wildflower Hike and book signing, we will hike the Collins River Nature Trail, a 3 mile loop along the outer edge of the Collins River peninsula and the 1.7 mile out and back Eagle Trail. All three trails feature wildflowers and the beautiful Collins and Caney Fork Rivers. And the Downstream Gorge Trail has the awesome Twin Falls and tall limestone bluffs. Bring water, snacks and lunch. Wear sturdy hiking boots. Contact Joan Hartvigsen at *jhartvigs@comcast.net* or 931-962-0811 for carpool information.

Mar 21 – Eat-Hike-Eat, New Sewanee Trail, Sewanee, TN. 4 miles (2 ½ hours). Easy. Meet John Bordley and Carolyn Fitz at the Blue Chair Restaurant at 9:00 am CT for breakfast. We will begin our hike from the Blue Chair at 9:30 am. We will walk along the Mountain Goat Trail to the Sherwood Road and then along the Sewanee Utility District (SUD) Road. We will see the three holding ponds, perhaps with water fowl flying about, and Carolyn will explain the water treatment process that SUD uses. We will visit the original site of St. Mary's School and its railroad stop on the railroad line used in the late 1800's and early 1900's. We will then return to the Blue Chair by way of the Mountain Goat Trail. Contact Carolyn at cfitz@sewanee.edu to let her know you are coming.

Highland Rim Chapter – con't.

Mar 23 – Chapter Meeting. Joint Meeting with the Friends of Short Springs Membership Meeting. We will have dinner at 5:00 pm CT at Las Trojas Mexican Restaurant, 1905 N. Jackson St. Tullahoma, TN (near Kroger's). Our meeting is 7:00 p.m. at D. W. Wilson Community Center. Dick McClure will present a program on his three month visit to the Big Island of Hawaii, Hilo side. Dick will explain why this trip was so special and describe his hikes. His photos will include Volcano National Park, beach parks, flower gardens and special events.

Mar 28 – Horsepound Falls Hike, Collins West, Savage Gulf State Natural Area, Gruetli-Laager, TN. 5 miles out and back. Difficult. Very Rocky. Marietta Poteet will lead this beautiful hike along the Collins Gulf Trail to two awesome waterfalls: Suter Falls and Horsepound Falls. Wildflowers should be plentiful along this trail in late March. Although this hike is not long there is a difficult section of the trail where there is a steep descent to Suter Falls then some rock hopping descending down to the Collins River. Please have good hiking boots, hiking poles, water, snacks and lunch. We will eat lunch at Horsepound Falls. Call Marietta at 931-924-7666 or email her at nannietta @blomand.net.

JACKSON CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR:

Vicky Moeller 731-668-9336 jackson@tennesseetrails.org

TREASURER:

Anne Goodson 731-664-1556 jacksontreas@tennesseetrails.org

SECRETARY:

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

OUTINGS COORDINATOR:

Glen Rognstad 731-217-5966

jacksonh

jacksonhikes @tennesseetrails.org

(call Glen & volunteer to lead an outing)

MEETS MONTHLY: 1st Tuesday at Perkins Restaurant, Vann Drive, Jackson. Socializing & dinner starts at 6:00 pm CT; meeting starts 6:45 pm

Mar 14 - Natchez Trace SP – Red Leaves Trail Mar 28 - Big Hill Pond SP

Planning Ahead:

Apr 11 - Tishomingo SP

Apr 25 - Annual wildflower hike

May 2 - Mousetail Landing SP

MEMPHIS CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR:

Charlie Bright 901-829-4434 memphis@tennesseetrails.org Francis Ruffin 662-701-6284 memphisvice@tennesseetrails.org

VICE-CHAIR:

Mar 7 - Herb Parsons Lake. 6 miles. Easy. Meet at 9:30 am CT at the lake parking lot, near where the boats are rented and the bait is sold. Google map link to the boating/parking/dock area. Bring water and snacks, wear cancels sturdy shoes. Rain hike. Contact ttamemphis @gmail.com for details/questions.

Mar 14 - Eagle Point Trail, Mousetail Landing State Park located in Perry County. Hike begins at 9:30 am CT. The hike will take about 4.5 hours. The Eagle Point Trail is an 8 mile trek over rocky ground, through cedar glens and over several hills. A lunch stop at 5 miles on a bluff overlooking the Tennessee River. This is a hike for which you must register. Bring sturdy boots, lunch, water. Hiking poles optional. Directions: I 40 East toward Nashville. Exit 93 toward Lexington: turn right onto Law Road/TN-152: turn left onto US-412/TN-20E. Turn left onto Spring Creek Road/TN438/TN-50. Keep right at the fork to continues on Spring Creek Road; Turn slight left onto Campground Road. Turn left onto Mousetail Landing Road. Distance: 127.46 Miles Driving Time: 2 Hours, 25 Minutes. Google map link to the Visitor Center location. Register for Hike: Contact ttamemphis @gmail.com.

Mar 21 - Discovery Loop Trail, T.O. Fuller State Park, 1500 Mitchell Road. The 4 mile hike covers moderate to rugged terrain with some wet land, with a possible stream crossing. The Discovery Loop Trail includes part of the Nature Bluff Trail of the Chucalissa Indian Village. The hike begins at 9 am CT. Bring water and a snack. Time Frame: 2.5 hours. Directions: I 240 West to I 55 North. Exit 7 South to Highway 61 (3rd Street). Drive south approximately 1 mile. Turn right onto Mitchell Road, continue 3 miles west to the T.O. Fuller Park sign. Turn right to the visitor office. Contact ttamemphis @gmail.com.

Mar 28 and 29 - Week-end at Petite Jean State Park, Arkansas. Saturday at 9 am CT, meet at Seven Hollows Trail head for a moderate 4.5 mile hike. Return to the lodge for lunch, then a short afternoon hike. We will get together Saturday afternoon around 430 pm for happy hour. Bring your favorite beverages and a snack to share. A time to chat and enjoy each other's company. Might get a pot luck going if folks are interested. Sunday morning meet at 9 am in the breezeway at Mather Lodge for a moderate hike to Cedar Falls. Hang out at the falls, then return to the lodge. Approximately 2 miles round trip. Petite Jean State Park has wonderful lodging and restaurant facility. There is lots to do in the area as well has hiking. For more information on the park visit. http://www.petitieanstatepark.com/. Please RSVP to Spikie542003@vahoo.com or call 901-210-6097. If you need information on car pooling and lodging, let me know and I will try to connect you with others who are going.

MURFREESBORO CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR:

Sara Pollard 615-714-3610 murfreesboro@tennesseetrails.org Ann Jacobs 615-896-3935

TREASURER: murfreesborotreas@tennesseetrails.org

PROGRAM COORDINATOR: Valerie Galan 615-586-2882 murfreesboroprog@tennesseetrails.org

Jennifer Zahn 615-943-8853

HIKE COORDINATOR: murfreesborohikes@tennesseetrails.org

(call Jennifer and volunteer to lean an outing)

MEETS MONTHLY: 2nd Tuesday at 7:00 pm CT, Barfield-Crescent Park's Wilderness Station, 697 Veterans

Parkway, Murfreesboro

BLOG: www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/murfreesboro

Mar 7-8 - Mullens Cove Backpack. 10.2 miles. Moderate.

The Mullens Cove loop is part of the Tennessee River Gorge segment of the Cumberland Trail. It's located in the Prentice Cooper State Forest outside of Chattanooga. We will pass two spectacular views at Snooper's Rock Overlook and Mullens Cove Overlook. We'll hike in 5.6 miles and camp at Hemlock Branch campsite. This is a good beginner's backpack or an opportunity to test new gear. To register and for more information, contact Sara Pollard at sarabpollard@gmail.com or 615-714-3610.

Mar 10 - Chapter Meeting, Angela Jackson, Assistant Director of Murfreesboro Parks and Recreation Department will share information on trails in the Murfreesboro park system, including current and future greenway projects. She will facilitate a discussion of greenways, blueways and bikeways; as well as the importance and role of TTA in our growing community. Parks and Recreation website: www.murfreesborotn.gov/parks.

Mar 21 - 14th Annual Waterfall Tour Fundraiser by Friends of Edgar Evins State Park, Silver Point, TN. Each vear we visit selected waterfalls in Middle Tennessee. It has been many years since we went to see the three falls at Fall Creek Falls State Park, our destination this time. Board a school bus at the Visitors Center of Edgar Evins State Park for this day trip. We will visit two falls before lunch in the newly redecorated restaurant in Fall Creek Falls State Park Inn and then visit the last waterfall before starting back to Edgar Evins State Park. We plan on returning about 3:30 p.m. There will be short walks on uneven ground and those who wish to go down to the basin of the main falls may do so. The cost is \$15 per person plus the price of your lunch. Reservations are required. To make reservations online. http://www.tnvacation.com/events/10977/ and click on the "Purchase Tickets" button. For more information you may visit our website http://foeesp.alturl.com/ or visit us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/friendsofeesp. details and changes as they happen are posted on Facebook regularly. If you need help making reservations contact Fount and Anna Bertram at abertram@dtccom.net or phone 615-765-5357 between 10 am and 8 pm CT.

NASHVILLE CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR:

Doug Burroughs 615-283-0507 nashville@tennesseetrails.org

OUTINGS COORDINATOR: Nancy Juodenas 615-319-8811

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

Mar 1 - Wildflower Inventory & Hike. Mossy Ridge Trail, Warner Parks, West Nashville, TN. 4.5 miles. Moderate. It's not too early to think about the wildflowers which we will be seeing in the coming weeks - the early ones coming to mind and may be visible today: Harbinger of Spring, Trillium, Anemone, Blood root and Chickweed so expect slow going (to see the wildflowers). The terrain is rated moderate for the numerous rolling hills we will ascend and descend along the way. Sturdy hiking shoes/boots are recommended. The terrain is uneven with roots, rocks and ruts. Bring snacks, water and the 10 Essentials. We will meet at 1:00 pm CT in the "Deep Well" area of the park. Rain will cancel this outing. For additional information and/or register, call Diane Manas at 615-351-6431. DIRECTIONS: to get to Deep Well from Nashville: head west on Hwy 70 (aka West End Ave). In Belle Meade (after you have crossed over Woodmont Blvd, passed Publix then Kroger on the right, and the Belle Meade Mansion on the left), Hwy 70 splits. Take the left side, which puts you on Hwy 100. Go approx 1.8 miles and turn left into the grey stone entrance, drive to the end/t-intersection (approx 1 mile) - you're in Deep Well. If on Hwy 100 and you reach Old Hickory Blvd. vou've gone too far.

Mar 7 - Polly Branch Falls Trail, Bridgestone/Firestone Wilderness, Sparta TN. 6-8 miles. Strenuous. We will hike the Polly Branch Falls Trail to the upper and lower falls. with options for hiking side trails to Bee Branch Falls and Jenny Branch Falls, as well as making a loop connection with the Chestnut Mountain Ranch Trail. This area is near Virgin Falls but gets much less foot traffic. Bring sturdy boots, clothing appropriate to the weather, water, and lunch. Contact Doug Burroughs dougburroughs@tennessee.usa.com for more information and to register. Carpool will leave the FedEx/Kinko parking lot on Donelson Road at 7:00 am CT. We should get to the trailhead around 9:00 am or so.

Mar 14 - Volunteer Trail, Long Hunter State Park. 11 miles total, 5.5 miles out and back. Meet at Volunteer Trailhead, 8:00 am CT. Directions: From I-40 East, take Exit 226, turn right onto Highway 171, then right onto Baker's Grove Road. There is a sign to indicate "Volunteer Trail," which is about .7 miles prior to reaching the main entrance to Long Hunter State Park. The trail contains large oak trees, shagbark hickory and sugar maple. At the end of the trail, there is a backpacking camping area, after which we will follow the trail back to the trailhead. For information, contact Betty Magee, e-mail: monetfan455@yahoo.com, phone 615-319-5394.

Nashvilel Chapter - con't.

Mar 15 - John C. Clayborn Millennium Trail, Edgar Evins State Park, Silver Point TN. 8 miles. Moderately difficult. This is one of Middle Tennessee's newer trails, laid out by TTA itself! It offers a rugged, challenging hike on land managed by TN State parks and the Army Corps of Engineers. Set on the peninsula of Center Hill Lake, the trail traverses formerly settled land, rocky ridges, lakeside bluffs and lush wooded hollows. The wildflowers are supposed to be spectacular! Wear sturdy hiking boots, bring water snacks and lunch. Trekking poles would also be helpful. For more information and to register call or e-Nancv Juodenas at 615-319-8811/niuodenas @vahoo.com.

Mar 21 - Pogue Creek Canyon & Pickett State Park. Total 5 miles, +/-. We'll hike the new trail at Pogue Creek Canyon State Natural Area that takes us to a great overlook. Since that loop trail, there and back, is only about 1-1/2 miles, we'll finish in plenty of time to go next door, to Pickett State Park, and take the trail that will lead us to the natural bridge there. If the group is inclined, we can add more to our hike at Pickett. At both locales we will be able to observe some of the spectacular geology of the northern Cumberland Plateau in Tennessee before the foliage of later spring and summer obscures some of the details. For complete details and logistics, contact Nora Beck, norellibee @gmail.com or 615-517-6486.

Mar 24 - Chapter Meeting. In July of 2014, four TTA members, Nancy Juodenas, Sue Biggers, Gloria Dale Williams and Garnett Rush, went to the Canadian Rockies with Backroads Travel Company. The main activity of the trip was cycling, but there was hiking, rafting, a glacier walk and of course gorgeous scenery! Join us at our monthly meeting to see slides and hear about their adventure north of the border.

Mar 28 - Day Loop and Volunteer Trails, Long Hunter State Park. 6 miles. Easy. These trails wind along the shore of J. Percy Priest Lake and wander through hardwood forest, cedar glades, and interesting rock outcroppings. Do terms like "karst topography" or "brachiopod fossils" get you wondering? How about interesting lake views and perhaps some waterfowl and the arrival of springtime? A biography of J. Percy Priest will be offered as a bonus feature. The hike location is very close to Nashville and easy to get to - about 6 miles south of I-40 via Mt. Juliet exit 226. We will meet at the Baker's Grove Parking lot at 9:20 am CT rain or shine. (Marked as "Volunteer Trail" on road sign). The hike will follow the Day Loop Trail along the waterfront until the 2.5 mile mark where we will venture along the Volunteer Trail, following lake's edge for almost another mile. Then we'll turn back to the Day Loop Trail and return via woodlands for the final couple of miles. We will finish before lunchtime, so you may enjoy your own picnic at one of the state park spots, or journey on, knowing that while you may not be a long hunter, you sure are a 6-mile Saturday hiker! more details. contact Tom Vickstrom: tomzinger55@gmail.com.

PLATEAU CHAPTER (Crossville)

CHAPTER CHAIR: Cheryl Heckler 931-200-7436

plateau@tennesseetrails.org

TREASURER: Bill Quattrociocchi 931-484-4230

plateautreas@tennesseetrails.org

MEETS MONTHLY: 2nd Thursday at 6:00 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.

Mar 12 - Chapter Meeting. 5:00 PM. Dinner Meeting. Vegas Steakhouse, 3152 North Main Street. Contact Chapter Chair, Cheryl Heckler at *thehecklers@charter.net* or 931-200-7436 for additional information.

Mar 7 - Graysville Mountain Segment, Cumberland Trail, Soddy Daisy. 9.2 miles. Moderate. Don Deakins will lead this in and out hike. The hike starts on Old Brayton Road, a level jeep trail that parallels Roaring Creek. After 8/10th mile the trail climbs uphill for a mile to Roaring Creek Overlook. The next 2.8 miles are relatively level and include Cranmore Cove Overlook and Cove Loop Overlook. When we reach Gilbreath Creek crossing, we will turn around and retrace our steps back to Roaring Creek Trailhead. Bring your lunch and water. Meet at 8:00 am CT at Trinity Tabernacle on Highway 127 South. For more information and register contact Cheryl Heckler at thehecklers@charter.net or 931-200-7436.

Mar 28 -Sgt Alvin C York State Historic Park and Home in Fentress County and Cordell Hull Memorial State Park and Birthplace in Pickett County. Willie Beaty will lead this hike giving an opportunity to learn about two men who impacted the history of the state of Tennessee in significantly different ways. The total hiking distance at the York Homestead is one mile rated easy and at the Cordell Hull Birthplace the Bunkum Cave Trail is 2.5 miles, rated easy to moderate. Our first stop will be at the General Store-Visitors Center where food and souvenir items are for sale and where we will view a 20-minute video narrated by Walter Cronkite. We will then enjoy a guided tour of the York home across the street. After the home tour we will walk 1/2 mile across the scenic Wolf River on a swinging bridge, past the church where Sgt York was a member and to the cemetery where he is buried. After returning to the York home we will drive across the bridge where we will be able to walk through the York Grist Mill, the only one still standing in the county. From the York Grist Mill we will proceed to the Cordell Hull State Park and Birthplace in Pickett County. We will take time to go through a small museum about Hull's life, walk a short distance to a replica of the log home in which he was born and view several other outbuildings. From there we will hike to the Bunkum Cave where Cordell Hull's father made moonshine. Due to restrictions because of White Nose Disease we will not be able to go inside the cave. The trail however, is guite scenic and we should be able to see some early wildflowers. Bring water and lunch or purchase at the general store. Meet at 8:00 am CT at Cracker Barrel. For more information and register contact Cheryl Heckler at thehecklers@charter.net or 931-200-7436.

SODDY-DAISY CHAPTER

CHAPTER CO-CHAIRS: Ed & Donna Pyers 423- 344-9271

soddydaisy@tennesseetrails.org

HIKE COORDINATOR: George Bonneau 423-842-3619

soddydaisyhikes@tennesseetrails.org

TREASURER: Bob McGavock 423-843-4646 soddydaisytreas@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

Mar 3 – Raccoon Mountain. Approximately 4 miles. Easy to moderate. Meet at Bi-Lo parking lot in Red Bank at 9 am ET. Hike leader: George Bonneau. Mileage – 42 RT - \$2.

Mar 7 - Roaring Creek. Approximately 10 miles. Strenuous. Meet at Durham Street parking lot in Soddy Daisy at 9 am ET. Hike leader: John Politte 423-304-8327 johnpolitte @gmail.com. Mileage – 30 RT - \$2.

Mar 10 – Elsie Holmes. Approximately 3 miles. Easy to moderate. Meet at Target parking lot on Hwy 153 at 9 am ET. Hike leader: George Bonneau. Mileage – 40 RT - \$2.

Mar 14 – Rainbow Lake to Signal Mountain High School. Approximately 8 miles. Strenuous. Meet at Bi-Lo parking lot in Red Bank at 9 am Et. Hike leader: George Bonneau. Mileage – 15 RT - \$1.

Mar 17 – North Chick to Boston Overlook. Approximately 5 miles. Moderate. Meet at Wal-Mart parking lot in Soddy Daisy at 9 am ET. Hike leader: George Bonneau. Mileage – 6 RT - \$1.

Mar 21 – Fall Creek Falls. Approximately 8 miles. Strenuous. Meet at Durham Street parking lot in Soddy Daisy at 9 am ET. Hike leader: George Bonneau. Mileage – 100 RT -\$5.

Mar 24 – Pots Cabin (in and out). Approximately 3-1/2 miles. Easy. Meet at Bi-Lo parking lot in Red Bank at 9 am ET. Mileage – 24 RT - \$2.

Mar 28 – Lula Lake. Approximately 4 miles. Easy to moderate. Meet at Bi-Lo parking lot in Red Bank at 9 am ET. Hike leader: George Bonneau. Mileage – 50 RT - \$3.

Mar 31 – Enterprise South. Approximately 6 miles. Easy to moderate. Meet at Target parking lot on Hwy 153 at 9 am ET. Hike leader: Donna Pyers pyers @yahoo.com or 423-344-9271 Mileage – 30 RT - \$2.

SUMNER TRAILS CHAPTER

CHAPTER CO-CHAIRS: Jane Hamm 615-757-3331 Gayle Livingston 615-264-2940

sumner@tennesseetrails.org

MEETS MONTHLY: 1st Monday at 7:00 pm CT.

Mar 2 - Chapter Meeting.. Please note our chapter meeting time is the 1st Monday at 7:00 pm. Ranger Paul Earnest from Bledsoe Creek State Park will give us an update on park activities including the new 2,000 S.F. visitor's center to be completed in May. A recent Star News article showed an architectural rendering of the center which resembles Wynnewood, the log inn built in Castalian Springs in 1828. Ranger Earnest will give us an overview of programming and activities at Bledsoe Creek as well as first aid and safety on the trail. Our chapter has often enjoyed hiking this gorgeous state park since it so nearby. Come learn how the new center will enhance park activities and what you might encounter on the Bledsoe Creek trail.

Mar 13 - Hike Planning Party. Meet at Jane Hamm's house, 117 Cumberland Blue Trail, Hendersonville at 6:30 pm CT. BYOB and an hors d'oeuvre to share. Bring your hiking wish list, maps and info for Spring and Summer hikes and meetings. We will also be finalizing our slate of officers for our chapter to be announced at our April meeting.

Mar 21 - History Hike in Hendersonville. Jamie Clary, author of City By The Lake (1968-1988), will lead us on a 4.5 mile hike highlighting the role of the Cumberland River, Old Hickory Lake and Drakes Creek in the history of the area. This hike was cancelled in November due to weather. We will start a Hazel Path Mansion and walk parallel to the shores of Drakes Creek. After a couple small stops and a longer one at Rock Castle, our destination will be the slave cemetery at Windward Point and Lake Terrace Drive. Our hike will involve a couple of slight hills and a small bit of offroad walking. Meet at Hazel Path Mansion, 105 Hazel Path Court, Hendersonville at 9:00 am CT. We will drop a few cars at the hike destination so we can ride back to Hazel Path Mansion. After the hike we will eat lunch at the Blackeyed Pea in Hendersonville. For more information contact Jane Hamm at janetntrails @gmail.com or 615-757-3331.

Mar 28 - Narrows of the Harpeth. 2 miles. Easy. The Harpeth River in a 5 mile loop nearly curves back on itself. Back in the early 1800's Montgomery Bell, using slave labor, dug a 290 foot tunnel through the bluff to bring water to power a mill to support his iron ore operation. Although the mill is gone the tunnel is still there and a nice waterfall can be seen on the downstream side of the tunnel. This historical hike will take us along the river to the site of the mill, then we will backtrack and proceed to the upstream side of the tunnel to see where the water enters - then ascend the bluff for some awesome views. We usually see a good variety of wildflowers along the river this time of year so bring your wildflower book. After the hike we'll have lunch at Carl's Perfect Pig in White Bluff. Meet at the Presbyterian Church in Hendersonville at 9 am CT or at the trailhead at the Harris-Street Bridge at 10 am CT. For further info contact Tunnel Boy at ballallenger@aol.com.

UPPER CUMBERLAND CHAPTER

(Sparta / Cookeville)

CHAPTER CHÀIR:

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

HIKE COORDINATOR: Kathleen Sullivan 931-284-7822

uppercumberlandhikes@tennesseetrails.org

Mar 7 – Ramsey Cascades, Great Smoky Mountain National Park. 8 miles. Strenuous. The cascades is the highest waterfall in the park and the water drops 100 ft. From the trailhead you will gain 2,000 ft. to the falls in four miles. The trail follows rushing rivers and streams most of the way. The last two miles pass through old growth cove hardwood forest with large tuliptrees, basswood, silverbells and yellow birches. Bring water, snacks, lunch, and wear sturdy hiking boots. We will leave J.C. Penny's parking lot in Cookeville at 7 am CT. For information and to register contact Pete Broehl at 931 738-3551 or pabroehl@blomand.net.

Mar 14 – North Bird Mountain, Frozen Head Sate Park. 12 miles. Strenuous. North Bird Mountain trail is an old CCC trail that has been re-opened. We will hike up North Bird Mountain trail and down Lookout Tower Trail. Elevation gain and loss 1730 feet with 14 or more switchbacks there are several water crossings. Highlights are views of the Cumberland Mountains and wildflowers. The hike is +/- 12 miles and rated *strenuous* due to the uneven and rocky terrain, and distance. Bring headlamp, snacks, water, lunch, and hiking boots. Meet at J.C. Penny's in Cookeville at 7:00 am CT. For information and to register contact Louise Miniard at 931-239-5425 or *Iminiard @flowserve.com*.

Mar 21 - Collins Gulf Loop, Savage Gulf State Natural Area, Palmer, TN. 12 miles. Strenuous. Highlights of this hike include Horsepound and Suter Falls, numerous overlooks, and the historic Stagecoach Road built in the 1830s. We will descend into the gulf along the Collins Gulf Trail to Suter and Horsepound Falls. (Those wanting a shorter hike can return to the beginning from Horsepound Falls for a total hiking distance of 5 miles which is rated moderate). We will continue by ascending from the gulf on the Stagecoach Road and then follow the Collins Gulf loop to the beginning. Bring hiking boots, headlamp, snacks, water, and lunch. 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 Gary Kimbrell at 931-215-9520 or Garv.Kimbrell@fbitn.com.

Hike information continued on next page

OFFICERS:

President

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president@tennesseetrails.org

Vice-President

Levonn Hubbard 931-707-1020

vicepresident@tennesseetrails.org

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Kathy Woods 615-473-6824

treasurer@tennesseetrails.org

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Diane Manas 615-352-7777

secretary@tennesseetrails.org

Membership Director

Tim Townley 731-607-0512

membership@tennesseetrails.org

Past President

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pastpresident1@tennesseetrails.org

Previous Past President

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pastpresident2@tennesseetrails.org

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we stregional @tennesse etrails.org

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middleregional@tennesseetrails.org

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Bruce Whitehead 941-716-3620

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Cumberland Trail Conference Representative

Frank Jamison 865-376-4120

CTC@tennesseetrails.org

TN Rails To Trails Advisory Council Representative

Bob Richards 615-532-0753

TRAC@tennessee trails.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:

<u>Due</u>	For Newsletter Dated
Mar 10	Apr 1
	May 1
May 10	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

Upper Cumberland Chapter - con't.

Mar 28 - Groundhog Ridge Trail, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Cosby, TN. 8 to 9 miles. Strenuous. We will ascend Mount Cammerer along the Groundhog Ridge Trail. This trail is not maintained but is generally easy to follow. The upper parts of the trail are steep and in places trees have fallen across the trail. There is also some rock scrambling near the top. We will be rewarded with outstanding views from the upper parts of the trail and from the Mount Cammerer lookout tower. We will descend by taking the Mount Cammerer Trail to its junction with the Appalachian Trail. Then descending to the Lower Mount Cammerer Trail and then to its junction with the Groundhog Ridge Trail and then back to the beginning. Bring hiking boots, headlamp, snacks, water, and lunch. You can meet us at 7:00 am CT at the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville. For information and to register contact Gary Kimbrell at 931-215-9520 or Gary.Kimbrell@fbitn.com.

INACTIVE CHAPTERS

We have three chapters in the process of being reorganized. If you are interested in assisting with this process, please see below for the contact information.

Cove Lake
Bruce Whitehead 941-716-3620
eastregional @tennesseetrails.org

Dyer County
Graydon Swisher 901-737-3114
westregional @tennesseetrails.org
Northwest
Graydon Swisher 901-737-3114

westregional@tennesseetrails.org

IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2015

Nov 13-15 - Annual Meeting, Townsend, TN.

TTA Board Meetings for 2015:

May 2 – TTA Board Meeting, REI, Brentwood Aug 1 - TTA Board Meeting, REI, Brentwood Nov 15 - TTA Board Meeting, Townsend, TN

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY UPDATES

The membership directory is currently in the process of being updated. Chapter officers will be contacting chapter members to assure all information on file with our Membership Director is current before we go to print. If you are not affiliated with an active chapter, please e-mail Tim Townley at membership@tennesseetrails.org and provide any changes in your contact information that have occurred since your last renewal.

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 A NEW MEMBER RENEWING MY MEMBE Memberships are for one year, unless you have a Gift Memberships are also available. Contact our	Mar 15 R S H I P a Lifetime Membership.	Please Mail This Form To: Membership Director P.O. Box 41446 Nashville, TN 37204-1446
Tim Townley 731-607-0512 <i>members</i>	ship@tennesseetrails.org	PRINT CLEARLY.
Individual \$25.00	Name	
Family \$35.00	Address	
Student (FULL TIME) \$15.00		State
Supporting (\$50.00, \$100.00 or more)	Home Phone ()	Zip
Life Member (Individual) \$500.00	Work Phone ()	
Life Member (Family) \$750.00	e-mail Please do not list my e-mail addre	ess in the TTA Annual Membership Directory
** CTC Membership**	I would like to receive my newslett	ter by email.
** Special \$5.00 rate for membership in Cumberland Trail Conference if you also are joining TTA or renewing your TTA membership. CTC is building the Cumberland Trail, which will go from Chattanooga to Cumberland Gap. Over 185 miles are now complete and open for hiking. More information can be found at www.cumberlandtrail.org. Please consider enhancing your commitment to Tennessee's great trails by joining the CTC.		Murfreesboro Mashville Northwest (Inactive) Plateau (Crossville) Soddy Daisy Sumner Trails (Sumner County) Upper Cumberland (Sparta/Cookeville) At Large
When you become a TTA member, you will receive: (1) Tresponsibilities, etc. (2) TTA's monthly newsletter, containing it announcements, as well as events occurring within TTA's Ast chapter and how to reach them. You are invited to attend an refreshments. In addition, our annual meeting is held in the fall to learning about the progress and plans of the organization.	nformation on hiker safety, upcoming hikes/ove sociate Organizations - C.T.C. and T.R.A.C. (3 y number of monthly meetings scheduled, wh	ernight trips, volunteer opportunities, chapter meeting 3) Annual Membership Directory, listing members by ere you will enjoy diverse programs, socializing and

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