# 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



#### **CUMBERLAND TRAIL STATE SCENIC TRAIL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

The Cumberland Trail is recruiting a pool of volunteers to support trail construction efforts north of Tank Springs from May 18th through the end of July, 2015. A 10-week work crew will spike camp near remote construction sites for 8 days at a time, followed by a 4-day break.

**Trailbuilders:** Volunteers are welcome to assist with trailbuilding any day during the 10 week construction period. Trailbuilding volunteers will need long pants, long sleeves and sturdy footwear (no sandals), suitable rain gear, a sack lunch, and plenty of water. A safety/training orientation will be provided, so no prior experience is required. The park will supply all trailbuildling tools, including work gloves, if needed. Volunteers who wish to work over multiple days, are welcome to spike camp near the worksite with prior arrangements. Overnight volunteers will need to provide all camp gear, food for their stay. If you're not sure if you have the right gear, contact us using the form below and we'll discuss options.

Campkeepers: Volunteers in groups of 2-5 are needed to hike in to the backcountry site and maintain a consistent presence for each 4 day break, watching over equipment and supplies while the construction crew is away. Volunteers will need to provide their own food and gear but will have access to spike camp amenities including a group shelter, chairs, table and water. This will be a great opportunity to camp in the backcountry, hike a new area before its open, and enjoy the outdoors while supporting the Cumberland Trail.

If you think you might be interested, and you'd like more details about this ten-week project, please submit the following form:

http://www.friendsofthecumberlandtrail.org/trailbuilding-volunteers-summer2015/.

If you'd like to get on our "volunteer blast" email list and hear about more volunteer opportunities, sign up at: http://www.friendsofthecumberlandtrail.org/cumberlandtrail-volunteer-blast/.

The Cumberland Trail State Scenic Trail is a backcountry hiking trail and Tennessee State Park. It will extend, when complete, from a northern terminus at Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, through 11 Tennessee Counties and over more than 322 miles of scenic and historic terrain along the Cumberland Plateau before reaching its southern terminus at Signal Point in Signal Mountain. The Cumberland Trail connects 330,000 acres of some of the most biologically-rich, biodiverse and spectacular lands under public stewardship, including five State Natural Areas, three National Parks, and multiple Wildlife Management Areas and State Parks. Over 185 miles of trail are currently open for public enjoyment.

To learn more about the Cumberland Trail, visit http://www.tnstateparks.com/parks/cumberland-trail or follow us on social media.

Events: tnstateparks.com/parks/events/cumberland-trail

Facebook: facebook.com/cumberlandtrailSST

Twitter: twitter.com/CTSSTrail

Instagram: instagram.com/cumberlandtrailsst

Mark A. Stanfill State Parks Trails Administrator Cumberland Trail State Scenic Trail 220 Park Road Caryville, TN 37714-3807 Cell: 615-574-5176

Office: 423 566-2229



Office Location 409 Thurman Avenue,

Ste 102

Here is an update regarding CTC and the outcome of our April 18<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting and the TTA Board Meeting of May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Both organizations are moving forward in a positive fashion to assist in meeting Tennessee Governor Haslam's goal of a soft opening for the CT at the end of his term in the next four years. We've pressed ahead on numerous fronts in the past 90 days with key goals accomplished during these meeting.

**Reorganization**: CTC passed all motions allowing the Executive Committee to present Cumberland Trails Conference Bylaws/Charter/Mission/Agreement to Form to TTA's Board in May. TTA approved the "Agreement to Form" document on May 2<sup>nd</sup> that defines the terms and conditions to "re-organize CTC as a separate and independent corporation". TTA and CTC will continue to be sister organizations pressing a joint mission advocating trails in Tennessee, and this relationship will be governed by a memorandum of understanding defining our roles and relationship. We hope to complete all tasks by December 2015.

*Trail Building and Program Coordinator and Trail Crew Job:* CTC Board approved these positions to spearhead trail construction and program management with a funding request to be presented to TTA's May 2<sup>nd</sup> Board. TTA approved \$50,000 of the Justin P Wilson CT grant to assist in funding these positions, allowing CTC to move forward with the hiring process. Our goal is to have this trail building team in place by June 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Trail Commitment Planning:** The Trail Building and Design Committee began setting the framework for discussions with State Parks regarding our trail construction commitment with field planning and an initial meeting of all parties taking place in May. This work will lead to an agreement with State Parks covering our trail building commitment with initial work concentrated in the counties surrounding Crossville, TN - our home. Our plan is further strengthen the volunteer core allowing us to expand from our initial commitment.

**BreakAway:** Pressed ahead to reframe our Spring BreakAway program to reflect early recruitment, historical ties, and expanded program size, which might include two locations.

#### Cumberland Trail Conference - con't.

Land Acquisition Grant Program: CTC approved a structure to disperse CTC's Pathways funds over the next 5 years to bring closure to the Campaign and to the individual and organizational donors who made the program a success. This program is critical to transitioning the organization to our new work on community connectors, allowing us to open and build relationships with local communities, cities and counties, agencies and NGOs, thus underpinning our work.

Did you notice? *Cumberland Trails Conference* - reflecting our broad vision to not only continue to build the Cumberland Trail but community connectors and trails throughout the region.

Thank you to everyone in both organizations for their hard work and dedication over the past 3 months. See you on the trail.

Rob Weber Chairman Cumberland Trail Conference

#### **CLARKSVILLE CHAPTER**

**CHAPTER CHAIR:** 

Sandy Janus 931-551-8523 clarksville @tennesseetrails.org

**CHAPTER VICE-CHAIR:** 

Lili Ball 931-552-2773

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clarksville@tennesseetrails.org Mary Schwab 931-645-9068

TREASURER:

clarksvilletreas@tennesseetrails.org

SECRETARY:

Pam Gadsey 931-552-2325

clarksvillesecy@tennesseetrails.org

OUTINGS COORDINATOR:

DR: Paul Schwab 931-645-9068 clarksvillehikes@tennesseetrails.org

(call Paul & volunteer to lead an outing)

MEETS MONTHLY: 3<sup>rd</sup> 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

Jun 6 - National Trails Day.

Jun 13 - Harpeth River Canoe and Kayak Float. 13 miles. Bob Lyon 931-648.2354. Meet 8:00 am CT, Madison Street Kmart parking lot, Clarksville; 41 miles to starting point.

Jun 16 - No monthly meeting because of our Annual Picnic.

Jun 20 - Cummins Falls State Park, hike and swim. 2.5 miles out and back. Difficult. Kathy Robertson 931-216-5797. Meet 8:00 am CT, I 24 Exit 11 commuter parking lot. 119 miles to trailhead.

**Jun 27 - Annual Picnic** (bring a dish). Dunbar Cave State Natural Area, Dunbar Cave Road, Clarksville. Suva Bastin 931-645-2849; 4:00 pm CT until dusk.

#### 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:** 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday at Super China Buffet, 5228 Main St., #B1, Spring Hill, TN 37174. Socializing and dinner at 6:00 pm CT; meeting starts at 7:00 pm.

**Jun 2 - Chapter Meeting.** Join us at 6:00 pm CT for the buffet, The meeting begins at 7:00 pm. We will plan our fall hikes, so come prepared with suggestions and recommendations and please think about leading a hike.

Jun 6 - Bowie Nature Park, Fairview. Bowie Nature Park has over 700 acres and 17 miles of hiking trails. Depending upon the weather and the will of the hikers, we will select some trails to hike when we get there. Most of the trails are easy to moderate. Please bring sturdy hiking foot wear, water, snacks and a change of clothes. We will depart from the Tollgate Medical Plaza parking lot just north of 840 on U.S. 31 in Thompson Station at 8:00 am CT. Register with Robert Consalvo, rconsalvo @aol.com, telephone 615-519-5584.

Jun 20 - Highland Rim Trail. Tommy Haskins will lead us on this hike which is a moderate, 4.1 mile, one-way hike from the Gordon House to the Water Valley Overlook adjacent to Natchez Trace Parkway. The hike will begin at 8:00 am CT at the Gordon House (Mile Marker 407.7) which is located just off Highway 50 on the Natchez Trace and continue northward to the Water Valley Overlook (Mile Marker 411.8). The elevation increase is approximately 400 feet. Cars will be arranged to provide shuttle service from the Water Valley Overlook back to the starting point at the Gordon House. Please bring lunch, snacks and water. Sturdy hiking boots are recommended for the trail. Access can be made to the Natchez Trace via Hwy 7 to the north of the Water Valley Overlook or Hwy 50 from the south. The Highland Rim Trail, which is part of the National Scenic Trail System, is a focal point of outdoor exercise promoted collectively by the Natchez Trace Parkway Association, the National Park Service (NPS) and Vanderbilt University Medical Center in 2015. The Natchez Trace Parkway Association has asked for our evaluation of the trail and recommendations for maintenance. A free standing tent will be placed at the Water Valley Overlook to provide cover during lunch and discussion of the trail condition including any needed maintenance. We will meet behind McDonald's located at 4908 Main Street (Hwy 31) on the north side of Spring Hill at 6:45 am CT and depart promptly at 7:00 am. There are restrooms near the Gordon House. For more information and to register, contact Tommy Haskins at swissman10@hotmail.com or cell 931-628-8600.

## EAST TN CHAPTER (Oak Ridge / Knoxville)

CHAPTER CHAIR: Rosemary Marshall 865-951-8317

webmaster:

easttennessee @tennesseetrails.org

Sherry Barber 865-209-6189

sbarber6189 @comcast.net

Jun 6 - Piney River Trail. Join us for this great hike. This trail is a segment of the Cumberland Trail and was one of several pocket wilderness areas developed by the Hiwassee Land Company of the Bowater Southern Paper Corp. and later deeded to the State of Tennessee. While this trail is now part of the CT, it has historically been called "Piney River Trail". The elevation change is about 800 feet in a total distance of about 8 moderate to easy miles. At times the path follows an old narrow-gauge railroad line for easy walking. The trail runs alongside the Piney River and we'll enjoy several nifty bridges along the way. There are waterfalls, gorgeous river views and old growth forest. There could be some nice wildflowers too. We will meet to carpool at 7:45 am ET in the parking lot of Denney's at the Watt Rd exit off I-75. Also, we will meet up again at the McDonalds in Spring City at 9:00 am ET. It's just a short drive to drop a shuttle car and proceed to the trailhead. Don't forget your snacks, water, appropriate

**Jun 13 - Maryville College Woods. 5 miles**. Meet at 9:00 am ET at the Alcoa Kroger on Hwy. 129. This gentle walk through140 acres of hardwood forest is composed of multiple loops past streams and historical buildings. Wear good walking shoes, bring water and snacks. For more information and to register contact Garnett Rush at 615-210-0660 or e-mail *rushga01@yahoo.com*.

footwear and \$\$'s for carpooling. Pre-register with Rosie

at rosemary\_L@hotmail.com or 865-951-8317.

Jun 21 - Gregory Bald hike. This hike will be on Sunday because the loop road is closed until 10 am on Saturdays making the start too late, leaving too little time at the top to enjoy the scenery. Parsons Branch Road is open so we can hike Gregory Bald Trail, which is one mile shorter and 800 fewer feet to climb than the Gregory Ridge Trail. The hike is moderately difficult to difficult, gaining about 2200 feet in about 4.5 miles (9 miles round trip). We will meet at the Food City parking lot near the corner of Northshore Drive and Kingston Pike and leave there promptly at 7:00 am E.T. Also, we will pick up carpoolers at Brown's Creek Shopping Center (close to the Sonic) and leave there at 7:30 am ET. Don't forget your snacks, water, appropriate footwear and \$\$'s for carpooling. Pre-register with Rosie at rosemary\_L@hotmail.com or 865-951-8317.

Planning Ahead: Jul 11 - Big Creek Trail

#### 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: 4<sup>th</sup> Monday at 7:00 pm CT at the D. W.

Wilson Community Ctr., 501 N. Collins St., Tullahoma.

Jun 6 – National Trails Day. Hike to Ranger Creek Falls, Big Creek Gulf Trail, South Cumberland State Park, Beersheba Springs, TN. 7 miles. Strenuous. Meet State Naturalist Randy Hedgepath at 10:00 am CT at the Stone Door Ranger Station for a hike to Ranger Creek Falls. Rocky footing, steep ascent. Ranger Creek Falls has no surface stream below, only a cave and sink. There will be many interesting plants and rocks along the way. Plus we will include the Great Stone Door, one of the most spectacular overlooks of Tennessee State Parks. Bring water, snacks and lunch. Bring hiking sticks and wear sturdy hiking boots. For more information contact Joan Hartvigsen, jhartvigs@comcast.net or 931-962-0811.

Jun 7 – Tennessee River Gorge Paddle, Nickajack Lake near Chattanooga. Sunday morning we will paddle the beautiful Tennessee River Gorge from Suck Creek to Raccoon Mountain, 9 miles. Bring a lot of water, snacks, lunch, hat, sun glasses and sunscreen, binoculars and camera. Plan on wearing your PFD. This is a joint activity with the Murfreesboro Chapter. We will meet at the Suck Creek Boat Ramp at 8:00 am CT (9 am ET) to arrange a shuttle. Contact Joan Hartvigsen at *jhartvigs@comcast.net* or 931- 962-0811 to register.

Jun 20 – Eat-Float-Eat-Float-Eat, Elk River from below Tims Ford Dam on Hwy 50 to Farris Creek Bridge. Meet us at Sample's Family Restaurant, 204 S. Main St., (Hwy 41A), Estill Springs, TN at 8:00 am CT for breakfast or 9:30 am at the put in below Tims Ford Dam to organize a shuttle. Contact Joan Hartvigsen at *jhartvigs@comcast.net* or 931-962-0811. This is a joint activity with the Murfreesboro Chapter.

**Jun 22 – Chapter Meeting.** Dinner is 5:00 pm CT at Red Lobster, 1913 N. Jackson Street, Tullahoma. Our meeting is 7:00 pm at D. W. Wilson Community Center. Our program will be announced soon.

**Highland Rim Chapter – con't.** 

Jun 26-28 - Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Camping and Hiking weekend. Joint activity with the Murfreesboro Chapter. Contact Joan Hartvigsen, jhartvigs@comcast.net or 931-962-0811 to reserve a spot at Elkmont Campground. Friday after we set up camp we will hike to Andrews Bald, 3.6 miles out and back, moderate, 600 ft. elevation change. This trail recently was reconstructed by the Trails Forever Crew. If we have time we will also visit Clingman's Dome, 1.0 mile round trip, paved, very steep. Saturday's hike is to Rocky Top (Thunderhead Mountain) via Lead Cove Trail, Bote Mountain Trail and the Appalachian Trail, 11.6 miles out and back, very strenuous, 3,500 ft. elevation change. Sunday we are hiking the Trillium Gap Trail to Grotto Falls and then on to the summit of Brushy Mountain, 6.6 miles out and back, 1,680 ft. elevation change, strenuous. All three hikes lead to summits with panoramic views and covered in blooming rhododendrons and azaleas. Friday we will share an evening meal at Group Site #1. Saturday evening we will go out to dinner in Townsend, possibly the new Monte Real Mexican restaurant.

#### Planning Ahead:

Aug 14-16 - Whitewater rafting and camping weekend. Joint activity with the Murfreesboro Chapter. Camping in Gee Creek Campground, Group Campsite G6, Hiwassee/Ocoee Scenic River State Park, Delano, TN, August 14 and 15. Contact Marcia Medford at marciamedford@yahoo.com or 931-598-5331 to reserve a spot in the Group Campsite G6. Marietta Poteet has booked an Ocoee River whitewater rafting trip for Saturday, August 15 at 12:00 pm E. The cost for the whitewater rafting trip is \$40.00 per person. Marietta needs the money and the signed waiver form before the July 24 deadline. Contact Marietta to obtain the waiver form, email nannietta@blomand.net or phone 931-924-7666. Marietta's mailing address is 525 Huckleberry Place, Monteagle, TN 37356. On Saturday evening we plan to eat at an Etowah restaurant. On Sunday we are kayaking the Hiwassee River from below the Reliance Bridge to the Gee Creek Campground. Bring your own kayak. Contact Naullain Kendrick to borrow a kayak, naullain@hotmail.com. This section of the Hiwassee River is Class 1. Whitewater "wimps" have the option of hiking with Joan Hartvigsen, jhartvigs@comcast.net on Saturday while our brave friends battle the Ocoee whitewater. Possible hikes are Benton McKaye Trail on the Hiwassee River or the Old Copper Road Trail along the Ocoee River.

#### **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

OUTINGS COORDINATOR: Glen Rognstad 731-217-5966

jacksonhikes@tennesseetrails.org

(call Glen & volunteer to lead an outing)

MEETS MONTHLY: 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday at Perkins Restaurant, Vann Drive, Jackson. Socializing & dinner starts at 6:00 pm

CT; meeting starts 6:45 pm

Hike information unavailable at press time.

#### **MEMPHIS CHAPTER**

CHAPTER CHAIR: Charlie Bright 901-829-4434 memphis @tennesseetrails.org

VICE-CHAIR: Francis Ruffin 662-781-5034

memphisvice @tennesseetrails.org

No hikes planned this month. See you in September!

### GUIDELINES FOR SUBMITTING HIKE INFORMATION

When submitting monthly hike listings, please include the following information:

Date, trail name, location (Park, City, State), mileage, rating (easy, moderate, etc), hike description (what you may expect to see, elevation changes, obstacles that affect the hike rating), what to wear or bring, meeting time and location, and hike leader's contact information. Please identify any hikes that are multi-chapter events. Please DO NOT format the submissions (avoid bold, italics, underlining or colored text), as this slows the editorial process.

Hike descriptions are strongly encouraged, but not mandatory. A good hike description can encourage members (and prospective members) to try a new hike, but also alerts prospective hikers to outings that may be unsuitable for their level of expertise or fitness.

All submissions should be made by e-mail to editor@tennesseetrails.org. This e-mail address is automatically copied to our webmaster. All submissions MUST be received by the 10th of the month PRIOR to the hikes (I.e. February hike listings must be submitted by January 10) in order to be included in the newsletter. Late submissions will be updated on the TTA website, but have no guarantee of inclusion in the newsletter.

We will also be glad to print any hike reports, general chapter news and hike or event photographs as space permits.

#### Presidents Corner

I hope you have enjoyed hiking this year. Although a bit late due to the cold weather, the pink lady slippers on the top of Black Mountain are a reminder of the natural beauty around us.

#### **National Trails Day: June 6**

Mark your calendar and plan to celebrate National Trails Day the first Saturday in June. This is an annual event organized by the American Hiking Society (AHS) to promote and celebrate the importance of trails in the United States. Several of the TTA chapters are hosting events. Look for an event near you in the pages of the June newsletter or on the American Hiking Society's website under National Trails Day. At the time the newsletter was going to press, 31 events were listed for the State of Tennessee. There are hikes in the state parks and state natural areas and there are opportunities to serve through trail maintenance projects at several locations across the state.

#### TTA and CTC reorganization update:

In February, the TTA board of directors and the CTC representatives came to an agreement to allow CTC to develop a plan and the documents necessary to organize as an independent charitable non-profit organization with its own board of directors and officers. TTA and CTC will continue to be sister organizations advocating for hiking trails in Tennessee, and this relationship will be governed by a memorandum of understanding defining the roles and relationship.

The plan will be brought to a vote by the TTA membership for a vote at the upcoming general membership meeting in Townsend on November 14. Look for key information in the September and October newsletters. Besides a favorable vote by the membership, there are several other steps that need to be accomplished before the plan can be finalized, including the creation of a solid working relationship between the new CTC and the Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation and the approval by IRS of the new CTC's application for status as a charitable organization. The goal is for all these steps to be complete by December 2015.

Carolyn Miller

#### MURFREESBORO CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Sara Pollard 615-714-3610

murfreesboro@tennesseetrails.org
Ann Jacobs 615-896-3935

murfreesborotreas@tennesseetrails.org

PROGRAM COORDINATOR: Valerie Galan 615-516-6441

murfreesboroprog@tennesseetrails.org

HIKE COORDINATOR: Jennifer Zahn 615-943-8853

murfreesborohikes@tennesseetrails.org

MEETS MONTHLY: 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at 7:00 pm CT, Barfield-

Crescent Park's Wilderness Station, 697 Veterans

Parkway, Murfreesboro

**TREASURER** 

**BLOG:** www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/murfreesboro

**Jun 6 – National Trails Day, Barfield Crescent Park, Murfreesboro**. Come join us for trail maintenance at this beautiful park from 8:00 am until 11:00 am CT. Bring gloves, sturdy shoes, a snack and water. For more information or to sign up, contact Roy Duncan at 615-848-5454 or *royduncan1959@yahoo.com*.

Jun 7 – Tennessee River Gorge Paddle. Nickajack Lake near Chattanooga. Joint activity with the Highland Rim chapter. We will paddle 9 miles from Suck Creek to Raccoon Mountain. Pack plenty of water, lunch and especially sunscreen. We will meet at the Suck Creek boat ramp at 8:00 am CT to set up a shuttle. For carpool information or to sign up, contact Sara Pollard at 615-714-3610 or sarabpollard@gmail.com.

Jun 9 - Chapter Picnic. Pavilion #5. Barfield Crescent Park, Murfreesboro 6:00 pm CT. No business will be held and open to all TTA members, families and guests. There are picnic tables under the shelter and the chapter will provide barbecue, drinks, utensils, napkins and ice. Bring a side dish or dessert to share. Please register, along with how many are coming when you RSVP to Sara Pollard at 615-714-3610 or sarabpollard@gmail.com. We want to make sure enough supplies are provided. Picnic is rain or shine.

Murfreesboro Chapter - con't.

Jun 13 - Adventure Trip to Nashville's Bi-Centennial Capitol Mall State Park and Farmer's Market. 600 James Robertson Parkway, about 1 mile on park grounds plus walking at the market, all paved and easy. "With just a simple walk in the 19-acre park visitors can experience many facets of Tennessee's history including a 200-foot granite map of the state, a World War II Memorial, a 95-Bell Carillon, a Pathway of History and the Rivers of Tennessee Fountains. The 11 planters along the Walkway of Counties show native plant species from different regions of the state. Located in the shadow of the Capitol in downtown Nashville, Bicentennial Capitol Mall gives visitors a taste of Tennessee's history, natural wonders and serves as a lasting monument to Tennessee's Bicentennial Celebration, which was June 1, 1996." It is also next door to the award winning Farmer's Market which offers a wide range of fresh produce and plants, home baked goods, artisan food vendors and more. We'll lunch at the market after touring the park grounds. This will be a fun, relaxed outing with plenty of shade available. We'll car pool from Murfreesboro. For more information and to sign up contact Fount or Anna Bertram, abertram@dtccom.net or 615-765-5357.

Jun 20 -Elk River Float. Joint activity with the Highland Rim chapter. We will put in below Tims Ford Dam on Highway 50 and paddle to the Farris Creek Bridge. Meet at the put in below Tims Ford Dam at 9:30 am CT to set up a shuttle or to carpool from Murfreesboro, contact Wayne Yancey at 615-887-0212 or wayne.yancey@gmail.com.

Jun 26-28 - Camping and Hiking Weekend in the Great Smoky Mountain National Park. Joint activity with the Highland Rim Chapter. We will camp two nights and hike three days. Friday we will hike to Andrews Bald. 3.6 miles out and back rated moderate. If there's time, we will visit Clingman's Dome, 1.0 mile round trip. Friday dinner will be a group potluck at Elkmont Group Site #1. Saturday's hike is to Rocky Top (Thunderhead Mountain) via Lead Cove and Bote Mountain trails, 11.6 miles out and back rated strenuous. Saturday dinner will be at a Mexican restaurant in Townsend. Sunday's hike is the Trillium Gap Trail to Grotto Falls and then on to the summit of Brushy Mountain, 6.6 miles out and back rated strenuous. All hikes will lead to panoramic views and we'll see blooming rhododendrons and azaleas. Bring food for breakfast, lunch and our Friday evening picnic. To reserve a campsite contact Joan Hartvigsen at 931-962-0811 or ihartvigs@comcast.net. Sara Pollard will coordinate a carpool from Murfreesboro and contact her at 615-714-3610 or sarabpollard@gmail.com.

#### **ANNUAL MEETING HIKES**

#### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1:00 pm ET

- Look Rock Tower. Foothills Parkway, Blount County, 2 miles, very easy.
- Little River/Cucumber Gap. Elkmont, 5.5 mile loop, easy.
- Ft. Loudon State Park. Vonore, 4.5 miles, easy.

#### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 8:00 am ET

- Rich Mountain Loop. Cades Cove, 8.7 mile loop, moderate.
- Lead Cove Trail to Thunderhead Mountain. Laurel Creek Road, 3700 foot climb, 12.8 miles, via Appalachian Trail, strenuous.
- Jakes Creek to Jakes Gap (Blanket Mountain). Elkmont, 7.5 miles, moderate.
- Clingmans Dome to Newfound Gap (Appalachian Trail). 7.8 mile descent, car shuttle, moderate.
- Lumber Ridge/Spruce Flats Falls manway. Tremont, 7-8 miles, moderate.
- Little River/ Cucumber Gap Loop. Elkmont, includes tour of Avent and other cabins, 5.5 loop, easy.
- West Prong Trail to Campsite 18. Tremont, 5.4 miles, moderate.
- Trillium Gap to Grotto Falls and Brushy Mountain. Gatlinburg, 1500 foot climb, 6.8 miles, moderate.
- Look Rock Tower. Foothills Parkway, Blount County, 2 miles round trip, easy.
- Ace Gap. Townsend, 6 miles, easy.
- Seven Islands State Birding Park. Knox County, 5 miles, easy.
- Charlies Bunion. Newfound Gap, Appalachian Trail, 8 miles, strenuous.
- Middle Prong to Indian Flat Falls. Tremont, 7 miles, moderate.

#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER, 15, 9:00 am ET

- Andrews Bald. Clingmans Dome, 4 miles, moderate.
- East Lakeshore Trail. Tellico Lake, Greenback, 5.0 miles, easy.
- Abrams Creek/ Cooper Road Trail. Abrams Creek Ranger Station, 7 miles, moderate.

# TENNESSEE TRAILS ASSOCIATION CONVENTION/MEETING TREMONT LODGE & RESORT TOWNSEND, TENNESSEE NOVEMBER 13-15, 2015

Registration	Form (each family member's name must be li	sted if attending)	
Name		NameName	
City		State	Zip
Telephone		Email	
Chapter			
LODGING:	Tremont Lodge & Resort	Call direct to reserve your	room (s)
	7726 E. Lamar Alexander Pkwy.	865-448-3200	
	Townsend, TN 37882	Mention TTA for Special ra	ites
	Standard (2 Queen)	\$69.00	
	Deluxe (King)	\$85.00	
	Deluxe (2 Queen)	\$85.00	
	G: Call direct to reserve (10% discount)		
Tremont Outdoor Resort		865-448-6363 RV-Tents-0	Cabins
Whispering River Resort		865-981-4300	
Big Meadow Family Campground		865-448-0625	
MEALS:			
Friday Dinner			otal \$
Saturday Bre			otal \$
Saturday Sac			otal \$
Saturday Din		# personsX\$12 To	otal \$
Sunday Breal			otal \$
Sunday Sack		# personsX\$5  To	otal \$
Vegetarian M	Meals will be available upon request		
REGISTRATION FEE PER PERSON		# person\$25	otal \$
		TOTAL ENCLOSED	\$
Please make	check payable to East TN Chapter of Tenn. Tr	ails Assoc.	
Mail to:	Rosemary Marshall		
	5400 Parkdale Rd.		
	Knoxville, TN 37912		

Any Questions? Call Rosie 865-951-8317 or rosemary\_L@hotmail.com

Deadline for Registration October 19, 2015 Cancellations and Refunds must be in writing

#### 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: 4<sup>th</sup> 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

Jun 6 - Buggytop, Franklin State Forest, and Sewanee Natural Bridge, Sewanee TN. 9 miles. Moderate due to distance. We will park very close to the Sewanee Natural Bridge and have a short hike to the bottom. Next we drive to the Buggytop Cave trailhead and hike 2 miles to the cave and 2 miles back. Finally we will hike the nearby Franklin State Forest trail, which is a total of 4.8 miles out and back. Bring lunch/snacks, water, good hiking boots, and clothing appropriate to the weather. Option: Shenanagins in Sewanee for post-hike nourishment. Call Doug Burroughs at 615-587-0085 for more information and to register. Meet at Exit 59 on I-24 at the former Target Parking lot at 7:30 am CT. We should be at trailhead around 9:30 am.

Jun 23 - Chapter meeting. The Tennessee Ornithological Society has been an active and vibrant group for decadesten of them! Members and chapters of this group gather data from across the state, producing sightings, bird counts and surveys that contribute to a better understanding of our bird populations and the habitats that support them. Our own Danny Shelton, a Nashville TTA member, has made another great video, this one to recount the TOS's first hundred years. Some of you watched a preview at the TTA Annual Meeting at Montgomery Bell State Park this last October. Now we get to see the 85-minute "final cut" and celebrate the work of a great group whose mission contributes to our enjoyment of Tennessee outdoors. Bring your friends! We're back at REI this month and we'll be looking for you.

Jun 28 - Couchville Cedar Glade twilight hike. This state natural area in Davidson & Wilson Counties adjacent to Long Hunter State Park has lots of great examples of flowers and vegetation in a globally unique habitat. In addition, it's a great place to hear the calls of birds of the evening - whip-poor-wills, chuck-will's-widows, and nighthawks - all related in the bird family known as the nightjars. The hike itself is a gentle one, rated easy for both terrain and distance (elevation gain maybe 5 feet; less than 2 miles); the fascination lies in what we can see and hear. Bring water; snacks optional. Closed-toe footwear will be best but sneakers are fine. Let's meet to car-pool in Nashville at 4:30. Please contact Nora Beck at 615-517-6486 or norellibee @gmail.com for complete logistics.

#### PLATEAU CHAPTER

(Crossville)

CHAPTER CHAIR: Cheryl Heckler 931-200-7436

plateau @tennesseetrails.org

Bill Quattrociocchi 931-484-4230 plateautreas@tennesseetrails.org

MEETS MONTHLY: 2nd Thursday at 6:00 pm CT BLOG: www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/plateau

TREASURER:

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.

Jun 6 - Piney River Trail, Cumberland Trail, Spring City. National Trails Day Hike. 8.5 miles. Moderate to strenuous (due to the length hike) with a 5 mile car shuttle. The hike will start at the southern Newby Branch Trailhead and has a 772 feet elevation loss. The trail passes through dense mountain laurel, rhododendron, hemlock, and hardwood forest. Waterfalls, cascades, rock houses, and bluffs abound along the trail. An old mine, an old narrow-gage railroad bed, five bridges across various streams, and a 100-foot suspension bridge across the Piney River offer the hiker many beautiful views and photographic opportunities. To register for this hike contact Marcy Tucker at matuck42@aol.com or 561-762-5759. Meet at Trinity Tabernacle, 2028 S Main Street, Crossville, TN at 7:45 am CT to carpool to the trailhead or meet at the Piney River Picnic Area on Shut In Gap Rd in Spring City, TN at 8:30 am CT.

Jun 6 – Soak Creek Trail, Cumberland Trail, Spring City. National Trails Day Hike. 5 miles. Easy to moderate in and out hike. Since this trail is not yet open to the public, this is an opportunity to explore Soak Creek Gorge to the intersection of Soak Creek and Piney River, and then follow Soak Creek into the Piney Falls State Natural Area. The trail follows an old logging rail line, hugging Soak Creek all the way into the new 1000-acre acquisition for the construction of the Cumberland Trail. To register for this hike contact Carolyn Miller at cardan@frontiernet.net or 931-260-6674. Meet at Trinity Tabernacle, 2028 S Main Street, Crossville, TN at 7:45 am CT to carpool to the trailhead or meet at the Piney River Picnic Area on Shut In Gap Rd in Spring City, TN at 8:30 am CT.

**Jun 11 – Chapter Meeting.** 6:00 pm CT. Contact Chapter Chair, Cheryl Heckler at *thehecklers@charter.net* or 931-200-7436 for additional information.

Jun 13 – Angel Falls Overlook, Big South Fork, Jamestown. 10 miles. Difficult due to its length, but the footing is good and the overall grade is downhill. The hike passes several rock houses, a small waterfall and a couple overlooks on the way to Angel Falls Overlook, which is a massive rock outcropping several hundred feet above the Big South Fork of the Cumberland River. Hikers will shuttle cars and depart from the Bandy Creek trailhead, finishing at Leatherwood Ford. Wear boots, bring water and lunch. Depart from behind Cracker Barrel at 8:00 am CT. For more information and to register, call Bill Harris at 931-484-9152.

#### **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

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

TREASURER:

Additional information may be seen at our web site: http://www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/soddydaisy

**Jun 2 - River walk.** Meet at boathouse at 9 am ET. Hike leader: Bob McGavock.

- Jun 6 Prentice Cooper Snooper Rock overlook to Natural Bridge and back. Approximately 5-6 miles. Moderate. Meet at Bi-Lo parking lot at Red Bank at 8 am ET. Hike Leader: George Bonneau. Mileage RT 36 \$3.
- **Jun 9 Enterprise South. Approximately 6 miles. Moderate.** Meet at Target parking lot on Hwy 153 at 9 am ET. Hike leader: Ed Pyers. Mileage RT 30 \$2.
- **Jun 13 Savage Gulf. Approximately 10 miles. Strenuous.** Meet at Durham Street parking lot in Soddy Daisy at 8 am ET. Hike leader: George Bonneau. Mileage RT 75 \$4.
- Jun 16 Retro Hughes Road to Rock Creek and back. Approximately 5 miles. Moderate. Meet at Durham Street parking lot in Soddy Daisy at 9 am ET. Hike leader: George Bonneau. Mileage RT 22 \$1.
- Jun 20 Heiss Mountain to Little Possum Creek and back. Approximately 7 miles. Strenuous. Meet at Durham Street parking lot in Soddy Daisy at 8 am ET. Hike leader: John Politte. Mileage RT 14 \$1.
- **Jun 23 Signal Mountain High School loop. Approximately 3-1/2 miles. Easy to moderate.** Meet at Bi-Lo parking lot in Red Bank at 9 am ET. Hike leader: George Bonneau. Mileage RT 22 \$1.
- **Jun 27 Booker T Washington State Park. Approximately 7 miles. Easy to moderate.** Meet at Target parking lot on Hwy 153 at 8 am ET. Hike leader: George Bonneau. Mileage RT 20 \$1.
- **Jun 30 Upper Leggett to Lower Leggett. Approximately 3 miles. Easy to moderate.** Meet at Durham Street parking lot in Soddy Daisy at 9 am ET. Hike leader: Bob McGavock. Mileage RT 22 \$1.

#### SUMNER TRAILS CHAPTER

**CHAPTER CO-CHAIRS:** 

Jane Hamm 615-757-3331 Gayle Livingston 615-264-2940

sumner@tennesseetrails.org

**MEETS MONTHLY:** 1<sup>st</sup> Monday at 7:00 pm CT.

**Jun 1 - Chapter Meeting** at Sam's Sports Grill located at 300 Indian Lake Boulevard #E100, Hendersonville. (Indian Lake shopping area). Come join us for dinner and a fun evening. We'll also discuss upcoming hikes and summer outings.

Jun 6 - National Trails Day Hike. 1.7 miles. Easy. The Sumner Trails Chapter along with the Rotary Club of Hendersonville is sponsoring a 1.7 mile walk on the Station Camp Greenway which will be led by Sumner County Executive Anthony Holt in commemoration of National Trails Day. After the walk participants are invited to tour the historic Douglass-Clark House which has been undergoing restoration but will be opened for this special occasion. Meet at 9 am CT at the Long Hollow Pike trailhead located at Long Hollow Pike and Lower Station Camp Road. After the walk we'll have lunch at Top Hog in Gallatin. For further information contact Sumner Al at ballallenger@aol.com.

Jun 20 - Summer Solstice Nature Hike, Potluck and Stargazing with Friends of Bledsoe Creek State Park. Sumner Trails will have a joint meeting, hike and share a potluck dinner with the Friends of Bledsoe group. Our two groups have many common interests and it will be fun to meet others who share the love of this beautiful nearby state park. We will gather at Bledsoe Creek State Park (Shelter 1) and be ready to be led on a nature hike by Friends member and naturalist Susan Alsup to start at 5:00 pm CT. The hike will take about an hour as we will stop to discuss plants and animals we may encounter on the trail. The potluck will start after the hike at about 6:30 pm. If you are not interested in hiking that day, join us for the food! An added attraction will be stargazing with the Astronomy Club that evening. This group brings telescopes to the park once a month weather permitting. Stargazing will start at dusk. This will be a nice outing for children and grandchildren to attend. Bring your covered dish and family to join in. Tea, water and coffee will be provided. If you would like any other drink BYOD. State Park regulations make this an alcohol free event. Sumner Trails will be providing paper goods and tea. For more information, contact Sally Ticaric at sallytic @aol.com or 615-824-7294.

Jun 27 - Dunbar Cave Recovery Trail and Lake Trail, Clarksville TN. 2.5 miles. Moderate. At Dunbar State Natural Area, we will hike the Recovery Trail rated moderate because of a somewhat steep hill. We will end the hike along the easy Lake Trail with a visit to the historic Dunbar Cave entrance and the site of the old dance floor where big bands like Benny Goodman and Tommy Dorsey played. Dunbar cave is the 280th largest cave complex in the world. You may want to bring water and hiking poles and wear sturdy hiking shoes or boots. We will eat at an area restaurant after the hike. Meet at First Presbyterian Church in Hendersonville at 9 am CT for carpooling to Dunbar Cave. For more information contact Judy Jenkins at Judy\_Jenkins@comcast.net, phone 615-403-0002 or Lea Whitton at 615-289-4842.

#### **OFFICERS:**

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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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secretary@tennesseetrails.org

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Tim Townley 731-607-0512

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pastpresident1@tennesseetrails.org

**Previous Past President** 

Don Dresser 731-668-4190

pastpresident2@tennesseetrails.org

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Graydon Swisher 901-737-3114

westregional@tennesseetrails.org

Middle TN At-Large Director

Kathie Tange-duPré 615-834-9274

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**East TN At-Large Director** 

Bruce Whitehead 941-716-3620

eastregional@tennesseetrails.org

**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@tennesseetrails.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

 Jun 10
 Jul 1

 Jul 10
 Aug 1

 Aug 10
 Sep 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

(Sparta / Cookeville)

CHAPTER CHAIR: Louise Miniard 931-239-5425

uppercumberland@tennesseetrails.orc

HIKE COORDINATOR: Kathleen Sullivan 931-284-7822

uppercumberlandhikes@tennesseetrails.org

Jun 27 - Mount Sterling, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Cataloochee, NC. First we will ascend 1950 feet along the Mount Sterling Trail 2.7 miles to the fire tower atop the mountain. The views are among the best in the park. On a clear day Balsam Mountain to the west, Mount Guyot, and Mount Cammerer to the northwest, Max Patch to the east, and the Cataloochee Valley to the south can all be seen. We will then descend 4130 feet over the next 6.2 miles on the Baxter Creek Trail to Big Creek. The hike is rated strenuous because of the elevation changes. Bring snacks, water, and lunch. You can meet us at 7:00 am CT in the Penney's parking lot in Cookeville. For information and to register contact Richard Savage at 931-526-2035 or savage\_richard@hotmail.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

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 TENNE  A NEW MEMB  RENEWING M  Memberships are for one yea Gift Memberships are also av	ER Y MEMBERS Ir, unless you have a Life	Jun 15  S H I P  etime Membership.	Please Mail This Form To:  Membership Director P.O. Box 41446 Nashville, TN 37204-1446
Tim Townley 731-607-		tennesseetrails.org	RINT CLEARLY.
Individual	\$25.00	Name	
Family		Address	
Student (FULL TIME)			State
Supporting (\$50.00, \$	100.00 or more)	Home Phone ()	Zip
Life Member (Individual) \$	500.00	Work Phone ()	
Life Member (Family) \$7			es in the TTA Annual Membership Directory
** Special \$5.00 rate for membership in Trail Conference if you also are join. renewing your TTA membership. CTC is Cumberland Trail, which will go from Ch Cumberland Gap. Over 185 miles are n and open for hiking. More information can www.cumberlandtrail.org. Please conside your commitment to Tennessee's great train the CTC.	ing TTA or building the attanooga to ow complete n be found at er enhancing ils by joining	se list me with the following chapter _Clarksville _Columbia/Franklin _Cove Lake _Dyer County _East TN (Oak Ridge/Knoxville) _Highland Rim (Manchester/Tullahoma) _Jackson _Memphis	Murfreesboro Nashville Northwest (UT at Martin/Weakley) Plateau (Crossville) Soddy Daisy Sumner Trails (Sumner County) Upper Cumberland (Sparta/Cookeville) At Large
responsibilities, etc. (2) TTA's monthly nev announcements, as well as events occurr chapter and how to reach them. You are	wsletter, containing inform ring within TTA's Associat invited to attend any nun ting is held in the fall at or	ation on hiker safety, upcoming hikes/overr e Organizations - C.T.C. and T.R.A.C. (3) hber of monthly meetings scheduled, wher	nining information about TTA, trail etiquette, hiker night trips, volunteer opportunities, chapter meeting Annual Membership Directory, listing members by the you will enjoy diverse programs, socializing and and of hiking, camaraderie and programs, in addition