

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



THE ANNUAL MEETING AND YOU—WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT!

The Clarksville Chapter would like to invite everyone to attend TTA's Annual Meeting, to be held on October 26- 28, 2018. We will again meet in the beautiful surroundings of Land Between the Lakes (LBL), which is located in northwest Tennessee and sits beside scenic Bards Lake/Lake Barkley. There are more than 200 miles of hiking trails and abandoned roads meandering through backwoods, fields, and alongside peaceful lakeshores. Of course there will be a wide variety of hikes for all fitness levels. In addition to hiking, there are plenty of other places to explore, for example: the Elk and Bison Prairie, Golden Pond Planetarium, and the 1850's Homeplace. Events other than hiking, e.g. canoeing, birding, slag hunting, are also available. This year we are again fortunate to reserve the entire facility instead of sharing it with another group. Cabins are available for on-site overnighting, as well as tenting (with restrooms and showers in the nearby pool house).

A word about the cabins. We have reserved six—three for women and three for men. Each can comfortably accommodate ten persons. The cabins are roomy, clean, partitioned for a semblance of privacy, and air conditioned. Each has a sitting area and comes with showers. All at a nominal fee! But you will need to bring your own linens (and a favorite pillow if so inclined).

The facility has had the same kitchen staff for many years. They are known for their delicious meals, which will be prepared and served cafeteria style. Anyone with special dietary needs should include that information on the registration form. See the September newsletter for detailed information about annual meeting events, entertainment, and outings!

If these accommodations are not sufficient, you may choose to make your own reservations at other lodging facilities in the area. We suggest you contact the Stewart County Chamber of Commerce at 931-232-8290 for additional information. Even if you choose to stay off site, we welcome you to join us for meals! Just make sure to include the information on the registration form so the kitchen staff will know exactly how many meals to prepare.

For those who have never attended an annual meeting or are new to TTA, here is what you can expect: meet fellow members from all over Tennessee, as well as surrounding states; two fun days of hiking, entertainment, and neat events, such as the silent auction and white elephant sale, and **a special program by Jim Poteet to commemorate TTA's 50th anniversary, followed by cake and punch. And we will wish Carolyn Miller bon voyage.** Copious amounts of delicious food and baked goods will be available. Good food, good friends, good fellowship, good hiking -what more could you want???

Look for the registration form in the August newsletter. If you have questions, you can contact J.R. Tate at modelt770@gmail.com or Suva Bastin at 931-645-2849.





Office Location 409 Thurman Avenue,
Ste 102
Crossville, TN 38555
Office Hours..... Tuesday – Friday
..... 10 am – 3 pm CT
Phone: 931-456-6259
Office Staff: Teresa Kemmer
Email: ctcoffice2014@gmail.com
Website: www.cumberlandtrail.org

Volunteers! Ever want to help build a wilderness hiking trail? Then consider joining our planned trail building programs.

The Cumberland Trails Conference has been awarded a contract to construct trail along Soak Creek a tributary of the Piney River in Spring City. Trail construction began April 2. If you want to join the trail crew and build this section of the trail, please contact the CTC office to register and receive information about where to meet the CTC trail crew. We have a new e-mail address for volunteer questions and registration for programs: VolunteeratCTC@gmail.com.

Progress report: The crew is hard at work along Soak Creek. As of June 8, 6400 feet of trail has been built. This distance includes 403 steps and pavers. Thank you to the Cumberland Trails Conference trail crew as their work continues to add mileage to the Cumberland Trail.

Come join us this summer and help build the Cumberland Trail.

50th Anniversary of TTA

2018 is the 50th anniversary of TTA. We plan to celebrate at the annual meeting at Brandon Springs Group Center in Dover October 26 – 28. The Clarksville Chapter will be hosting the meeting.

If you have ideas for the 50th anniversary celebration, please share with your chapter chairs, a member of the board of directors or the Clarksville Chapter.

All chapters are encouraged to consider compiling chapter histories (pictures are always welcome) to commemorate the past.

CLARKSVILLE CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: J.R. Tate 931-220-1359
clarksville@tennesseetrails.org
CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVE: Paul Schwab 931-801-9484
clarksville@tennesseetrails.org
TREASURER: Mary Schwab 931-645-9068
clarksvilletteas@tennesseetrails.org
SECRETARY: Donna Burdick 931-220-8497
clarksvillesecy@tennesseetrails.org
OUTINGS COORDINATOR: Paul Schwab 931-801-9484
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.

Please call hike leaders to confirm hike time and meeting place.

Jul 7 - Pennyryle State Park. 3 miles. Moderate. Followed by swim; eat lunch at Park Restaurant. Paul Schwab 931-645-9068. Meet 8:00 am CT at Kroger parking area, Dover Crossing Road, Clarksville. 50 miles to trailhead.

Jul 14 - Cummins Falls State Park hike and swim. 2 miles out and back. Difficult. Paul Schwab 931-645-9068. Meet 8:00 am CT. I 24 Exit 11 commuter parking lot. 119 miles to trailhead.

Jul 17 - Monthly Chapter Meeting.

Jul 21 - Clarksville Greenway. 5.2 or 9.2 miles. Easy to moderate. Dona Fondren 931-472-5185. Meet 9:00 am CT at the end of Pollard Road.

Jul 28 - Hopefully; 'Cooling at the Cave'; Dunbar Cave State Natural Area, Clarksville; Music, Board Games, Fellowship, Refreshments. 3:00 pm CT until 6:00 pm. If the park doesn't have 'Cooling at the Cave' this year, hike with another chapter.

Newsletter Deadlines:

Deadlines for Chapter announcements and articles of special interest are due on the 10th of each month for the following month's newsletter.

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

Please note: Newsletter submissions to the "editor" address are automatically copied to the webmaster for inclusion on the TTA website.

COLUMBIA/FRANKLIN CHAPTER

CHAPTER CO-CHAIR: Jane Coffey 66615-516-6551
columbia@tennesseetrails.org

CHAPTER CO-CHAIR AND BOARD REPRESENTATIVE:
Marvin Caine 931-486-1632

HIKE COORDINATOR: Jane Coffey 615-516-6551
columbiahikes@tennesseetrails.org

MEETS QUARTERLY: Meets quarterly at the Barnabas Center at 506 Fair Street, Franklin, TN 37064. The Barnabas Center is located behind St. Paul's Episcopal Church. Social hour from 6:00 - 7:00 pm. Meeting at 7:00 pm.

Please check the TTA website for updates on our hikes.

Jul 15 - Bowie Nature Area, Fairview, TN. We will start the hike at 2:00 pm. We are planning the hike to be approximately 4.5 miles. We'll meet at shelter #2. This is an easy to moderate hike that takes us through old growth hardwood and mixed pine forest. We will cross little Turnbull Creek twice by footbridge and once by foot and Hickman's branch. This park contains 6 lakes, 5 are on our route - they are Lake Van, Hidden Lake, Upper Lake, Lake Byrd and Lake Anna. Please wear waterproof hiking boots and expect mud if we have had recent rain. Hiking poles/sticks are recommended. Bring water on hike and snacks. We will end our hike back at shelter #2. Heavy rain or the threat of severe weather will cancel the hike plans. Feel free to call me or email me at 931-286-5020 or *edgewoodray0514@gmail.com*.

Jul 28 - Burch Reserve Connector, Edwin Warner Park. The Burch Reserve is a new addition to Edwin Warner Park located north of Highway 100, across from the Nature Center. The approximately 250-acre tract includes gently rolling fields and steep forested slopes that are slated for hiking trails. The Burch Reserve Connector will provide public access to the site as well as a pedestrian connector to the nature center. The project was completed in two phases. Phase One, which included a parking lot and trailhead, entry monuments, traffic signal improvements and connector trail, was completed in Fall 2015. Phase Two includes a tunnel under the CSX railroad tracks and a trail from the Phase One parking through the tunnel and on to the hiking trails on the Burch Reserve. We will meet at McDonald's (4908 N. Main St., Spring Hill) at 8:00 am. If anyone wants to hike and would rather meet at Edwin Warner Park, we will meet at the Nature Center at 9:00 am. Contact Jane Coffey at 615.516.6551 or *jecoffey0644@gmail.com*.

Planning Ahead:

Aug 7 - Quarterly Chapter Meeting. Meets quarterly at the Barnabas Center at 506 Fair Street, Franklin, TN 37064. The Barnabas Center is located behind St. Paul's Episcopal Church. Social hour from 6:00 - 7:00 pm. Meeting at 7:00 pm. This meeting is for the second half hike planning. The normal July meeting was cancelled due to the 4th of July holiday.

EAST TN CHAPTER (Oak Ridge / Knoxville)

CHAPTER CHAIR: Rosemary Marshall 865-985-9144
easttennessee@tennesseetrails.org

WEBMASTER: Sherry Barber 865-209-6189
sbarber6189@comcast.net

Jul 14 - Roundtop Trail, GSMNP. 7.5 miles. Moderate. Join the hardy souls on a hike in the Smoky Mountains. The hike is generally easy, gaining about 850 feet in the first 2.4 miles then losing about 1550 feet in the next 5.1 miles for a total of 7.5 miles. There is one fairly steep descent and poison ivy in places on the trail – long pants might be appropriate. At the end of the trail we will have to wade across Little River. We will take our time and at the end of the hike you can put your feet and body in the water while waiting for the transportation to return from Metcalf Bottoms. We recommend shoes to wear to and from the hike plus sturdy hiking shoes, shoes to wade the creek, other weather appropriate clothing, a snack, a drink and a camera. We will leave a car at the Wye and start the hike at the trailhead on Wear Cove Gap Road near Metcalf Bottoms. We will meet in the Central Baptist Church of Bearden parking lot for car-pooling and leave at 8:30 am, stopping at the Browns Creek Shopping Center parking lot nearest the Sonic at 1707 E Lamar Alexander Pkwy, across the street from the Hardee's, near the hospital in Maryville. We will leave there at 9:00 am. Don't forget \$\$\$ for carpooling. After the hike plan on stopping on the way back for a meal and refreshments. For specific information about the hike please call Tom before the 13th at 974-4422 or leave a message at 588-5622 or send an email to *cressler@utk.edu*.

Jul 21 - Ijams Nature Center Trails, 2915 Island Home Blvd., Knoxville, TN. 5 miles (approx.). Mostly easy. Hike leaders are Robby Paul and Karen Towle. Starting at the Visitors Center we will be hiking over to Mead's Quarry and also to Ross Marble Quarry and then back to the Nature Center. Bring snacks, water, hiking shoes, and money for lunch. Meet at 9:00 am ET at the Ijams Nature Center. Please register with Robby Paul at 865-983-6926 or *robbypaul@hotmail.com*.

HIGHLAND RIM CHAPTER

(Coffee and Franklin Counties)

CHAPTER CHAIR: Mary Etta Ward 931-581-9906

highlandrim@tennesseetrails.org

SECRETARY Tanja Kendrick 931-224-6225

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.

Jul 7 – North Rim, Mountain Oak and North Plateau Trails. Savage Gulf State Natural Area, Palmer, TN. 10 miles. Moderate. The North Rim Trail and the North Plateau Trail combine to provide a walk with little elevation change that loops by numerous overlooks of Savage Gulf. The North Rim Trail has more overlooks than any other trail on the South Cumberland Plateau. From these viewpoints we will see old growth forest in the bottom of the gorge and the junction of the three gulfs that make up the State Natural Area. Bring water, snacks and lunch. Wear sturdy hiking boots. Contact Joan Hartvigsen at jhartvigs@comcast.net or 931-962-0811 to register and obtain carpool information. The trailhead address is 3157 State Route 399, Palmer, TN.

Jul 14 – Elk River Paddle. Shiloh Bridge to Dickey Bridge. Kelso, TN. 7.4 miles. Bring water, lunch and snacks. Contact Tom Bentley at 931-455-5849, 931-273-6344, or htbentley@lighttube.net. Meet at 9:00 am CT at Shiloh Bridge on Champ Road in Kelso. Elk River Canoe Rental in Kelso rents canoes and kayaks, 931-937-6886.

Jul 21 – Stone Door to Greeter Falls via Big Creek Gulf Trail and Alum Gap. 7 to 9 miles. Joint hike with the Nashville Chapter. Vehicle shuttle is required. It's July and it will be hot, so we will go by Ranger Falls, the Sinks and Greeter Falls to take a swim. The hike will be moderate to difficult as it is a steep rocky descent into Big Creek Gulf and a steep rocky ascent up to Alum Gap. Bring a lot of water, snacks and lunch. Wear sturdy hiking boots. Hiking sticks recommended. Email Marietta Poteet at nannietta@blomand.net or call 931-924-7666.

Jul 23 – Chapter Meeting. Dinner at 5:00 pm at Ruby Tuesday, 1936 N. Jackson St., Tullahoma. Meeting is 7:00 pm at D. W. Wilson Community Center. Program to be announced.

Highland Rim Chapter – con't.

Planning Ahead:

Aug 24-26 – Hiwassee/Ocoee Scenic Rivers State Park, Delano, TN. Joint activity with Murfreesboro Chapter. Camp, “duckie” and kayak weekend. We have reserved four campsites which accommodates 8 small tents. Contact Joan Hartvigsen early to reserve a spot, jhartvigs@comcast.net or 931-962-0811. Friday afternoon we will use our kayaks to float the Hiwassee from the Reliance Bridge to the ramp inside our campground. Saturday we will rent inflatable Funyaks (“Duckie”) from Hiwassee Outfitters, 423-338-8115, to float the Hiwassee River from below the Appalachia Powerhouse to the Reliance bridge. \$30.00 plus tax to rent a one person “Duckie”. Reservations recommended. Sunday adventure TBA. Friday evening we will share a meal at the campsite. Saturday evening we will eat out.

Sep 14 -16 - Ghost River Paddle Adventure. Camping in Big Hill Pond State Park, Pocahtontas, TN. Paddling in the Ghost River State Natural Area, near La Grange, TN on Saturday. Ghost River State Natural Area is a 2,200 acre section of the Wolf River in Fayette County. The Ghost River section of the Wolf River meanders through bottomland hardwood forests of large oaks, cypress-tupelo swamps, and open marshes. The Ghost River provides excellent unique opportunities for observing birds including Snowy Egrets and other wildlife. The paddle is 9 miles and should take about 6 hours. The Ghost River Section of the Wolf River received its name from the loss of river current as the water “flows” through open marshes and bald cypress-water tupelo swamps. Some paddlers have seen ghosts in the gloomy, spooky swamp. The marked canoe trail follows the river from Yager Road Bridge in LaGrange to Bateman Road Bridge. Friday afternoon and Sunday morning we will explore the hiking trails in Big Hill Pond State Park. Park highlights include the 70 foot observation tower that offers panoramic views of Travis McNatt Lake and surrounding area and the long boardwalk that wends through Dismal Swamp. Contact Joan Hartvigsen, jhartvigs@comcast.net, early to get a space in one of the 6 sites we have reserved. Also contact Joan if you plan to just join us for the paddle.



JACKSON CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Melinda Pearson 731-225-4293
jackson@tennesseetrails.org
TREASURER: Anne Goodson 731-664-1556
jacksontreas@tennesseetrails.org
SECRETARY: Terry McCoy 731-535-0625
jacksonsecy@tennesseetrails.org
OUTINGS COORDINATOR: Glen Rognstad 731-217-5966
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

Hike information unavailable at press time.

**TTA Third Quarter 2018
Board of Directors Meeting
Long Hunter State Park Visitor Center
2910 Hobson Pike
Hermitage
Saturday, August 4
1:00 PM – 4:00 PM**

Welcome and Introductions

TennGreen Presentation

Secretary's Report – Jackie York

- Approval of the Minutes of the May 2018 Board meeting

Treasurer's Report – Kathy Woods

Membership Report – Cheryl Heckler

Committee Reports

- Bylaws Committee Report
- Communications Committee Report
- Nominating Committee
- Awards Committee – Board to approve recipients.

Old Business

- 2018 Annual Meeting Update
- Website Update

New Business

To add items to this agenda, please contact TTA President, Carolyn Miller, TTA Vice President, Linda Latter or one of the TTA board members or chapter chairs.

All board meetings are open to any TTA member and the public.

Only board members are eligible to vote on motions before the board.

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. See you in September!

SEEKING NOMINATIONS

TTA is seeking nominations for awards to be presented at the annual meeting in October. We annually present the Tennessee Trails Award and the Bill Stutz Awards. **The Bob Brown Lifetime Achievement Award** is awarded periodically to those with a lifetime of leadership and extraordinary contributions.

Please send written nominations for the TTA awards to a member of the awards committee: Joan Hartvigsen, Garnett Rush, or Linda Latter. Alternately, please send the written nomination to one of the chapter chairs or to one of the TTA officers. Nominations should include contact information for the person making the nomination, a full name and address of the nominee and a paragraph stating why the person should be nominated for the award.

Tennessee Trails Award. This award is presented for outstanding contributions to the Association or for the furtherance of trails and natural resource programs and opportunities within Tennessee.

Bill Stutz Award. The Association gives this award in honor of the late Bill Stutz, past TTA member and beloved hiker. Any chapter (or voting member) can make a nomination to the Board for the recipient of this award. The award is to be presented to an active hiker for his or her individual contribution to the Association or one its chapters.

Bob Brown Lifetime Achievement Award. The Board of Directors of the Association established this award to honor the extraordinary lifetime leadership and personal contributions of Bob Brown to hiking and conservation in the State of Tennessee. The Board may give a Bob Brown Award from time to time to others for lifetime leadership and contributions that it finds equally extraordinary.

MURFREESBORO CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Tony Jones 615-397-4463
murfreesorbo@tennesseetrails.org

TREASURER: Sara Pollard 615-714-3610
murfreesorbotreas@tennesseetrails.org

PROGRAM COORDINATOR: Valerie Galan 615-516-6441
murfreesoroprogram@tennesseetrails.org

HIKE & MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR:
Jennifer Zahn 615-943-8853
murfreesorohikes@tennesseetrails.org

BLOGMASTER
Craig McBride 615-394-6121
murfreesoroblog@tennesseetrails.org

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

Jul 7 – Hidden Springs Loop, Cedars of Lebanon State Park. 4.7 miles. Easy. Hidden Springs is a very nice trail with diverse terrain. Inclines are minimal and the pathway is easy walking. Along the way we will see parts of the re-growth of the hard cedar forest that gives the park its name. There are also areas of the trail that you can see down into the cave system that runs under the park. Contact Jeanne Conatser at 615-971-8894 or djconatser@comcast.net.

Jul 10 – Chapter Meeting. Speaker TBA.

Jul 21 – Escape the Heat at CUMBERLAND CAVERNS. Join us for a 1.5 mile subterranean adventure at the south's largest underground showplace. The lighted "Commercial" Tour is a nice walk in 56 degree year round comfort. The cave is located in McMinnville, TN and a carpool will be organized from Murfreesboro. We will also have a meeting time set up at the cave for those coming from other points than Murfreesboro. We will leave Murfreesboro at 9 am and the tours at the cave leave every hour on the hour and take about 90 minutes to complete. There are working restrooms inside the cave and in the gift shop area. There is a cost of \$21.50 for each adult and \$13.50 for each child UNDER 13. Children are welcome on this adventure but NO PETS. You might want to bring a light jacket for the underground air conditioning. You can get more information about Cumberland Caverns at <https://cumberlandcaverns.com>. For more information or to register contact Tony Jones at 615-397-4463 or tonjon1968@gmail.com.

2018 TTA Board of Directors Meetings

Saturday, Aug 4: 1 PM Long Hunter State Park
Hermitage

Sunday, Oct 28: 9 AM Brandon Springs Group Center,
Dover.

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

Jul 7 - Bryant Grove Trail, Long Hunter State Park, 2910 Hobson Pike, Hermitage, TN 37076. 8 or 4 miles. Easy to Moderate. 8:00 am. This hike will begin at the trailhead in the Couchville Lake Day Use Area Two of Long Hunter State Park. The trailhead is near the playground on the right side of the parking area, and the trail heads east along the shoreline of Percy Priest Lake through cedar thickets, oak and hickory forests and cedar glades for 4 miles to reach the Bryant Grove Recreation Area, then back to the starting point. Options are 8 miles (to Bryant Grove Recreation Area and back) or 4 miles (hike to 2-mile marker, then back). Terrain is flat and the trail surface includes gravel, rocks and dirt. For information and to register, contact Betty Magee at 615-319-5394 or e-mail: monetfan455@yahoo.com.

Jul 14 - Honey Creek, Big South Fork National Recreation Area near Rugby TN. 5 miles. Strenuous. This is a difficult hike through creeks, over boulders, and up steep and rugged terrain. But, there will also be great overviews, waterfalls, and interesting geological features. Bring water, snacks/lunch, waterproof boots with ankle support, and clothing appropriate for the weather that day. There is an option after the hike to stop for food along the road back to Nashville. The total time commitment could be up to 12 hours: Driving up, hiking 5 difficult miles, dinner, and then driving back. Contact Doug Burroughs at dougburroughs@tennessee.usa.com or leave a message at 615-587-0085 for more information and to register. Meeting Place and time: 7:00 am. Parking lot just north of the FedEx/Kinko, 540 Donelson Pike Nashville 37214. Just north of I-40.

Jul 21 - Stone Door/Big Creek/Alum Gap/Greeter Falls. South Cumberland State Park, Monteagle, TN. 7-9 miles. Moderate to difficult. Joint hike with Highland Rim Chapter. It will require a shuttle as we will go from Alum Gap to Greeter Falls. It's July and it will be hot, so we will go by Ranger Falls, the Sinks and Greeter Falls to take a swim. The hike will be moderate to difficult as it is a steep rocky descent into Big Creek Gorge and a steep rocky ascent up to Alum Gap. Bring lots of water and snacks. Email Marietta Poteet at nannietta@blomand.net or call at 931-924-7666 or Nancy Juodenas njlj1011@gmail.com.

Jul 24 - Chapter program meeting. Several TTA members went hiking in Ireland just a few weeks ago. Come and hear about their experiences at our July meeting. Doug Burroughs will coordinate the presentation encompassing the Dingle Way and several other points of special interest from the Emerald Isle. Bring friends!

PLATEAU CHAPTER (Crossville)

CHAPTER CO-CHAIRS: Bruce Whitehead 941-716-3620
Bob Obohoski 931-456-4282
plateau@tennesseetrails.org

TREASURER: Gena Whitehead 941-716-3620
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 or to register for any of our hikes, contact the hike coordinator, Deb Westervelt, via email *plateauhikes@tennesseetrails.org* or text/call 931-267-2243. For a list of monthly hikes, visit the Plateau Chapter. **Check the blog one hour prior to hike time for cancellation or for any other updates/changes to our schedule before hiking.**

Jul 4 – Daniel Boone National Forest, Mark Branch and Sheltolee Trace Trails, KY. This will be a 5.3 moderate hike in a creek or crisscrossing so bring water shoes. Gorgeous scenery, rock houses, giant boulders, waterfall, wildflowers. Depart 7:30 am CT from the Crossville Cracker Barrel rear parking lot. Carpool cost is \$8. Pack water, snacks and lunch.

Jul 7 – Big South Fork, Laurel Fork Creek Trail, Jamestown, TN. This an easy to moderate 6.8 mile hike starting from the West Entrance Trail then North on Laurel Fork Creek. We will be crisscrossing the creek multiple times so bring comfortable water shoes along with water, lunch and snacks. Depart 7:30 am CT from the Crossville Cracker Barrel. Carpool cost is \$6.

Jul 11 – Cummins Falls, Baxter, TN. This is only a 4 mile hike, but it is strenuous and difficult. There are also 3-4 water crossings (possibly knee deep and fast moving) so bring water shoes. There will be an opportunity for swimming below the falls. Depart 7:30 am CT from the Crossville Cracker Barrel rear parking lot. Carpool cost is \$7. Pack water and snacks. We'll eat lunch in Cookeville.

Jul 14 – Window Cliffs State Natural Area, Baxter, TN. Window Cliffs is a new TN Natural Area located near Burgess Falls. The trail is in-and-out for a total of 5.4 strenuous miles. The trail features 9 stream crossings each way, a few small cascades, steep slopes, narrow ledges, and a 20-ft waterfall along Cane Creek. Water shoes are highly recommended. Pack water, snacks and lunch. Depart from Tractor Supply at 7:30 am CT. Carpool cost \$7.

Jul 18 – Canoe/Kayak The Caney, Smithville, TN. The water level at the time will determine if we canoe/kayak the upper or lower Caney. The upper portion has waterfalls, coves and islands to explore. The lower is faster moving water from Betty's Island under the old 1800's train bridge and a cave to explore. We can get a tax exempt group rate TBD by renting 10 or more boats (kayak or minimum two persons per canoe). If we don't qualify for the group rate: Nine mile kayak trip is \$44.99 per person. Nine mile canoe trip is \$32.99 per person. Trip normally takes 3-5 hours. Depart 7:30 am CT from the Crossville Cracker Barrel. Pack sunscreen, water, snack, lunch and wear appropriate clothing, hat and footwear. Carpool cost is \$8. Be sure to state if you are bringing your own canoe or kayak.

Plateau Chapter – con't.

Jul 25 – Big South Fork, Laurel Fork Creek Trail, Jamestown, TN. This an easy to moderate 5 mile hike starting from the Sawmill Trailhead then South on Laurel Fork Creek. We will be crisscrossing the creek multiple times so bring comfortable water shoes along with water, lunch and snacks. Depart 7:30 am CT from the Crossville Cracker Barrel. Carpool cost is \$6.

Board Positions for 2018

We currently have three open board positions for 2018: West Tennessee Regional Director, and two members to serve on the board. If 2018 is your year to serve, please contact one of the officers or regional directors to submit your name for further consideration by the nominating committee and the entire board of directors.

We still have some committee positions open to members. These positions were created as part of the bylaws revision in October 2017 in an effort to engage members who wanted to serve the organization but not have responsibility as a board member. Open committee positions are noted below.

Nominating Committee. The Nominating committee is responsible for the long term development of leadership within the organization, and to provide a slate of qualified candidates for election to the board at each Annual Membership Meeting, and to recommend qualified replacements for any vacancies that may occur. 2 positions open for members and a member willing to serve as the West Tennessee Regional Director

Audit Committee. The duties of the Audit Committee shall be to oversee policy compliance, conflicts of interest, ethics, and program integrity. They shall select, retain, oversee, and interact with the auditors for the Association. The Auditors shall report directly to the Board. Audit Committee - two board positions and several positions for members are available on this committee.

Awards Committee. This committee shall recommend to the Board candidates for the various recognition awards provided by these bylaws. The chair of this committee shall be the Vice President. two board positions and several positions for members.

SODDY-DAISY CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Jean Smith 423-596-7681
soddydaisy@tennesseetrails.org
TREASURER: Robertson (Bob) McGavock 423-667-2960
soddydaisytreas@tennesseetrails.org
HIKE COORDINATOR: Patricia Appleton 423-332-6517
soddydaisyhikes@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>*

Jul 3 - Cravens House Loop. 3 miles. Easy to moderate.

Will begin at upper Cravens house parking lot, climb to where the trail meets the Mountain Beautiful trail, turn right and meet the Bluff Trail. Those who wish may climb the steps to Point Park to take in the view. The hike continues to join the Cravens Loop trail back to the Cravens House. Meet at the Food City in Red Bank at 8:00 am or Craven's House parking lot at 8:30. Hike Leader: Trish Appleton 332-5617.

Jul 7 - Falling Water Falls State Natural Area. 3 miles.

Moderate. This hike starts on top of Signal Mtn. off of Glenway Ave. There is parking for maybe 4 cars. The trail leaves the road and goes down beside a rocky stream to Mabbitt Springs. Cross the spring and continue to the trail sign and turn left, follow the trail down along and across a creek which is no problem except after a big rain. The trail continues to the bluff and the top of Falling Water Falls. Meet at the Food City in Red Bank at 8:00 am. George Bonneau.

Jul 10 - Reflection Riding Loop. 3 miles. Easy. Meet at the Food City in Red Bank at 8:00 am or the nature center at 8:30. Hike leader Trish Appleton 332-6517 (or anyone else who wants to).

Jul 14 - Snoopers Rock to Natural Bridge and back. 6 miles RT. Moderate to strenuous. Park at the Snoopers Rock parking area in Prentice Cooper State Forest. Meet at the Food City in Red Bank at 8:00 am. John Politte.

Jul 17 - Fall Creek Falls Hike. 4 to 5 miles. Easy to moderate. Caney Creek Visitors Center to Fall Creek Falls and back. Can include a hike to bottom of falls. Hike Leader Trish Appleton 332-6517 (or anyone else who wants to).

Jul 21 - Snow Falls trail across bridge to where the trail starts up the Mountain or to Buzzard Point if so desired. 5 miles RT. Easy to moderate. Meet at Durham Street in Soddy at 8:00 am. John Politte.

Jul 24 - Greeter Falls Day Loop, Altamont. 3.2 miles. Moderate. This hike features 2 waterfalls. It does involve a climb down some metal stairs. Scenery is exceptional. Meet at the Food City in Red Bank at 8:00 am. Trish Appleton

Jul 28 - Bluff Trail, Lookout Mtn. 5 miles, Will stage cars at Point Park and Ochs Gateway. Meet at Food City in St. Elmo. Need a hike leader

Jul 31 - Savage Gulf Day Loop. 3 miles. Meet at Durham St. in Soddy Daisy at 8:00 am. Hike Leader Trish Appleton 332-6517 (or anyone else who wants to).

SUMNER TRAILS CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Lynn Takacs 615-479-7702
sumner@tennesseetrails.org

Jul 14 - Dunbar Cave Recovery Trail and Lake Trail, Clarksville, TN. 2.5 miles. Moderate. At Dunbar State Natural Area, we will hike the shaded Recovery Trail which has a small hill and will end the hike along the easy Lake Trail with a visit to the historic Dunbar Cave entrance. There we will see 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. We will eat at Liberty Park Grill in Clarksville after the hike. Meet at First Presbyterian Church in Hendersonville at 9 am CT for carpooling to Dunbar Cave. For more information call Ron or Judy Jenkins at 615-403-0002.

UPPER CUMBERLAND CHAPTER

(Sparta / Cookeville)

CHAPTER CO-CHAIRS: Jennifer Carroll 661-369-6619
uppercumberland@tennesseetrails.org

HIKE COORDINATORS: Cathy Moran 931-544-2764
uppercumberlandhikes@tennesseetrails.org

Jul 7 - Trillium Gap, Great Smoky Mountains. 13.2 miles. Strenuous. We will begin our hike at the Trillium Gap access trail and take it to Trillium Gap Trail (mile 0.15). At the junction, we will continue on to Grotto Falls (mile 1.3), the only waterfall in the park that a person can walk behind. From here we will continue on to the Brushy Mountain Trail junction (mile 2.9). Those who are interested can take short hike to the top of Brushy Mountain. From the trail junction, we will remain on Trillium Gap Trail for another 3.6 miles until we reach Mt. LeConte Lodge (mile 6.6). We will return via the same trail for a total of 13.2 miles. Those interested in a shorter hike may want to stop and have lunch on Brushy Mountain before returning to the trail head via Trillium Gap, for a hike of just over 6 miles. Bring hiking boots, snacks, water, and lunch. The hike leader will be traveling from Oak Ridge, so please register to be informed of possible changes or cancellations. You can meet for carpooling at the JCPenney's parking lot in Cookeville at 6:00 am CT. For information and to register, contact Jeff Graves at *jagraves21@students.tnitech.edu*.

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Upper Cumberland Chapter – con't.

Jul 14 - Brushy Mountain, Great Smoky Mountains. 11.8 miles. Strenuous due to distance and elevation gain. We will begin our hike following the Porters Creek Trail. We will pass several old stone walls and the Ownby cemetery before reaching a footbridge (mile 1.0). Those who want may take a short detour from here to visit the historic John Messer farm site. Continuing along the Brushy Mountain Trail, we will begin our ascent up the northern slopes of Mt. LeConte. After approximately 4.5 miles we will reach the Trillium Gap trail junction (mile 5.5). Turning right and following the Brushy Mountain Trail will lead us through a tunnel of rhododendron and mountain laurel before reaching Brushy Mountain summit (mile 5.9). Brushy Mountain offers spectacular views of the eastern flank of the Great Smokey Mountains, including Charlies Bunion and Greenbrier valley. We will return along the same trail for a total of 11.8 miles. Those interested in a shorter hike may choose to remain on the Porters Creek Trail following it past Fern Branch Falls to Backcountry Campsite 31 for a total of 7.4 miles. Bring hiking boots, snacks, water, and lunch. The hike leader will be traveling from Oak Ridge, so please register to be informed of possible changes or cancellations. You can meet for carpooling at the JCPenney's parking lot in Cookeville at 6:00am CT. For information and to register, contact Jeff Graves at jagraves21@students.tntech.edu.

Jul 21 - Siler's Bald, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Gatlinburg, TN. 9.5 miles. Moderate to strenuous. We will hike a section of the Appalachian Trail from the Clingman's Dome parking lot to Siler's Bald. There are spectacular sections of the trail along a narrow ridge top. Bring water, snacks, 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.

