

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.

SUPPORTING THE CUMBERLAND TRAIL



FRIENDS OF SOUTH CUMBERLAND STATE PARK AWARDED EVAN MEANS GRANT

Tennessee Trails Association (TTA) awarded an Evan Means Grant to the Friends of South Cumberland State Park (FSC) on August 21, helping fund an FSC initiative to install custom mileage marker/location identifier medallions on nearly 87 miles of trail in South Cumberland State Park (SCSP). The medallions will improve hiker locational awareness and safety, while assisting in Rangers' rescue efforts. This system of color-coded markers will also make possible more detailed trail maps.

Pictured at South Cumberland State Park's Information & Welcome Center trailhead are (L-R): FSC Trail Friends Area Coordinator Marietta Poteet; TTA Evan Means Grant Committee Chair Joan Hartvigsen; SCSP Manager George Shinn; SCSP Assistant Manager Bill Knapp; FSC Trails Committee Chair Bruce Blohm; and (kneeling) SCSP Ranger Jessie DeRight. They are each holding samples of the trail marker medallions, which will be acquired with the TTA grant.

TTA established the Evan Means Grant program to honor Evan Means, one of the co-founders of Tennessee Trails Association, in 1968. The Grant program is for trail-related volunteer projects on public land. Applications can be found in the left column of the TTA Website under "grants." Please email completed applications to Joan Hartvigsen, jhartvigs@comcast.net.



SUMNER TRAILS CHAPTER FEATURED IN THE TENNESSEAN

Local hikers hit the trails with the Sumner County Chapter of the Tennessee Trails Association, a nonprofit organization promoting and connecting people with hiking trails statewide for more than five decades. Read the whole story at this link: <https://www.tennessean.com/story/news/local/sumner/2020/09/03/sumner-trails-association-chapter-connects-local-hikers/5616075002/>

SLATE OF OFFICERS

The TTA Nominating committee is pleased to present the following slate of officers for our 2021 Board of Directors. These nominees will be presented to the membership for voting electronically using Survey Monkey, since voting in person at the Annual Meeting is not possible this year. Be watching your e-mail and make your voice heard. There will also be a space for a write-in vote. Survey Monkey voting will be Oct. 1-17. No e-mail? No problem. Just use this page of your newsletter as a ballot and vote yes or no or write in a name, if desired. Send your ballot to Libby Francis, 2104 Snook Drive, Nashville, 37210. Your ballot will need to arrive by mail by Oct. 17.

Please note the dates for the terms to end. Thanks so much to these people who are volunteering their time and energy to keep Tennessee Trails going and growing. We are always looking for people to serve on the various committees. There are many ways you can share your interests and talents.

At Large Directors

Cheryl Heckler, (Plateau) 2023
Jane Coffey, (Columbia/Franklin) 2023
Jenny Fitzgerald (Sumner Trails) 2023
Susan Woods (Jackson) 2021 (Filling a vacancy)

Regional Directors

West TN: Terry Warren (Jackson) 2023
East TN: Patricia Appleton (Soddy Daisy) 2021 (Filling a vacancy)

Your nominating committee: Jane Ellett, Joan Hartvigsen, Terry Warren, Libby Francis. Special thanks to Cheryl Heckler for organizing and masterminding the Survey Monkey voting.

2020 Chapter Spotlight

We are all saddened about missing the Annual Meeting this year. Part of the Annual Meeting always includes a brief report from the Chapter Chairs or Reps. We would like to highlight all the good work that is being done by each Chapter, especially in these difficult times. Enjoy these contributions from our chapters and we look forward to hearing from all of them in person at next year's Annual Meeting, Montgomery Bell SP, October, 2021.

Clarksville Chapter, Philip Anderson, Chapter Officer

Our chapter had numerous hikes prior to the COVID 19 shutdown. We camped overnight at LBL, Dover, TN, and Walls of Jericho. We participated in trail building at Dunbar Cave State Park. Our chapter currently has a checking balance of \$1,961.81, and a current savings balance of \$407.97. Considering all the setbacks with the pandemic situation our chapter has had a good year!

Columbia/Franklin Chapter, Jane Coffey, Marvin Caine, Chapter Officers

Here are two memorable hikes from our chapter:

November 2019 – Preservation Park – Thompson's Station, TN

This is the newest addition to Thompson's Station Park District hiking trail system. It is a rustic trail with some exertion but not totally dramatic.

January 2020 – Timberland Park – Williamson County Park System.

Everyone seems to enjoy hiking Timberland simply because it geographically located to our chapter and it is a good physical hike. It is a hike where people can bring their kids along and they will enjoy it as well. COVID-19 marred hiking plans for many months. We hope to get back out there shortly.

Highland Rim Chapter submitted by Joan Harvtvigsen

The Feb. annual Chilly Chili Hike was on the Caldwell Rim Trail in Sewanee followed by a chili dinner at the Poteet's home. The Highland Rim Chapter used State Park picnic pavilions for programs including hiking the new Story Book Trail at Tims Ford Lake, an after-dinner hike through May Prairie at Old Stone Fort, a wildlife program by LouAnn Partington at Tims Ford State Park, and hiking the Overlook Trail at Tims Ford SP. Work days at Short Springs State Natural Area in Tullahoma are held 4 times per year. In September we went to Devils Fork State Park, SC for lakeside camping. Fun activities included a boat tour, waterfall hikes, kayaking, sunset and moonlight paddling. October camping along the shores of the TN River, hiking in Nathan Bedford Forest and paddling are planned. We have enjoyed many day hikes including South Cumberland State Park, Walls of Jericho, Old Stone Fort and Tims Ford. Backpacking in Big South Fork, Kayaking, camping on two islands in September are some of our many activities. We often join with the Murfreesboro Chapter, Upper Cumberland Chapter and the Jackson Chapter to offer joint outings.

Jackson TTA, Melinda Pearson, Chapter Officer

The initiative, leadership, and resource contributions of our chapter members produced an outstanding year of events to publicize TTA/Jackson in west TN. Our booth exhibition at the Jackson International Festival attracted scores of visitors last fall. In February, two chapter members were interview guests on a local radio talk show exclusive to TTA and TTA/Jackson. This month we have concluded a project that raises awareness of TTA/Jackson while supporting and honoring our hospital COVID care staff. A special shout out to the West TN Regional TTA Board Director who has greatly assisted us. We have hiked as we could around severe COVID limitations.

Murfreesboro Chapter, Jeanne Conatser and Sara Kennedy, Chapter Officers

The Murfreesboro Chapter saw Jeanne Conatser and Sara Kennedy come in as Co- Chairs...just in time for pandemic shutdown! We managed a few fun hikes, both easy and hard, to lakes and caves, a couple of good paddle trips, and helped dig out an old overgrown kids' area at Barfield Park. We've had some diverse guest speakers - some good stretching with a teacher from MTSU, the manager from Avian Glen Winery, a naturalist from Barfield Park with venomous snakes, and a vet tech and dog trainer discussing hiking with our four- leggers. Wow- I guess we've been busier than I thought!

2020 Chapter Spotlight

Nashville Chapter, Doug Burroughs, Chapter Officer

We have resumed scheduling hikes since the Covid-19 lockdown ended, and we are conducting some of our monthly meetings with slide presentations on Zoom. We are also continuing to get the TTA Newsletter put together and mailed out to our subscribers by using smaller teams of volunteers and by having the collating completed by our new printer. We, along with Sumner Trails, arranged to reschedule our planning for the TTA Annual Meeting to October 2021.

Plateau Chapter, Norman Brinsley, Chapter Officer

At our December Christmas party, Norm Brinsley was elected Chapter Chair and Clark Zedric, Chapter Treasurer. Monthly meetings included a New Zealand travelogue from 2 of our hikers and a presentation on TN Bird Calls by a Park Ranger. In March meetings were canceled due to COVID and monthly summaries and quarterly newsletters were issued to inform the chapter about activities. We had around 6 hikes per month around the Cumberland Plateau including Honey Creek, Eye-Of the Needle, and Mushroom Rock. Out of state hikes included Big Bend, TX and Tallulah Gorge, GA. A fall hike is planned in Linville, NC. We had trail maintenance and picnic on Black Mt. in June with follow up work in Sept. Several members participated in a walking class on "Wild Edibles" conducted by John Ford, local expert. The chapter donated money to support the Davis House in Dog Cove and Emergency Rescue Squad. Membership increased from 45 to 54 people during the period. Chapter finances remain stable.

Soddy Daisy Chapter, Jean Smith, Chapter Officer

The TTA Soddy Daisy Chapter maintained an active hiking schedule throughout the months of November 2019 through October 2020. Trish Appleton as Hike Coordinator spearheaded the club hiking new trails. She provided maps, advice, and suggestions that encouraged members to expand their horizons and confidence to venture into new vistas. Within this time period, the club hiked Pickett CCC Memorial State Park, Bald River Falls, Brady Mountain, Keown Falls and John's Mountain, Fort Oglethorpe, Black Mountain, Quinn Springs and Oswald Dome, Turtletown Creek Falls, Heiss Mountain, and Benton Falls just to name a few of those adventures. Turtletown Creek Falls and Pickett State Park have become favorites with members. With Trish's guidance, the club expanded its repertoire of hiking trails and developed new hike leaders. The Fall Away Hike in November 5 - 7, 2019 was held at Pickett State Park and organized by Donna Pyers, Social Coordinator and Trish Appleton. Donna also coordinated the club's holiday dinner in January 2020. This proved to be a relaxing time to catch up with other members and greet the new year. Little did we know it would be our last social gathering. The Soddy Daisy Chapter continues to hike during the Covid-19 pandemic. The safety of our chapter members, the public, and CDC guidelines frame all decisions on how we approach hiking. Our Blog Coordinator Earl Helmer provides us a window to club hikes with pictures and commentary from the hikers. Welcome new officers Jane Ellet, Chapter Chair, Bob McGavock Hike Coordinator.

Sumner Trails Chapter, Duane Frichtl, Board Representative

Greetings from the Sumner Trails Chapter! We are a group of around 50 members from the Gallatin, Hendersonville, White House area. We schedule several hikes monthly with a variety of difficulty and points of interest. Last year, some of our favorite hikes were to Fall Creek Falls, Stone Door, Dunbar Cave and Winding Stairs. Other group activities included a kayak trip, a tour of the historic Omohundro Water Plant, and The Hermitage. Our members volunteered as trail guides for the Batey Farm Community Day. Social activities last year included our annual weekend getaway to the Rugby area, a wonderful Christmas party with live cello music, trivia nights, and many shared meals after hikes. Officers are Marcia Powell, co-chair, Jenny Fitzgerald, co-chair and hike coordinator, John Jones, treasurer, Judy Jenkins, communications, and Duane Frichtl, chapter representative. Come join your friends at Sumner Trails anytime!

Upper Cumberland Chapter, Cathy Moran, Hike Coordinator

The Upper Cumberland annual Christmas party was a great success. After hiking the lake trail at Cumberland Mountain State Park, we ate at the Restaurant and Visited, ate and played games. A Christmas story was read and when the word *left* was said you passed a gift to left and *right* you passed to right. We had many members attend and we all had a great time. A wonderful group but we have pulled back during this uncertain time. A few independent hikes but still social distancing.



Cumberland Trails Conference

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

Despite these uncertain times with COVID-19, the Cumberland Trails Conference has made great strides to complete segments of the Cumberland Trail core corridor. In August, the Central crew completed a section in the Catoosa Wildlife Management Area. This section of the Cumberland Trail is part of the Obed Wild and Scenic River Segment and runs from Peavine Road to the Devil's Breakfast Table in Catoosa WMA. The new trail through the Catoosa Wildlife Management Area is 6.3 miles in distance and crosses Keyes-Harrison Wildlife Management Area and features a primitive camping site south of McGinnis Branch.

In the meantime, the CTC Southern crew has been working to complete the Stinging Fork to Hinch Mountain section of the Cumberland Trail. They expect this almost 8-mile section of the trail to be complete at the end of September.

During October, the crews will be working to complete the Black Mountain to Ozone Falls segment.

Please look for an update to the Obed Wild and Scenic River trail map by visiting www.cumberlandtrail.org.

Cumberland Trail Maps are also available through the Cumberland Trail State Park website <https://tnstateparks.com/parks/cumberland-trail>.

TTA Board of Directors Meeting

The October Tennessee Trails Board of Directors meeting will be Tuesday, October 27 at 6:00 pm CT, via Zoom. All members are welcome, but if you are not on the Board, you will need to register with Libby Francis, libbyslibbys@comcast.net, to get the Zoom link to join the meeting. Hope to see you there!

CLARKSVILLE CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Philip Anderson 931-561-0925
clarksville@tennesseetrails.org

VICE-CHAIR and CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVE:

Paul Schwab 931-801-9484
clarksville@tennesseetrails.org

TREASURER: Mary Schwab 931-645-9068
clarksvilletreas@tennesseetrails.org

SECRETARY: Mary Ann Harris 931-647-9321
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.

Oct 3 - Clarksville Greenway from Marys Oak Drive access, out and back, to Pollard Road access. 4 miles. Easy. Philip Anderson 931-561-0925. Meet 7:00 am CT at the Marys Oak Drive access. Note: In previous years we have met at Pollard Road access.

Oct 10 - Virgin Falls SNA, Virgin Falls trail. 8.5 miles. Difficult. Paul Schwab 931-801-9484. Meet 6:30 am CT, I 24 Exit 11 commuter parking lot near McDonalds. 140 miles to trailhead.

Oct 17 - Kohl's Trail Head to Percy Priest Dam and back. 5.8 miles. Ed Oliver 931-561-9946. Meet 8:00 am CT, I24 Exit 11 commuter parking lot near McDonalds. 42 miles to trailhead.

Oct 20 - No Monthly Meeting.

Oct 24 - Annual Bonfire. Meet 4:00 pm at Rotary Park Amphitheater. The entrance to the Amphitheater is on E. Old Ashland City Road. We will hike about 2 miles, moderate, and eat after the hike. Because of the pandemic we will not share food or drink. Please bring food and drink for yourself only. Suva Bastin 931-645-2849.

Oct 31 - Overnight LBL, Fort Henry Trail System. 11 miles out and back. Moderate. Paul Schwab 931-801-9484. Meet 8:00 am.

COLUMBIA/FRANKLIN CHAPTER

CHAPTER CO-CHAIR: Jane Coffey 615-516-6551
columbia@tennesseetrails.org

CHAPTER CO-CHAIR AND BOARD REPRESENTATIVE:
Marvin Caine 931-486-1632
columbia@tennesseetrails.org

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.

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

Oct 24 – Sinking Creek Trail, Tellico Lake. 6 miles. Easy.

The hike will start at the Coytee trailhead parking lot. The trail basically follows the shoreline of Tellico Lake and the total distance is about 4.5 miles. The trail is relatively flat, a few hills but nothing difficult. At the end of the trail we will have to walk more than one mile back to the parking lot for a total distance of about 6 miles. We recommend shoes to wear to and from the hike plus sturdy hiking shoes, other weather appropriate clothing, a snack, a drink and a camera. If you are interested in a view of the area where we will be hiking and other trails in this area go to East Lakeshore National Recreation Trail at Tellico Lake https://03d4f2c6-20c8-4560-ab74-d6e2e9ad42da.filesusr.com/ugd/75254c_5d0f3396f3ea4d6b96c0ed379ebb537c.pdf.

Because of the Covid-19 restrictions there will be no carpooling and you should bring a face mask to wear when you are unable to maintain a 6 foot social distance and hand sanitizer. We will meet for tailgating to the trailhead at the Walmart parking lot in Lenoir City, 911, TN 321 N, nearest the Murphy Gas Station. We will leave there at 9:00 am and should be at the trail head by 9:45 am. For specific information about the hike please call Tom before the 23rd and leave a message at 588-5622 or send an email to cressler@utk.edu. If you are coming from I-40 on 321 toward Lenoir City turn left at the stop light just past the stop light for the hospital. At the next cross street you will see Murphy Gas and the Walmart parking lot.

HIGHLAND RIM CHAPTER (Coffee and Franklin Counties)

CHAPTER CHAIR: Tom Bentley 931-455-5849
highlandrim@tennesseetrails.org

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

OUTINGS & PROGRAM COORDINATOR & NEWSLETTER CONTACT: Tom Hartvigsen 931-962-0811
highlandrimhikes@tennesseetrails.org

(contact Tom & 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.

Oct 2-4 – Nathan Bedford Forrest State Park, Camden, TN. Joint outing with Murfreesboro and Jackson Chapters. Camping, hiking and kayaking Kentucky Lake, aka Tennessee River. Reserved five Lake Front campsites. Water Trail: Boat Ramp #1 to Eva Beach. 5 miles out and back. Park is home to Tennessee River Folklife Interpretive Center and Museum. Nearby Johnsonville State Park also has hiking trails with lake views and an area to launch kayaks at lakeside parking area. Both parks feature Civil War history. More hiking at nearby Natchez Trace State Park. Susan Woods will lead our hikes in Nathan Bedford Forrest State Park. Susan is a lifetime member of the Jackson Chapter and Treasurer of the Friends of Nathan Bedford Forrest State Park. We will meet Susan at 9 am CT Saturday in the Museum parking lot for our hike. Please register early with Joan Hartvigsen if interested in staying in one of the five campsites, jhartvigs@comcast.net or 931-962-0811. Campers are responsible for all their own meals.

Oct 10 – South Rim Trail, Savage Gulf State Natural Area. 10 miles. Moderate. This plateau top trail passes above Savage Falls then skirts the south rim of Savage Gulf, offering a number of outstanding gulf views. Along the rim the trail passes above the old growth forest in the depths of the gulf. Please register with Joan Hartvigsen, jhartvigs@comcast.net or 931-962-0811. Trailhead address: 3157 State Route 399, Palmer, TN.

Oct 26 - Chapter Meeting. Meet at 4:30 pm CT at Tims Ford State Park Picnic Shelter #1. Bring your own dinner. A Park Ranger will present a program. Topic will be announced soon. Please let Joan Hartvigsen know you plan to attend, jhartvigs@comcast.net or 931-962-0811.

Oct 31 – Short Springs Work Day. Please meet at 8 am CT in the parking lot, 2250 Short Springs Road, Tullahoma. Bring water, snack, work gloves, pruner or lopper. Specific tasks will be announced. Please let Joan Hartvigsen know you can help, jhartvigs@comcast.net or 931-962-0811.

JACKSON CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Melinda Pearson 731-225-4293
jackson@tennesseetrails.org
TREASURER: Anne Goodson 664-1556
jacksontreas@tennesseetrails.org
SECRETARY: Terry McCoy 731-535-0625
jacksonsecy@tennesseetrails.org
HIKE & FACEBOOK COORDINATOR:
Glen Rognstad 731-217-5966
jacksonhikes@tennesseetrails.org
(call Glen & volunteer to lead an outing)

MEETS MONTHLY: 1st Monday at Panera Bread, Vann Dr.,
Jackson. Dinner 6:00 pm CT; Meeting 6:45 pm

Oct 2-4 - Nathan Bedford State Park near Camden, TN. Joint activity with Highland Rim chapter and Murfreesboro chapter. Susan Woods will lead the hike on Saturday. Trail TBA. Meet at the museum parking lot at 9:00 am. Please see the Highland Rim section of newsletter for more information on Friday & Sunday activities. Please let Susan know if you plan to hike on Saturday. 731-441-8066 or *woodsboob@bellsouth.net*.

Oct 5 - Monthly meeting. ZOOM meeting will begin at 6 pm. Melinda will send invite by email.

Oct 23-25 - Randy Hedgepath will be leading hikes in the Montgomery Bell State Park area. You must register for these hikes. Please contact Doug Burroughs for more information: 615-587-0085 or *dougburroughs@tennessee.usa.net* AND Refer to the Nashville section of the newsletter.

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.

MEMPHIS CHAPTER

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

Oct 3 - Lucius Burch Natural Area Wolf River, South of Walnut Grove. This is a moderate 5 to 6-mile hike on the Yellow/Blue/White trails. If there has been rain we may have a stream crossing. In that case a hiking stick will be useful. Bring water and a snack and pen for signing in. Rain will cancel hike. You must register for the hike: leave a message or text Linda 901-489-9157 no later than Friday, October 2nd.

Oct 10 - T.O. Fuller State Park. The 4-mile hike covers moderate to rugged terrain with some wet land and a possible stream crossing. Hiking boots or sturdy shoes recommended. Bring water and a snack and pen for signing in. The Discovery Loop Trail includes part of the Nature Bluff Trail of the Chucalissa Indian Village. Time Frame: 2.5 hours. You must register for the hike: leave a message or text Kam 901-299-8359 no later than 6:00 pm Friday, Oct 9th. Directions: I-240 West to I-55 North; Exit 7 South to Highway 61 (3rd Street). Drive approximately 1 mile. Turn right onto Mitchell Road; continue 3 miles west to the T. O. Fuller Park sign.

Oct 17 - International Harvester Managerial Park, Lakeland. 4 miles. We will hike through Lakeland's International Harvester ("IH") Managerial Park. The park is located adjacent to the Lakeland Senior Center on the west side of Canada Rd, between I-40 and Hwy 70 at 4523 Canada Rd. Allow 2 1/2 hours for the hike. We will hike through mostly bottomland forest, although there are some moderately strenuous places with elevation changes in the beginning and at the end. The trail also goes through a nice meadow and along a small lake. There is one shallow water crossing. Be prepared for mud if we have had recent rain. Terrain-appropriate, waterproof footwear and hiking poles recommended. Bring water and snacks and pen for signing in. Heavy rain or the threat of severe weather will cancel. You must register for the hike: leave a message or text Marion 901-482-8640 or email *mquinlen@gmail.com* no later than 6:00 pm Friday, Oct. 16th. Be sure to leave your name and phone number.

Oct 24 - Tour de Wolf Trail, Shelby Farms. 6 miles. Easy. The trail is not paved so wear sturdy shoes or boots. Bring water, snack and pen for signing in. Rain will cancel the hike. You must register for the hike. Call Pam 901-246-8887 leave name and phone number (no text) no later than 6:00 pm Thursday, Oct 22nd.

Oct 31 - Lucius Burch South Natural Area, off Germantown Road Park Entrance on the west side of Germantown Road across from the Shell station. This is a 6-mile hike on the White/Blue/Yellow Trails. Plan to hike about 3.5 hours. Bring water and snack and pen for signing in. Rain will cancel hike. You must register for the hike: leave a message or text Marion 901-482-8640 or email *mquinlen@gmail.com* no later than 6:00 pm Friday, Oct 30th. Be sure to leave your name and phone number.

MURFREESBORO CHAPTER

CHAPTER CO-CHAIRS: Jeanne Conatser 615-971-8894
Sara Kennedy 615-692-9057
murfreesboro@tennesseetrails.org

TREASURER/HIKE COORDINATOR/BOARD REP:
Sara Pollard 615-714-3610
murfreesborotreas@tennesseetrails.org

MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR: Jennifer Zahn 615-943-8853
murfreesborohikes@tennesseetrails.org

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

MEETS MONTHLY (except Jan, Feb, Jul, Aug): 2nd Tuesday at
7:00 pm CT, Barfield-Crescent Park's Wilderness Station,
401 Volunteer Road, Murfreesboro

BLOG: www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/murfreesboro

Oct 2-4 – Nathan Bedford Forrest State Park. Eva, TN. Joint outing with the Highland Rim and Jackson chapters. Camping, hiking and kayaking on the western shore of the Kentucky Lake, an impoundment of the Tennessee River. Five lake front campsites have been reserved for the weekend. Within the park is the Tennessee River Folklife Interpretive Center and Museum which showcases the customs of people who lived along the lower Tennessee River in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. This museum is located atop Pilot Knob, one of the highest points in West Tennessee. There's also hiking trails with lake views and an area to launch kayaks at a lakeside parking area. Saturday's hike will be led by Susan Woods of the Jackson Chapter who is a lifetime member of TTA and member of the Friends of Nathan Bedford Forrest State Park. For more information or to sign up contact Sara Pollard at 615-714-3610 or sarabpollard@gmail.com.

Oct 10 – Barfield Park Crescent Park. Murfreesboro. Wilderness Loop Trail. 4.4 miles of wooded trail with a slight hill to climb near the beginning. Nothing very strenuous. There are lots of paved paths as well to walk if anyone wants to add on mileage. For more information or to sign up contact Jennifer Zahn at 615-648-0607 or jenzahn@gmail.com.

Oct 13 – Chapter Meeting. Our speaker is Mike Fletcher of the Oaklands Mansion. Oaklands Mansion is a historic plantation home and house museum located in Murfreesboro. Oaklands is on the National Register of Historic Places and is a local landmark known for its unique Italianate design. The city of Murfreesboro acquired it in 1958 with the intention of tearing it down. However, the mansion was restored to its original grandeur by a group of women who rallied together to form the Oaklands Association. The home was opened to the public as a museum in the early 1960s and now receives thousands of visitors annually and is used for various public and private functions. Come hear more interesting information about this beautiful mansion.

Murfreesboro Chapter – con't.

Oct 16-18 - Joyce Kilmer Memorial Forest in the Nantahala National Forest, Robbinsville, NC. Camping and hiking weekend. Rattler Ford group campsite near Robbinsville has been reserved. Facilities include a rustic bathhouse with flushing toilets, running water and shower. The bathhouse will be shared with other campers-not just our group. Saturday's hike is to the Hangover via the Wolf Laurel trailhead. The Hangover is a rocky outcropping that offers panoramic views of the forest below in all directions. This hike will require an 8 mile forest service road drive and we'll need to carpool because parking is limited at the Wolf Laurel trailhead. **REGISTRATION FOR THIS EVENT IS NECESSARY** because of the limited spaces at the campsite and the fluid situation concerning COVID 19 closures. This is a 6 mile out and back hike and we can add mileage to Stratton and/or Bob Bald if we want to. Elevation change roughly 800 feet. Sunday those who want to kayak - Lake Santeetlah is very close by. For those who'd prefer to hike, there are lots of other trails in the area as well. For more information or to sign up contact Jan Safavi at 615-390-9146 or safavi.jan@gmail.com.

President's Corner

These uncertain times have limited many aspects of life as we live with social and physical distancing. Supporting our 56 state parks, trails and waterways has been more important than ever. There are so many beautiful oases in Tennessee and we don't have to migrate to Vermont to see the explosion of color. Rhythms of life and seasons are reflected by the nature around us and reminds us everything will be okay.

Due to the cancellation of the 2020 Annual TTA Meeting business has to be handled differently but TTA members know to roll with the flow. You will be receiving an email via Survey Monkey to vote for 2021 Board of Directors. Every election is determined by the people who vote so please respond. Vote. Let your voice be heard.

I am in Texas for an extended period and here they don't experience our typical fall. While Tennessee leaves are beginning to change colors and jackets have come out of hiding, I'm still trying to escape the heat.

Appreciate Tennessee's beautiful sanctuaries. Connect with nature by watching birds and wildlife. Take a sunset walk. Sit quietly outside listening to life.

Thank you for promoting the development of a state wide system of hiking trails. Thank you for volunteering your time and energy to build and maintain trails on both public and private land throughout Tennessee. Thank you for participating and supporting in your club's activities

THANK YOU for being a member of Tennessee Trails Association.

Mary Etta Ward

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

Oct 1 - Burch Reserve, Warner Parks, Nashville TN.
8.am. A Moderate 3 mile hike that has a bit of everything. Wide paved road to rocky single track with both level and hilly portions. This is the newest trail in the Warner parks and is less peopled than the other trails (and parking should be easier as well!). As the leaves start falling we will get some pretty valley views. There's about 400' in elevation gain and descent. Limited to 10 so RSVP early. Please provide cell phone in case of weather cancellation. RSVP to Niola Cusati: *niolac@gmail.com* or text 408-455-2472.

Oct 4 - Weekend Ender: Edwin Warner Park Nature Center, 6-730 pm. 3.5 miles. End your weekend right with a brisk hike at this popular park with both wide paved trails and single tracks thru the hills. Our loop will take us on both. We will enjoy the fall foliage in the scant light that this time of day affords. Please provide cell phone in case of weather cancellation. RSVP to Niola Cusati: *niolac@gmail.com* or text 408-455-2472.

Oct 7 - Winding Stairs Park, Lafayette, TN. This city park is about an hour north of Nashville and has deep gorges and waterfalls. The Winding Stairs Trail is a moderate 1.6 mile loop. We'll combine it with the Milk Pail Trail for an additional 1.7 mi. For more mileage, we can reverse the loops. Bring hiking sticks and water shoes, depending on rainfall. Meet at the Winding Stairs parking lot at 8:00 am. Register with Kathy Woods, 615-473-6824 or *kwoodz@comcast.net*.

Oct 9 - Larkspur Conservation at Taylor Hollow with option for Bledsoe Creek State Park, moderately challenging for elevation changes and terrain. The non-profit Larkspur Conservation at Taylor Hollow is a largely forested site for natural burials that is under the protection of The Nature Conservancy. We'll meet at the Larkspur parking lot at 8:30 am and hike 3-4 miles depending on trail conditions. After lunch, those interested will caravan to Bledsoe Creek and hike roughly 3 additional miles. Pack a lunch and snacks for the trail and bring plenty of water, sun protection, and bug spray. Caravanning is possible if there is interest. Current TTA COVID-19 guidelines apply; please register for this hike with Mark Hubbard at *mark.hubbard@mhhub.us* or 615-715-1517.

Nashville Chapter – con't.

Oct 16 - Ellington Agricultural Center, Nashville, TN. 4 miles. Easy. We will walk the trails and paved roads of the grounds of the Ag Center. There is much to see at this often overlooked "park" in the midst of our city. Perhaps the horses that metro police stable here will be out in the pasture. There always seems to be something in bloom and the landscaping, along with the period architecture are of interest. On our walk we will circle a working farm, pass by a creek and honey bee apiary; the award-winning iris garden (unfortunately not in bloom), and the agricultural museum, which will be open. Hiking boots are not necessary. Good walking shoes will be fine. Bring water and a snack if desired. TTA COVID guidelines apply. Contact Nancy Juodenas at 615-319-8811 (leave message or text), or *njlj1011@gmail.com* for more information and to register.

Oct 23 - Naturalist Walk at Montgomery Bell State Park, Burns, TN. Ore Pit and Wildcat Trails 2.7 easy miles. Meet at the Park Office /Visitor Center at 3 pm. Join Randy Hedgepath for a walk through a beautiful mature forest and learn the Iron Industry history of the area. We will also cross Church Hollow and learn a little church history too. Group is limited to 15 people. This is a nature walk, at a leisurely pace, with several stops to learn about the natural and cultural features along the trail. For more information and to register contact Doug Burroughs at *doughburroughs@tennessee.usa.com* or leave a message at 615-587-0085.

Oct. 24 - Naturalist Walk at Montgomery Bell State Park, Burns, TN. Creech Hollow and Wildcat Hollow Section of MB Trail. 6 easy miles. Join Randy Hedgepath for a walk along the ridges of the Montgomery Bell State Natural Area, described as one of the best examples of the Oak-Hickory Forests of the Western Highland Rim. We will walk along the beautiful clearwater streams in Wildcat and Creech Hollow and along the shoreline of Creech Hollow Lake as well. This is one of the most interesting hikes in the park. Group size is limited to the first 15 to sign up. This is a leisurely paced educational walk with lots of stops to learn about the natural and cultural features along the trail. For more information and to register, contact Libby Francis at *LibbysLibbys@comcast.net* or 615-319-7501.

Oct. 24 - Montgomery Bell State Park, Burns TN. Overnight Trail. Not a nature hike: This is a strenuous hike due to the length of 10.5 miles. Wooded terrain with some hills. The trail passes by several lakes, a historic cabin and church, and historic iron ore pits. Bring water, snacks/lunch, boots, and clothing appropriate for the weather that day. Email Doug Burroughs at *doughburroughs@tennessee.usa.com* for more information and to register. Meeting Place (convoy, no carpool): Parking lot in front of The Well Coffeehouse/Sprouts at One Bellevue Place, 7618 Hwy 70 S suite 107, Nashville, TN 37221. Meeting Time: 7:15 am. Or meet us at the Warehouse Trailhead at the Park at 8 am.

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Oct. 25 - Naturalist Walk at Montgomery Bell State Park, Burns, TN. Lake Woodhaven and Hall Spring Walk. 4 easy miles. Join Randy Hedgepath for a walk on the Church Hollow section of the MB Trail with a visit to perhaps the most interesting natural feature of the park, Hall Spring. We will also walk along the shoreline of Woodhaven Lake and do the Spillway Trail. Group is limited to the first 15 who register. For more information and to register, contact Nancy Juodenas at njlj1011@gmail.com or 615-319-8811.

Oct 25 - Weekend Ender: Edwin Warner Park Nature Center, 6-730 pm. 3.5 miles. End your weekend right with a brisk hike at this popular park with both wide paved trails and single tracks thru the hills. Our loop will take us on both. We will enjoy the fall foliage in the scant light that this time of day affords. Please provide cell phone in case of weather cancellation. RSVP to Niola Cusati: niolac@gmail.com or text 408-455-2472.

Oct 28 - Bells Bend Park Full Moon Hike. We will meet at sunset and walk 3-5 miles under the moonlight along wide trails and open meadows. Bells Bend park, located in western Davidson County, takes its name from a peaceful arc of the Cumberland River known as Bells Bend. Footwear: The trails can be muddy after a rain. Bring water and snacks. Bring a headlamp or flashlight - for emergency use only. Meet at the Bells Bend Outdoor Center, 4187 Old Hickory Blvd. Nashville, TN 37218 at 6 pm. For more information and to register contact Doug Burroughs at dougburroughs@tennessee.usa.com or leave a message at 615-587-0085.

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT

As of September, our membership was reported as 464 members: 54 life members, 6 family life, 22 supporting, 94 family and 288 individual memberships. We have our work cut out for us as we take steps to increase our members. Consider sponsoring a new member.

Three Evan Means Grants were awarded during this time: 1) Friends of Tims Ford for their storybook Trail, 2) Friends of Old Stone Fort for the Arboretum Certificate Application fee and 50 tree markers, 3) Friends of Henry Horton State Park to build foot bridges and staircases on new Spring Creek Trail.

The website committee is near completion for the launch of the new TTA website and new logo. It has many years in the making but dedicated work by Doug Burroughs and his committee will help thrust TTA's mission and membership into the future.

Our clubs have had great meetings and provided consistently excellent programs. TTA Board of Directors held their scheduled board meetings, two in person and two via zoom. Thank you ALL for everything you do.

Mary Etta Ward

PLATEAU CHAPTER (Crossville)

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plateau@tennesseetrails.org
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plateautreas@tennesseetrails.org
BOARD REPRESENTATIVE: Bob Oboboski 931-456-4282
boardplateau@tennesseetrails.org
MEETS MONTHLY: 2nd Thursday at 6:00 pm CT
BLOG: www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/plateau

Come take a GUIDED hike with us. We offer a short 5 mile or less and a long 8+/- mile hike every Wednesday and two Saturdays a month. For additional information contact the hike coordinator plateauhikes@tennesseetrails.org or text/call 931-267-2243. For a list of monthly hikes, visit the Plateau Chapter website at <http://ttaplateauchapter.blogspot.com>. **Check the blog one hour prior to hike time for cancellation or for any other updates/changes to our schedule before hiking. Instead of carpooling to trailheads our hikers may opt to drive themselves.**

Oct 3 - Hit the Trails Festival. Festival <https://hikingmarathon.com/trails-festival/> is the conclusion of the September month long Cumberland County hiking marathon. Information booths will be setup from various outdoor activity organizations and vendors. There will be music and food. The Festival runs from 10 am – 3 pm at the corner of Stonehenge Drive and Peavine Road in Fairfield Glade.

Oct 7 - Lost Cove East, West and North - Sewanee, TN. SHORT HIKE: Lost Cove East - Sherwood Forest Loop 2 mile moderate trail and a Natural Bridge. Lost Cove North - A short walk to another Natural Bridge, a 27 foot natural sandstone bridge. Lost Cove West - Buggy Top Cave - This is a moderate to difficult 4 mile in/out hike to Buggy Top cave. The cave has an impressive mouth carved out of a 50 foot cliff. Don't forget tick/bug spray and sunscreen. Depart 7:30 am CT from Trinity Tabernacle parking lot off Hwy 127S, one mile South of downtown Crossville. Gas cost \$1.

Oct 9-11 - Fall Getaway, Linville Gorge, NC. Depart from Dorton United Methodist Church (next door to Certified Cylinder) on Hwy 70 East at 7:30 am CT. Gas cost is \$20 per person.

Oct 14 - Window Cliffs State Natural Area, Baxter, TN. Window Cliffs is a TN Natural Area located near Burgess Falls. Water shoes are highly recommended. **Short Hike:** 4 mile in/out moderate hike with all the Creek crossings turning back before the climb to the cliffs. **Long Hike:** The trail is in/out for a total of 5.4 moderate to strenuous miles. The trail features 9 stream crossings each way, a few small cascades, a couple of steep slopes and a 20-ft waterfall along Cane Creek. Depart 7:30 am CT from Tractor Supply on West Ave. Carpool cost is \$3. Pack water, snacks and lunch. Don't forget tick/bug spray and sunscreen.

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Plateau Chapter – con't.

Oct 21 - Big South Fork, Jamestown, TN - John Muir/Sheltowee Trace Trail to Angel Falls Overlook. Fall colors should be in full swing. Hike starts from Leatherwood Ford parking lot. **Short Hike:** 4 easy to moderate miles in/out along the Big South Cumberland River. **Long Hike:** 7 easy to moderate miles in/out along the river then climbing to Angel Falls Overlook passing rock formations along the way. Depart 7:30 am CT from Cracker Barrel's rear lot in Crossville. Bring lunch, water and snack. Don't forget tick/bug spray and sunscreen. Gas cost is \$6.

Oct 28 - Pall Mall, TN - Ranger lead Tour and Hike. Pickett State Park Ranger will meet us at the Sgt Alvin York Welcome Center at 9 am. Depart 7:30 am CT from Cracker Barrel's rear lot in Crossville. Bring lunch, water and snack. Don't forget tick/bug spray and sunscreen. Gas cost is \$6.

Looking ahead:

Nov TBD - 2 night backpack trip on the CT from from Peavine Rd to Nemo Bridge.

Jan 9, 2021 - Joint hike with Soddy Daisy Chapter. Flats Mountain Trail in Cherokee National Forest.

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: Tuesday of the week following the TTA
Board Meetings in Feb, May, Aug and 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>*

Hike information unavailable at press time.

SUMNER TRAILS CHAPTER

CHAPTER CO-CHAIRS: Marcia Powell 217-855-3013
Jenny Fitzgerald 615-517-8185
sumner@tennesseetrails.org
TREASURER: John Jones 615-533-0127
sumnertreas@tennesseetrails.org
BOARD REPRESENTATIVE: Duane Frichtl 309-830-9720
boardsumner@tennesseetrails.org

Oct 2 – Ridge Top Trail, Burgess Falls State Park. 1 mile. Moderate. Meet for carpooling or caravanning at Hendersonville First Presbyterian Church parking lot, 172 W. Main Street at 11 am. Proceed to Burgess Falls stopping for fast food lunch en route or pack a lunch. Arrive at Burgess Falls for 1:30 CT/2:30 ET hike. There are stairs and natural surfaces (roots and rocks). Sturdy shoes are recommended. The scenic ridge trail provides views of four waterfalls at various locations down the main canyon of the Falling Water River. We will have time to take plenty of pictures of these gorgeous falls. Meet at the Burgess Falls parking lot at 4000 Burgess Falls Drive, Sparta, TN. Restrooms are available at the parking lot. For more information email Marcia Powell at mpow1221@gmail.com. After the hike, those lodging at Grey Gables will proceed to Grey Gables Inn at Rugby, TN, 2487 Rugby Parkway 37733 which is in Eastern time arriving in time for check-in and Happy Hour and dinner at 7pm (6pm CT). After arriving at Grey Gables we will be on Eastern time for all our activities

Oct 3 - Those staying at Grey Gables will have Breakfast at 8 am, coffee available at 7. At 9:30 ET meet out in front of Gray Gables and carpool/caravan to **Brushy Mountain Penitentiary in Petros, TN** and take the tour of the former maximum security facility and possibly have lunch at Brushy Mountain's Warden's Table restaurant. Our next stop is **Lilly Bridge** approximately 35 minutes away in **Obed Wild and Scenic National Park**. We will stop for beautiful views at **Lilly Bridge** and then proceed to breathtaking **Lilly Bluff Overlook** which will be the trailhead for Point Trail. Point Trail is a 4.2 mile (total) round trip hike rated moderate on a foot trail with plenty of rocks and roots - elevation gain 810 feet. The trail is along the bluff which follows the river with great overlooks. If you don't want to do the entire 4.2 miles then you can turn around any time you want to. Our Rugby friend De Kirgan says that this is her favorite hike in Morgan County. Please wear sturdy shoes and bring hiking poles and water. For further info contact Owl at ballallenger@aol.com or call/text at 615-454-7673. Then head back to Grey Gables. dinner at 7 ET.

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Sumner Trails Chapter – con't.

Oct 4 - Breakfast at 8 am, check-out and meet out in front of Grey Gables at 9:30 for photo opportunity and proceed to the Rugby Visitors Center where we will gather at 10 am. **Gentlemen's Swimming Hole Trail, Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area.** This is a moderate two mile hike. Hiking boots and poles are recommended. This trail goes steeply down to the Gentlemen's Swimming Hole and then on to the Meeting of the Waters where the White Oak Creek and Clear Fork River meet. Meet at the Rugby Visitors Center at 10 am ET. We will drive the road that goes to the Laurel Dale Cemetery to the trailhead. For more information email Marcia Powell at mpow1221@gmail.com.

Oct 11 – Chapter Meeting. Meet at Rockland Park (Power Plant Road) in Hendersonville at 2 pm. Bring your lawn chair for our outdoor meeting in the shade. Come visit with us!

Oct 29 - Stones River Battlefield Boundary Trail, 3.3 miles. Easy hike that is a mix of paved and natural surface paths. The trail winds through historical features of this National Battlefield and is a mix of open sunny meadows, glades and shaded woods. If you would like to caravan to the trailhead please meet us at the Glenbrook Kroger (1010 Glenbrook Way) at 9 am. Otherwise please meet us at the Visitor Center parking lot at 10 am (3501 Old Nashville Highway, Murfreesboro). Dogs allowed on leash. Note the Visitor Center may or may not be open on this day depending on COVID closures, but trails will be open for us. We hope to see you there! Contact Jenny Fitzgerald with questions at 615-517-8185 or mrzfitz@gmail.com.

UPPER CUMBERLAND CHAPTER (Sparta / Cookeville)

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uppercumberland@tennesseetrails.org
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Please check online calendar for updates.

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Vice-President
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Treasurer
David Bowling 931-273-4202
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Secretary
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ARE LISTED WITHIN EACH CHAPTER'S HEADER

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Tennessee Trails Association
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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 ASSOCIATION, I AM . . .

- ☐ **A NEW MEMBER**
☐ **RENEWING MY MEMBERSHIP**

Oct 20

Please Mail This Form To:
Membership Director
P.O. Box 41446
Nashville, TN 37204-1446

Memberships are for one year, unless you have a Lifetime Membership.
Gift Memberships are also available. Contact our Membership Director,
Cheryl Heckler 931-200-7436 membership@tennesseetrails.org

PLEASE, PRINT CLEARLY.

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For privacy, please do not list the following in the TTA Annual Membership Directory

- ☐ E-mail addresses
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☐ Telephone numbers

☐ I would like to receive my newsletter by mail.

Please list me with the following chapter:

___ Clarksville
___ Columbia/Franklin
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___ Memphis
___ Murfreesboro
___ Nashville
___ Plateau (Crossville)
___ Soddy Daisy
___ Sumner Trails (Sumner County)
___ Upper Cumberland (Sparta/Cookeville)
___ At Large

When you become a TTA member, you will receive: (1) TTA's Annual Membership Directory and Hiking Handbook, listing members by chapter and how to reach them and including a reference book containing information about TTA, trail etiquette, hiker responsibilities, etc. (2) TTA's monthly newsletter, containing information on hiker safety, upcoming hikes/overnight trips, volunteer opportunities, chapter meeting announcements. You are invited to attend any number of monthly meetings scheduled, where you will enjoy diverse programs, socializing and refreshments. In addition, our annual meeting is held in the fall at one of Tennessee's many parks for a weekend of hiking, camaraderie and programs, in addition to learning about the progress and plans of the organization.

As a member of TTA, you are welcome to attend any/all TTA hikes or functions.
Not a member yet? Please check out one of our hikes or meetings soon!