

TENNESSEE TRAILS



THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE TENNESSEE TRAILS ASSOCIATION

*We are hikers and advocates that have helped to build, maintain,
and promote the responsible use of Tennessee trails since 1968.*

SUPPORTING THE CUMBERLAND TRAIL

HENRY HORTON STATE PARK EVAN MEANS GRANT

TTA awarded the Friends of Henry Horton State Park an Evan Means Grant for \$1,216 on May 2, 2020. The Grant was for materials to build four foot bridges with hand rails and two staircases on the park's new Spring Creek Trail. On April 18, 2021 TTA members Joan Hartvigsen, Sara Pollard and Patty Deen hiked the Spring Creek Trail with the Friends of Henry Horton State Park. Park Ranger Shaun Rainone and Park Manager Ryan Jenkins joined us for photos.



Pictured from the top to bottom: Ranger Shaun Rainone, Sara Pollard, TTA, Patty Deen, TTA, Stacey Cothran, President Friends of Henry Horton, Chuck Holland, Friend, Joan Hartvigsen, TTA, Cheryl Sherry, Friend, Park Manager, Ryan Jenkins.



Pictured from the left, Patty Deen, TTA Highland Rim Chapter Chair. Joan Hartvigsen, TTA, Stacey Cothran, President of Friends of Henry Horton, Sara Pollard, TTA, Ranger Shaun Rainone, Park Manager Ryan Jenkins, Chuck Holland, Friends of Henry Horton State Park.

Evan Means Grants Approved

The Tennessee Trails Association Board of Directors awarded five Evan Means Grants at the May 2021 meeting. The recipients are:

- **Plateau Chapter**, to build an ADA Trail at Uplands Village Retirement Community, Crossville, TN.
- **Friends of Mousetail Landing State Park**, to restore the 8 mile Eagle Point Loop Trail devastated by a October 2019 storm.
- **Friends of Natchez Trace State Park**, to purchase a heavy duty tilting bucket designed for trail building. The Park has 40 miles of trails.
- **Sergeant York Patriotic Foundation** to build a three mile trail at Sgt. Alvin C. York State Historic Park.
- **Friends of Long Hunter State Park**, to restore and improve the Bryant Grove Trail.

CALL FOR AWARD NOMINATIONS

The TTA Awards Committee is calling for nominations for awards to be presented at the Annual Meeting at Montgomery Bell State Park in October of 2021. Please forward your nominee's name, the award for which you are nominating the individual or organization, and a brief description listing accomplishments, to Duane Frichtl, the committee chair by July 1st. His email address is vicepresident@tennesseetrails.org. Following are the descriptions of each award.

The Tennessee Trails Award recognizes the accomplishments and contributions of individuals and organizations to the furtherance of TTA's objectives. This award is not necessarily presented each year and may recognize either individual members, nonmembers, or organizations.

The Bill Stutz Award honors the memory of Bill Stutz, a much beloved hiker who played an active role in the early days of TTA. The award is to be presented to an active hiker and TTA member for his or her individual contribution to the Association or to one of its chapters.

The Bob Brown Lifetime Achievement Award honors the extraordinary lifetime leadership and personal contributions of Bob Brown to hiking and conservation in the State of Tennessee. TTA may present this award from time to time to others for similar lifetime leadership and contributions.

The Mack Prichard Environmental Award is a tribute to Mack Prichard, one of the founders of the Tennessee Trails Association and the Tennessee State Naturalist, Emeritus. It is presented from time to time to an individual for their outstanding leadership, contributions, and achievements in sharing their knowledge about environmental and conservation issues, specifically relating to trails and hiking in Tennessee.

GO GREEN

Electronic Newsletter Available

This is reminder that you can receive your monthly newsletter via email. If interested please contact Cheryl Heckler at membership@tennesseetrails.org and please include your email address.

2021 TTA Annual Conference

Save the Date
October 22-24, 2021

The Nashville and Sumner Trails Chapters will host the TTA Annual Conference at Montgomery Bell State Park in Burns TN, about an hour west of Nashville. (Please note: With the fluid Covid-19 situation, the situation looks more hopeful for conducting the Annual Meeting this year, but it is not guaranteed. Please check the TTA Newsletter and on the TTA website for updated information.)

Attendees will have the option of newly renovated rooms at the Park's Inn or the campground inside the State Park. There is also commercial lodging in Dickson and other nearby towns. Registration information for INN ROOMS: Phone the Inn & Conference Center directly to make your reservation (615-797-3101 or 800-250-8613). Provide our GROUP CODE 9880 to receive special discount pricing on the Inn Rooms. Rooms will be released for general reservation on 9/7/21, so don't wait until the last minute! (Discounts for Seniors, Veterans, and Tennessee State Employees are available only when booking separately from our group rate.). For the CAMPGROUND, contact the Park Office at 615-797-9052 or <https://tnstateparks.com/parks/campground/montgomery-bell>.

In addition to Montgomery Bell, our hikes will include other nearby State and Municipal Parks and urban hikes in Nashville. Members of the Nashville and Sumner Trails Chapters are looking forward to hosting hikers from across Tennessee! Note: There will be a direct internet link to access our TTA Group reservations in the Annual Meeting area of the TTA website.

Joining TTA as a New Member? Membership Up For Renewal? Your Generosity Benefits All!

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

Supporting Member donations support the Evan Means Small Grants Fund. Your tax-deductible Supporting Member donations will now directly benefit trail projects throughout the state of Tennessee. We thank you all for your support of TTA at any membership level, but we hope you will enrich Tennessee's trail system by joining or renewing as a Supporting Member.

ROCKY FORK STATE PARK EVAN MEANS GRANT

Tennessee Trails Association awarded an Evan Means Grant to Friends of Rocky Fork State Park for \$859.44 on February 2, 2021. The Grant is for equipment such as a battery powered chain saw and weed eater for the trail committee and other members to maintain trails in the Park. Rocky Fork State Park opened in May 2015.



Left to right: John Beaudet, member; Carl Ramsey, Board member; Tim Pharis, Park Manager; Dennis Bokemeier, Board Members Marie Rice, James Bowman, Chuck Holyfield, Nathan Wilson and Ricky Waldrop

JOHNSONVILLE STATE HISTORIC PARK EVAN MEANS GRANT

Tennessee Trails Association awarded a \$750 Evan Means Grant to the Friends of Johnsonville State Historic Park February 2, 2021. The Grant is for 6,000 copies of updated hiking trail maps.



From Left to Right: Park Ranger Noah Sinz, Susan Woods, TTA Jackson Chapter, Friends of JSHP President Steve Bartlett, Reed Dreaden.



**Cumberland
Trails
Conference**

Office Location: 409 Thurman Avenue, Ste 102
Crossville, TN 38555
Office Hours: Monday - Thursday
8 AM – 3 PM CT
Phone: 931-456-6259
Office Staff: Sade Williams
Email: cumberlandtrailsconference@gmail.com
Website: www.cumberlandtrail.org

From the Chairman:

CTC continues to fulfill its mission to help complete the Cumberland Trail. We now have a highly skilled paid trail crew staff and have recently expanded that staff in anticipation of winning bids to build portions of trail along Piney River and between Ozone Falls and Daddy's Creek. While we wait for the State to issue the RFP to build those sections, the newly hired crew members are being trained as they build trail in Head of Sequatchie (HOS). This will ultimately complete a loop from Hinch Mtn through Head of Sequatchie and back up toward Brady Mountain. Once completed, there will be finished trail from Piney River above Spring City all the way across Brady and Black Mountains to Ozone Falls.

The CTC Board of Directors took a significant step at our last board meeting by approving a three-year plan for CTC. At the January 2022 annual meeting, the board will debate an extension to that plan taking it to a 5 year plan. The plan provides a framework for the CTC's endeavors as we move toward completing the Cumberland Trail and take up maintenance and other tasks. The plan provides for hiring an executive director who will report to the Board of Directors. The board also approved retaining Brie Stewart as the CTC General Counsel pro bono.

On April 30, CTC board members joined with board members from TTA, The Friends of the Cumberland Trail and other organizations and interested people for a day of celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the signing of the Tennessee State Scenic Trails Act which made possible the Cumberland Trail as a State Scenic Trail. It was a wonderful occasion bringing all the interested groups who have worked together to make the trail possible.

Trail Crew News:

The CTC Trail crew has now built 3500 feet of new trail at Head of the Sequatchie over the past 7 weeks. During this time, six new employees were hired and trained to build trail.



CLARKSVILLE CHAPTER

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

VICE-CHAIR & BOARD REPRESENTATIVE:
Ryan Dowdy 615-925-1796
clarksville@tennesseetrails.org

TREASURER: Mary Schwab 931-801-7172
clarksvilletreas@tennesseetrails.org

SECRETARY: Mary Ann Harris 931-647-9321
clarksvilleasecy@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,
Wade Bourne Nature Center, 2308 Rotary Park Dr.,
Clarksville, TN 37043.

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

Jun 5 - National Trails Day. We will do our assigned trail maintenance on LBL, NS trail from the South Checking Station to Tharp Road; this will be one of our N/S Trail sections. We will need garbage bags, small saws and pruning shears. 8 miles. Moderate. Requires car shuttle. Meet 8:00 am CT, at Kroger parking area. Dover Crossing Road, Clarksville. Philip Anderson 931-561-0925. 35 miles to trailhead.

Jun 12 - South Cumberland State Park, Collins Gulf and Stagecoach Road Historic Trails. 13.7 miles. Difficult. Collins Gulf is one of three rocky gorges in the Savage Gulf State Natural Area sector of South Cumberland State Park. It features some of the most spectacular, wild scenery on the Cumberland Plateau in Tennessee. Meet 6:30 am CT, at new I 24 Exit 11 commuter parking lot. Contact Paul Schwab 931-801-9484. 142 miles to trailhead.

Jun 15 - Monthly Chapter Meeting. Meet 6:00 pm CT, at Wade Bourne Nature Center, 2308 Rotary Park Dr, Clarksville. Because of the pandemic we will not share food or drink. Please bring food and drink for yourself only. Contact Philip Anderson 931-561-0925.

Jun 19 - Eggners Ferry Bridge/Western Half of the LBL Scenic Central Hardwoods Trail. 6 miles. Moderate. Requires car shuttle. We will walk on the pedestrian walkway across the 3495 feet long Eggners Ferry Bridge to the Scenic Central Hardwoods Trail. The Eggners Ferry Bridge carries US 68 and KY Route 80 across Kentucky Lake. It opened in 2016 after the original bridge was hit by a barge in 2012 and collapsed. We will continue on the Scenic Hardwood Trail to the Golden Pond Visitors Center. There are restrooms and a museum at the Visitors Center. The Scenic Hardwood Trail is a well-engineered trail through upland hardwoods. The surface is finely crusted limestone. Meet 8:00 am CT, at Kroger parking area, Dover Crossing Road, Clarksville. Contact Paul Schwab 931-801-9484. 58 miles to trailhead.

Clarksville Chapter – con'

Jun 26 - Annual Picnic Dunbar Cave State Park. 2.5 mile moderate hike followed by a picnic. Because of the pandemic we will not share food or drink. Please bring food and drink for yourself only. Meet at the dance floor; 4:00 pm CT until dusk. Bring a folding chair. Contact Suva Bastin 931-645-2849.

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

Jun 5 - Ijams Nature Center. Join us on this 5 mile hike through a beautiful nature area in our own downtown Knoxville. We'll start at the Serendipity Trail and touch on at least 4 other trails. We'll meet at the Ijams Visitors Center at 10:00 am ET and drive a short distance to the trailhead. Preregister with Rosie at *rosemary_I@hotmail.com* or 865-985-9144.

Jun 12 - Middle Prong Trail to Indian Flat Fall, GSMNP. This hike is 7.4 miles in and out with approximately 1,000 feet elevation gain. You'll see a gorgeous waterfall, cascades and history galore. This trail was a former railroad bed for a lumber camp. It still has the remains of a rusting Cadillac at mile 2.0. At 3.7 miles we'll see the Indian Flat falls. We'll meet at 9:00 am ET in Maryville at the Browns Creek Shopping Center in the parking area close to Sonic. We'll tailgate to the trailhead. Preregister with Rosie at *rosemary_I@hotmail.com* or 865-985-9144.

Jun 19 - I C King Park, Knoxville. Join us on this moderate hike located adjacent to the historic south Knoxville area. We'll meet at 9:00 am ET at the trailhead at 2625 Maryville Pike. This is a loop trail, mileage is 5.6 with elevation gain of 632 feet. This trail features a river and is good for all skill levels. Preregister with Rosie at *rosemary_I@hotmail.com* or 865-985-9144.

HIGHLAND RIM CHAPTER

(Coffee and Franklin Counties)

CHAPTER CHAIR: Patricia Deen 760-703-8115
highlandrim@tennesseetrails.org
TREASURER/MEMBERSHIP: Marietta Poteet 931-924-7666
highlandrimtreas@tennesseetrails.org
OUTINGS & PROGRAM COORDINATOR & NEWSLETTER
CONTACT: Tom Hartvigsen 931-962-0811
(contact Tom & volunteer to lead an outing)
MEETS MONTHLY: 4th Monday

Jun 4 - Walls of Jericho, Belvidere, TN. 7.5 miles out and back trail. Difficult. Joint hike with the Nashville Chapter. The Walls of Jericho is a 750-acre natural area that is within the 8,943-acre Bear Hollow Mountain Wildlife Management Area (WMA), which is contiguous to the Skyline WMA in Alabama. The natural area is approximately twelve miles south of Winchester in southern Franklin County. The southern boundary of the natural area follows the Alabama Tennessee state line where the actual "Walls of Jericho" is located. The "Walls" is an impressive geological feature that forms a large bowl-shaped amphitheater. Embedded in the limestone are bowling ball size holes from which water drips and spouts, creating a unique water feature. This amphitheater gives rise to steep 200-foot sheer rock walls that create the natural feature defining the amphitheater. This is a difficult hike with water crossings, rock hopping and a strenuous climb out of the canyon upon return to the trailhead. We will meet at the trailhead on the TN side of the natural area. Bring water, snacks, lunch, water shoes, trekking poles, insect repellent and dress appropriately for the weather. You must call, text or email Nancy Juodenas or Marietta Poteet to register and for meeting time, carpooling and other information. Nancy Juodenas: 615-319-8811, *njlj1011@gmail.com* or Marietta Poteet: 615-476-8087, *nannietta@blomand.net*. From Nashville take I-24 east toward Chattanooga. Take exit 127 on Highway 64 and turn toward Winchester. Stay on Highway 64 for about 15 miles and turn south on Hwy 16 and go 16 miles to the trailhead on the Tennessee side.

Jun 5 -Oaks Barren of AEDC and May Prairie State Natural Area Field Trip. Manchester, TN. Easy. Dennis Horn will be our expert guide for this special trip. Dennis is a charter member of the Tennessee Native Plant Society and an editor of the field guide "Wildflowers of Tennessee, the Ohio Valley and the Southern Appalachians". Meet at 10 am CT at Wendy's Restaurant, 82 Expressway Drive, Manchester, TN. Bring water, snacks, lunch, insect repellent and sunscreen. You will need hiking boots and long pants. Please register with Joan Hartvigsen, *jhartvigs@comcast.net* or 931-636-2914. We will first visit AEDC to see native orchids. After our outdoor picnic lunch we will visit May Prairie State Natural Area. We should see Mock Bishop's Weed, Coppery Saint Johnswort, Marsh Pea, Swamp Candles and more.

Highland Rim Chapter – con't.

Jun 7-10 – Camping in Mile High Campground and hiking in Great Smoky Mountains National Park and trails off Blue Ridge Parkway. Maggie Valley, NC. Possible hikes include Hemphill Bald, Caldwell Fork, Rough Fork Trails Loop in the Smokies and Black Balsam Knob Trail, Art Loeb Loop and other hikes in Shining Rock Wilderness. More details later. Contact Joan Hartvigsen, email *jhartvigs@comcast.net* or 931-636-2914 to save a spot in the reserved campsite.

Jun 19 – Ray Branch Shoreline Trail, Tims Ford State Park, Winchester, TN. 8 miles. Moderate. We will meet at 9 am CT/10 am ET at Tims Ford State Park Visitor Center. We will then caravan to the trailhead at Marble Plains Church to begin our hike. We will enjoy many scenic views of the lake as we hike in a mature forest of Beech, Oak and Hickory trees. The hike's highlight is reaching the tip of Ray Branch Peninsula where expansive lake views and our lunch spot await us. After lunch we can swim in the lake to cool off! Bring water, lunch, hiking sticks and wear sturdy hiking boots. This hike is one of the Fran Wallas' Great Hikes in Tennessee State Parks. Please register with Joan Hartvigsen, *jhartvigs@comcast.net* or 931-636-2914.

Jun 25-27 - Mousetail Landing State Park, Linden, TN and Lady's Bluff TVA Small Wild Area. Camping at Spring Creek Campground. Kayaking in Kentucky Lake (aka Tennessee River). Joint activity with the Murfreesboro Chapter. Hikes include: Eagle Point Trail, 8 mile loop, a Fran Wallas hike; and Lady's Bluff Trail, 2.6 miles round trip. Both trails have beautiful overlooks of Kentucky Lake. Contact Joan Hartvigsen early to secure room in a campsite, *jhartvigs@comcast.net*.

Jun 28 – Chumbley Woods Trail, Old Stone Fort State Archaeological Park, Manchester, TN. 1.65 miles. Easy. Meet at the trailhead on Power Bridge Road at 3:30 pm CT. Directions to the trailhead from Tullahoma. Take Hwy 55 about 7.4 miles toward Manchester, TN. Turn left onto Belmont Road. Travel 1.3 miles on Belmont Road. Turn right on Cat Creek Road. Travel 2.9 miles on Cat Creek Road. Turn left onto Powers Bridge Road. Travel on Powers Bridge Road and then turn right into trailhead parking lot. Please register with Joan Hartvigsen, *jhartvigs@comcast.net* or 931-636-2914. Chumbley Woods Trail is the park's newest trail. The trail passes through mature hardwood forests to walk along the Little Duck River. Across the Little Duck River we can see the Backbone Trail in the main section of Old Stone Fort State Park. Our Highland Rim Chapter meeting will follow the hike at 6pm at Old Stone Fort State Park Picnic Area, so come prepared to stay to hear our special guest speaker. See the Chapter Meeting listing for details.

Con't on next page

Highland Rim Chapter – con't.

Jun 28 – Chapter Meeting. Old Stone Fort State Park Picnic Pavilion, Manchester, TN. Meet at the picnic pavilion at 6 pm for our “bring your own” picnic dinner and meeting. Bring a folding chair to help with social distancing. Our guest speaker is Dr. Frank Hale who will present a program on “Summertime Insects”. Dr. Frank Hale is a Professor of Horticultural Crops Entomology with the Institute of Agriculture at University of Tennessee. He will talk to us about insects we may encounter out on the trail. He also has an impressive collection of insects, a portion of which he will bring to share. Contact Highland Rim Chapter Chair Patty Deen for more information, pdeen@palomar.edu or 760-703-8115. Dinner and meeting at 6 pm. Program at 6:30 pm. A Chumbley Woods Trail hike precedes the meeting. Meet at trailhead at 3:30 pm. See Chumbley Woods Trail listing for details.

Planning Ahead:

Jul 8-11 – Big Hill Pond State Park, Pocahontas, TN. Joint outing with the Nashville Chapter. We have reserved a lovely, shaded Group Campsite, arriving Thursday July 8 for three nights. We are paddling the Ghost River in LaGrange, TN Friday morning, July 9. See separate listing for information on registering for the Ghost River Paddle. On Saturday we will hike the loop around Travis McNatt Lake with side trips to the 70 ft. Observation Tower and the Cypress Dismal Swamp Boardwalk. This is one of the Fran Wallas hikes. Sunday morning we can paddle Travis McNatt Lake inside the Park. Please register early with Joan Hartvigsen for a spot in the Group Campsite, jhartvigs@comcast.net or 931-636-2914.

Jul 9 – Ghost River Paddle. LaGrange. TN. Strenuous for length. 9 miles, 6-8 hours. Joint outing with the Nashville Chapter. The Ghost River meanders through bottomland hardwood forests, cypress-tupelo swamps and open marshes. This will be a professionally guided paddle. Kayak rentals are \$40 plus tax each and shuttle service if you bring your own kayak is \$10 each. We'll divide the cost of the guide which is likely to be about \$25 per paddler or less depending on the size of the group. We'll need to be at the launch site by 10 AM so many of us will stay locally Thursday night. Group reservations must be made in advance and are non-refundable but transferable. Please register with Mark Hubbard by July 1: midtn@tnhiker.net or 615-669-3221. To save a spot in the reserved Group campsite at Big Hill Pond State Park contact Joan Hartvigsen: jhartvigs@comcast.net or 931-636-2914. *Alternate date for inclement weather: Friday, July 16.*

JACKSON CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Melinda Pearson 731-225-4293
jackson@tennesseetrails.org
SECRETARY/TREASURER: Terry Warren 731-535-0625
jacksontreas@tennesseetrails.org
HIKE COORDINATOR: Glen Rognstad 731-217-5966
jacksonhikes@tennesseetrails.org
FACEBOOK COORDINATOR Priscilla Campbell 731-217-2552
jacksonfacebk@tennesseetrails.org
MEETS MONTHLY: 1st Monday at 6:00 pm CT

There will not be a chapter meeting in June or July. We will meet again in first Monday in August to plan fall hikes.

MEMPHIS CHAPTER

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

See you in September!

LEAVE NO TRACE PRINCIPLES

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



MURFREESBORO CHAPTER

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

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

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

MEETS MONTHLY: 2nd Tuesday at 7:00 pm CT, Barfield-
Crescent Park's Wilderness Station, 401 Volunteer Road,
Murfreesboro

BLOG: www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/murfreesboro

Jun 5 – National Trails Day. Barfield Crescent Park. 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 Sara Pollard at 615-714-3610 or *sarabpollard@gmail.com*.

Jun 8 – Chapter Picnic. Barfield Crescent Park Picnic Shelter #5. 6:00 pm CT. NOTE THE TIME CHANGE. We will celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the Murfreesboro chapter. The Tennessee Trails Association was formed in 1968 but it was not until 1981 that the Murfreesboro chapter was chartered. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this will be a “bring your own meal” including drinks, personal utensils and napkins. We will have a 40th Anniversary cake to celebrate. Former chapter members and officers are invited back to attend this commemoration and participate in a group photo. For more information or to sign up, contact Jeanne Conatser at 615-971-8894 or *djconatser@comcast.net*.

Jun 12 - “Pick a Park” series. Burgess Falls and Rock Island State Parks. We will hike the 1.5 mile loop River Trail at Burgess Falls rated easy, going past four waterfalls on the Falling Water River. The waterfalls are 20’ cascades, 30’ upper falls, 80’ middle falls and 136’ lower falls in height. The hike at Rock Island State Park is the Collins River trail which is a 3.0 mile loop rated moderate along the outer edge of the Collins River peninsula. The trail winds beside the riverbank and a chance to view white-tailed deer, Christmas ferns and a wide variety of wildflowers. This hike is on the list of the Fran Wallas 36 Great Hikes in Tennessee. The “I hiked'em all” recognition information can be found at <https://tennesseetrails.org/about/awards/>. Bring lunch, snacks, and plenty of water. Please register in case hike is cancelled due to weather. For more information or to sign up, contact Jeanne Conatser at 615-971-8894 or *djconatser@comcast.net*.

Murfreesboro Chapter – con't.

Jun 19 - Stones River Kayak Float. Thompson Lane to Nice Mill Dam. Murfreesboro. Approximately 7 miles. We will meet at the Thompson Lane boat ramp at 9:00 am CT to arrange a short shuttle to Nice Mill. A shuttle is necessary for the float, masks are optional depending on your individual preference. Bring plenty of water, lunch, snacks and sunscreen. This will be a leisurely summer float, no need to rush. For information or to register contact Tony Jones at 615-397-4463 or *tonjon1968@gmail.com*.

Jun 25-27 - Mousetail Landing State Park Camping, Hiking and Kayaking. Linden, TN. Joint event with the Highland Rim chapter. Camping at Spring Creek Campground and kayaking on Kentucky Lake, also known as the Tennessee River. Hikes include the 8 mile Eagle Point Loop trail and the 2.6 mile round trip Lady's Bluff trail in the TVA Small Wild Area. The Eagle Point hike is on the list of the Fran Wallas 36 Great Hikes in Tennessee. The “I hiked'em all” recognition information can be found at <https://tennesseetrails.org/about/awards/>. Both trails have beautiful overlooks of Kentucky Lake. For more information or to sign up, contact Sara Pollard at 615-714-3610 or *sarabpollard@gmail.com*.

Don't Miss an Outing Plan Ahead Register Early!

Our hike coordinators are volunteers. Make it easier for them to contact you if a hike needs to be cancelled by registering!

There are times when a hike leader must limit the number of participants (due to park regulations, etc.) on an outing. Please do not wait until the afternoon or evening before the outing to RSVP.

Plan ahead and register early.

NASHVILLE CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Doug Burroughs 615-587-0085
nashville@tennesseetrails.org
HIKE COORDINATOR: Barbara Bennett 202-236-0880
nashvillehikes@tennesseetrails.org
(email Barbara & volunteer to lead an outing)
MEETS MONTHLY: Meetings suspended temporarily pending
COVID 19 restrictions

Jun 4 – Walls of Jericho, Belvidere, TN. Difficult. 7.5 miles out and back. Joint hike with Highland Rim. The Walls of Jericho is a 750-acre natural area that is within the 8,943-acre Bear Hollow Mountain Wildlife Management Area (WMA), which is contiguous to the Skyline WMA in Alabama. The natural area is approximately twelve miles south of Winchester in southern Franklin County. The southern boundary of the natural area follows the Alabama-Tennessee state line where the actual “Walls of Jericho” is located. The “Walls” is an impressive geological feature that forms a large bowl-shaped amphitheater. Embedded in the limestone are bowling ball size holes from which water drips and spouts, creating a unique water feature. This amphitheater gives rise to steep 200-foot sheer rock walls that create the natural feature defining the amphitheater. This is a difficult hike with water crossings, rock hopping and a strenuous climb out of the canyon upon return to the trailhead. We will meet at the trailhead on the TN side of the natural area on the morning. Bring water, snacks, lunch, water shoes, trekking poles insect repellent and dress appropriate for the weather. You must call, text or email Nancy Juodenas or Marietta Poteet to register and for meeting time, carpooling and other information. From Nashville take I-24 east toward Chattanooga. Take exit 127 on Highway 64 and turn toward Winchester. Stay on Highway 64 for about 15 miles and turn south on Hwy 16 and go 16 miles to the trailhead on the Tennessee side. Nancy Juodenas: 615-319-8811, *njlj1011@gmail.com*; Marietta Poteet: 615-476-8087, *nannietta@blomand.net*.

Jun 11 – Volunteer & Day Loop Trails, Long Hunter State Park, Hermitage, TN. Strenuous for length. Up to 12.5 miles. This relatively level trail winds along the shores of Percy Priest Lake. Since this is essentially an out-and-back route, those who want a shorter hike may turn back as they choose. To beat the heat, we'll meet at the trailhead at 7:00 AM for a 7:15 step-off. Those who hike the full trail should complete it by early to mid-afternoon. Bring snacks, plenty of water, and pack a lunch for the trail. Don't forget insect and sun protection. Please register with Mark for updates: *midtn@tnhiker.net* or 615-669-3221. Alternate date for inclement weather: June 18.

Jun 12 -- Stones River Greenway, Nashville, TN. Easy. 2-3 miles. Meet at 9:30 am in the parking lot behind Clover Bottom Mansion, off Lebanon Pike. Contact Tom Vickstrom, hike leader: 615-405-6713 or *tomzinger55@gmail.com*.

Nashville Chapter – con't.

Jun 13 – Burch Reserve at Edwin Warner Park, Nashville, TN, 6:30 pm. Moderate. 3 miles. This Sunday Weekend Ender 3 mile hike has a bit of everything: paved, unpaved single track, hills, meadows, a pond and provides a refreshing way to end the weekend as we enjoy nature in the slant light. RSVP to Niola Cusati: *niolac@gmail.com* or text 408-455-2472.

Jun 24 -- Rock Creek Loop plus possible side loop on the Pickett State Park Tunnel Trail, Big South Fork National Recreation Area, Jamestown, TN. Moderately difficult. 7.1 miles with option to add 3 miles. As the name indicates, Rock Creek Loop follows Rock Creek for part of its distance, and it overlaps parts of the John Muir and Sheltowee Trace hiking trails, as well as part of the old Stearns Logging Railroad along Massey Branch. The Tunnel Trail option, which will add about 3 more miles, will be toward the end of the hike and will need to be scouted first. The trailhead is located at the Hattie Blevins Cemetery off of Divide Road (which branches off from Route 154/Pickett Park Highway), a 3 hour drive from Nashville. Google Maps: “Blevins Cemetery, Jamestown TN 38556”. Bring water, snacks/lunch, boots with ankle support, and clothing appropriate for the weather that day. Water shoes will also be needed for several stream crossings on the Tunnel Trail portion of the hike. Contact Doug Burroughs at 615-587-0085 for more information and to register.

Carpool Etiquette

Gasoline prices have continued to roller coaster up and down. Please be considerate and take your turn as a carpool driver. If you are a rider, always contribute to the cost of gasoline (i.e. bring small bills, it'll save time and prevent the inconvenience of having to stop to locate change).

Your driver is not a chauffeur. Assist him or her by reading the map and/or directions to the trailhead. Help your driver remain alert on the drive home by staying awake and conversing.

All passengers must wear seat belts to minimize the risk of injury in case of an accident!!! The drive to and from a trailhead is generally the most dangerous part of any hiking trip.

PLATEAU CHAPTER (Crossville)

CHAPTER CHAIR: Norm Brinsley 931-202-2338
plateau@tennesseetrails.org
TREASURER: Clark Zedric 217-520-9889
BOARD REPRESENTATIVE: Bob Obohoski 931-456-4282
boardplateau@tennesseetrails.org

MEETS MONTHLY: 2nd Thursday at 6:00 pm CT

Come take a GUIDED hike with us. We offer a short 5 miles or less and a long 8+/- mile hike every Wednesday and two Saturdays a month. For additional information or to register, contact the hike coordinator email *plateauhikes@tennesseetrails.org* unless otherwise noted. For up-to-date information on our hikes visit <https://tennesseetrails.org/chapters/plateau-chapter/>

Jun 2 - Big South Fork, Jamestown, TN, John Muir/Sheltowee Trace, River Trail West, No Business Trails. Long Hike: 7 mile moderate/strenuous loop miles.

Easy 1.1 mile to start to Maude's Crack where you will descend through a crack in the rocks with help of a rope. Bring water shoes in case No Business Creek is high. **Short Hike:** 2.2mi in/out easy miles to Maude's Crack Overlook plus tour the Terry Cemetery. Depart from the Crossville Cracker Barrel rear parking lot 7:30 am CT. Gas cost \$6.

Jun 5 - National Trails Day, Crossville, TN, Soldiers Beach Trail and Picnic. The Plateau Chapter will join Friends of the Trails at Meadow Park Lake for food, games and fellowship. Meadow Park Lake is located off Lantana Rd, West of Crossville. A 10 am guided hike of Soldier Beach Trail will begin from the Trailhead parking lot just before you enter the gate for Meadow Park Lake. Picnic food and drink are provided by Friends of the Trails.

Jun 9 - Big South Fork, Jamestown, TN. Twin Arches Loop Trail. Short hike: 4.6 mile moderate to strenuous (stairs) loop to the Arches and back. **Long hike:** This is a 6 mile moderately strenuous loop hike due to the flights of stairs and the continual climb from Charit Creek. The Twin Arches are the largest arches in Big South Fork and quite possibly in the Eastern United States. The South Arch is the highest at 100 feet. We will descend to Charit Creek Lodge to eat lunch on the porch. Then we follow Charit Creek to Jake's Place, the remains of a mid-1800's house and farm. After Jake's we'll pass through several huge rock houses along the base of the cliffs as we wind our way back to the cars. Depart from the Crossville Cracker Barrel rear parking lot 7:30 am CT. Gas cost \$6.

Jun 11-13 - Spring Getaway, Johnson City, TN. Roan Mountain & Warrior's Path State Parks. Hiking each day to see the rhododendrons in bloom. There will also be a farmstead history tour. Depart 7:30 am from Dorton United Methodist Church, 3405 HWY 70 East. You may carpool or drive yourselves. Contact the trip coordinator, Cheryl Heckler 931-200-7436, email: *thehecklers@charter.net*.

Jun 16 - Smoky Mountain National Park, Gatlinburg, TN. Andrew Bald and Clingmans Dome Trails. Long Hike: We'll hike from the Clingmans Dome Parking Area down Forney Ridge Trail 1.5 mi to Andrews Bald for the views and azaleas in bloom. Retrace our steps to the Clingmans Dome Bypass Trail which will lead us to the AT and over to Clingmans Dome Observation Tower for a total of 4.5 strenuous miles with an elevation change of 2400'.

Plateau Chapter – con't.

Jun 16 hike con't: Short Hike: Choose either trail option. Pack water, snacks and lunch. Carpool cost is \$10. Depart 7:00 am CT from the Crossville Dorton United Methodist Church, 3405 HWY 70 East (one mile East of Peavine Rd & next door to Certified Cylinder). Gas cost is \$10. Pack water, snacks and lunch. We'll stop for dinner on the way home.

Jun 19 - Sparta History Tour plus Calfkiller Brewery Tour, Sparta, TN. Depart 8:30 or 9 am CT (TBD) from Tractor Supply parking lot on West Ave in Crossville. Gas cost is \$5. We will stop by a coal mining area and cemetery on our way to Calfkiller Brewery. Brewery Tour (1 1/2 hrs) begins at 11 am and costs \$5 per person and you get to keep the glass. There will be a food truck on-site for lunch. Participants must contact Bill Harris email *titan55@charter.net* no later than June 17 to sign up.

Jun 23 - Frozen Head State Park, Wartburg, TN, Panther Branch. Long Hike: 6 mile strenuous loop. **Short Hike:** 4 mile moderate in/out. This hike will start at the Panther Branch trailhead, stop at Debord Falls and make a side trip to Emory Gap Falls before continuing up the picturesque Panther Branch for one of the best sections of the park to see many different varieties of wildflowers. We will then pick up Old North Mac trail to have lunch at an overlook before proceeding down to the Picnic area parking. The hike is rated moderate due to a steady climb of about 1,000 feet over 2.5 miles on Panther Branch. The one-way hike is approximately 6 miles with a one-mile car shuttle. Depart VF Outlet Mall at 7:30 am CT. Gas cost is \$5. Pack water, snacks and lunch.

Jun 26 - Cumberland Trail, Caryville, TN, Devils Racetrack Section. Long Hike: This is a 7 mile moderate/strenuous many overlooks and interesting rock formations along the trail, including the "Devil's Racetrack" plus many waterfalls. **Short Hike:** From the Bruce Gap Trailhead hike up the trail alongside the creek for a 5 mile out/back moderate hike. **Backpacking Option:** Bruce Gap to Tank Springs 12 miles with one night camping out finishing on Sunday. Contact Deb if you want to backpack. Pack your lunch and bring water and enjoy the views with us! Depart 7:30 am CT from the Crossville Dorton United Methodist Church, 3405 HWY 70 East (one mile East of Peavine Rd & next door to Certified Cylinder). Gas cost is \$8. Pack water, snacks and lunch.

Jun 30 - Big South Fork KY, Watson Branch/Kentucky/Laurel Hill Trails. We will park shuttle cars at Laurel Hill Trail and at Stepping Rock on Laurel Ridge Road (Divide Rd in TN). This will be a new trail to most of us crossing Troublesome Creek and Difficulty Creek. **Long Hike:** 8.5 moderate to strenuous loop miles. **Short Hike:** <5 moderate miles along Watson Branch Creek. Pack water, snacks and lunch. Depart from the Crossville Cracker Barrel rear parking lot 7:30 am CT. Gas cost \$7.

SODDY-DAISY CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Jane Ellett 423-309-7879
soddydaisy@tennesseetrails.org

TREASURER: Tom McElhone 805-208-4654
soddydaisytreas@tennesseetrails.org

ASSISTANT TREASURER: Bob McGavock 423-667-2690
soddydaisytreas@tennesseetrails.org

HIKE COORDINATOR: Betsy Darken 423-718-2060
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>

Jun 1 - Buggy Top Cave Trail, Monteagle Mountain. Moderate. 4 miles round-trip. This is a really cool cave with a huge mouth that an 18-wheeler (or a buggy?) could drive through. Please register with hike leader Tom McElhone, 805-208-4654 or *sarmitta@yahoo.com*. Meet at LaQuinta Inn, off I-24 at Exit 175, at 8:30 am.

Jun 5 - Big Creek starting at Greeter Falls. South Cumberland State Park. 9.9 miles. Strenuous due to descent into and ascent out of Big Creek. We'll make a loop using Greeter Trail, Big Creek Gulf Trail, connector trail, and Big Creek Rim trail. Views, cliffs, creeks, waterfalls! Please register with hike leader Betsy Darken, 423-718-2060. Meet at Durham St, Soddy Daisy, at 8:30 am.

Jun 8 - Conasauga River, a two-part hike with a total of about 4 miles. Easy. First we take a trail to the Conasauga River in the Chattahoochee National Forest (GA), which is about 2 miles in and out through a beautiful old growth forest. Then we drive about 8 miles north on a very good Forest Service road into the Cherokee National Forest (TN), where we take a trail that is also about 2 miles in and out and runs beside the Conasauga River the whole way. This is an easy, flat, wide path. The Conasauga River is truly a beautiful river with access to beaches, as well as waterfalls and cascades. Perfect for summertime. Please register with hike leader Trish Appleton, 423-240-3443 or *appleton-p2@comcast.net*. Meet at the Georgia Visitor Information Center on I-75, south of Exit 153, at 8:30 am.

Jun 12 — Cumberland Trail, Soak Creek to Stinging Fork Falls. Strenuous due to rocks, steps, elevation change. Meet at Durham St at 8:30 am. Please register with hike leader Tammy Hendrick, 315-949-8187. Bring all the usual stuff.

Jun 15 - Gee Creek Trail, out-and-back, 2.7 miles. Moderate. Gee Creek is a very interesting creek with rapids and waterfalls. Please register with hike leader Betsy Darken, 423-718-2060. Meet at the Ooltewah Food City, off I-75 Exit 11, at 8:30 am.

Jun 19 - Cumberland Trail, Signal Point to Edwards Point, in & out. Moderate to strenuous. 6 miles. Bridge crossings, great overlooks of the Tennessee River gorge, Lockhart Arch! Bring a snack, lunch, bug spray. Lace up your boots, put on your hat & pack & let's go. Please register with hike leader Tammy Hendrick, 315-949-8187. Meet at Food City on Signal Mountain Road at 8:30 am.

Soddy-Daisy Chapter – con't.

Jun 22 - Connector trail from Covenant College on Lookout Mountain to Lula Lake Road. About 4.5 miles. Easy. It's all downhill! Please register with hike leader Earl Helmer, 770-877-0600 or *e_helmer@epbfi.com*. Meet at Food City in Red Bank at 8:30 am.

Jun 26 - Ochs Gateway to Cravens House via Bluff Trail, Point Park, and Mountain Beautiful Trail. 6-7 miles. Moderate. Magnificent views and cliffs. Please register with hike leader Tom McElhone, 805-208-4654 or *sarmitta@yahoo.com*. Meet at Food City on Tennessee Avenue in St. Elmo at 8:30 am.

SUMNER TRAILS CHAPTER

CHAPTER CO-CHAIRS: Marcia Powell 217-855-3013
Kathy Bryant 615-305-3424
sumner@tennesseetrails.org

TREASURER: John Jones 615-533-0127
sumnertreas@tennesseetrails.org

BOARD REPRESENTATIVE: John Thomas 925-759-0517
boardsumner@tennesseetrails.org

Jun 11 - Couchville Lake Loop Trail. 2.1 miles. Easy, no dogs allowed. This is part of Long Hunter State Park. Explore with us as we walk the paved, mostly shady lakeshore path around beautiful Couchville Lake. We may see deer, turkey and shorebirds on this flat, lovely trail. If you want to extend your hike, the Bryant Grove trail also leads off from the same Couchville Lake parking area. The park address is 2910 Hobson Pike, Hermitage, TN. Meet at Glenbrook Kroger parking lot (1010 Glenbrook Way, Hendersonville) at 9 AM to caravan to the trailhead. Or please meet us at the Couchville Lake trailhead. We will plan to be on the trail by 10 AM. If you want to get lunch after the hike, there are many options at the nearby Providence Shopping Center area in Mt. Juliet. For additional info or to advise us you will meet us at the trailhead, contact John Thomas at 925-759-0517, *johnndt@sbcglobal.net* or Donna Thomas at 925-759-0518, *donnamt2@sbcglobal.net*.

Jun 16 - 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 hill and roots to be maneuvered. We 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 to wear sturdy hiking shoes. For those interested, after the hike we will eat outside at Liberty Park Grill in Clarksville. Meet at the Kroger Glenbrook parking lot, 1010 Glenbrook Way, Hendersonville at 9:00 AM CT for caravanning to Dunbar Cave. For more information, or if you plan to meet at the trailhead, text or call Judy Jenkins at 615-403-0002 or email *Judy_Jenkins@comcast.net*.

OFFICERS:

President

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Vice-President

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vicepresident@tennesseetrails.org

Treasurer

David Bowling 931-273-4202
treasurer@tennesseetrails.org

Secretary

Melinda Pearson 731-225-4293
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CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVES ON THE BOARD
ARE LISTED WITHIN EACH CHAPTER'S HEADER

Newsletter Editor

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UPPER CUMBERLAND CHAPTER

(Sparta / Cookeville)

BOARD REPRESENTATIVE/HIKE COORDINATOR:

Cathy Moran 931-544-2764
uppercumberlandhikes@tennesseetrails.org

TREASURER:

Pete Broehl 931-738-3551
uppercumberlandtreas@tennesseetrails.org

Hike information unavailable at press time.

2021 TTA Board of Directors Meetings

All members are invited to attend board meetings
Contact Libby Francis for the link to join Zoom meetings

Tuesday, Aug 3, 6 PM

Zoom Video
Conference

Sunday, Oct 24, Time TBD

Montgomery Bell State
Park

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.

Tennessee Trails Association
P.O. Box 41446
Nashville, TN 37204-1446

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



YES, I WANT TO JOIN TENNESSEE TRAILS ASSOCIATION, I AM . . .

☐

A NEW MEMBER

Jun 21

☐

RENEWING MY MEMBERSHIP

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

PLEASE, PRINT CLEARLY.

____ Individual \$25.00
____ Family \$35.00
____ Student (FULL TIME) \$15.00
____ Supporting (\$50.00, \$100.00 or more)
____ Life Member (Individual) \$500.00
____ Life Member (Family) \$750.00

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____
Primary Phone (____) _____ Zip _____ -- _____
Alternate Phone (____) _____
Primary e-mail _____
Alternate e-mail _____

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

- ☐ E-mail addresses
☐ Mailing address
☐ Telephone numbers

☐ I would like to receive my newsletter by
mail.

Please list me with the following chapter:

____ Clarksville	____ Murfreesboro
____ Columbia/Franklin	____ Nashville
____ East TN (Oak Ridge/Knoxville)	____ Plateau (Crossville)
____ Highland Rim (Manchester/Tullahoma)	____ Soddy Daisy
____ Jackson	____ Sumner Trails (Sumner County)
____ Memphis	____ 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!