

# 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**

## Evan Means Grants Awarded

The Tennessee Trails Association Board of Directors approved the following Evan Means Grants during the February 1, 2022 Board Meeting.

- **Bays Mountain Park Association.** Repair three pedestrian bridges on Lakeside Trail in Bays Mountain Park in Kingsport, TN.
- **Bledsoe's Lick Historical Association.** Tools, directional and interpretive signs and a bench on the new Abram Trail in Bledsoe's Fort Historical Park in Sumner County, TN.
- **Friends of Cummins Falls State Park.** Build ten new directional signs in Cummins Falls State Park.
- **Friends of Henry Horton State Park.** Update all the navigational signs, junction signs and trail head signs on the 11 miles of trails in Henry Horton State Park.
- **Friends of the South Cumberland State Park.** Build box steps for part of the rerouting of badly eroded Greeter Falls Trail in South Cumberland State Park.
- **Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy.** Build new directional signs in Hampton Creek Cove State Natural Area near Roan Mountain State Park in northeast Tennessee.

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To learn more about the Evan Means Grant Program, please visit our website at [www.tennesseehike.org](http://www.tennesseehike.org).

## Top Ten Things To Know About the TTA Facebook Group

10. Was launched by Tom Bentley and Don Dresser in 2009.

9. Serves TTA's goal of raising enthusiasm and support for trails and hiking across Tennessee



8. Reaches way beyond our membership – most of the 9,000 group members aren't current TTA members

7. Is moderated by TTA volunteers dealing with ever changing rules and irrelevant posts (let us know when you see something that's a problem)

6. Promotes both TTA & non-TTA events

5. Helps TTA Chapters promote their events

4. Alerts hikers to updates on hiking events and trail conditions

3. Helps Chapters and hikers share hiking experiences

2. Can be a useful tool for recruiting new TTA members

1. Isn't used by all 600 TTA members



## 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:** Savana Keeton  
**E-mail:** [ctcoffice2014@gmail.com](mailto:ctcoffice2014@gmail.com)  
**Website:** [www.cumberlandtrail.org](http://www.cumberlandtrail.org)

Cumberland Trails Conference's trail crew continues to work on the Upper Piney segment of the trail. Over the last month, they have put in a giant set of rock steps that will take hikers from the banks of the Piney River to the uplands and provide opportunities for overlooks of the Piney River gorge. Once the rock staircase is completed, they will work southbound down in the lowlands through numerous boulder fields to tie into section one of the Upper Piney segment. The completion date for Upper Piney sections one and two is August 1, 2022.

In order to complete the sections in a timely manner, the CTC is reaching out to our volunteer network by hosting monthly volunteer days. In February, we will host a volunteer event on the 11th and 12th. Food will be provided. Keep an eye out on our web page [cumberlandtrail.org](http://cumberlandtrail.org) and our social media for updates on future volunteer events.

The Cumberland Trails Conference will be hosting our annual Alternative Spring Break at the Head of Sequatchie lodge. So far, we have one full week of college students expected to arrive on March 6th. Michigan State University and the University of Central Florida will both be participating from March 6th-March 12th. We expect at least 10 students from each school as well as our volunteers who show up and help out every year. We have three scheduled presenters for our ASB program. Middle Tennessee Raptor Center will be providing an educational program on birds of prey. Randy Hedgepath, Tennessee State Naturalist, will be doing a program on our State Park system and Dr. Shawn Krosnick, Tennessee Tech University professor, will be doing a botanical program. If you would like to join in on the fun just send Savana Keeton, CTC Office Manager, an email and we can provide more details. Our office email is [ctcoffice2014@gmail.com](mailto:ctcoffice2014@gmail.com). Tennessee Trails Association has generously donated to CTC for our ASB event and we appreciate all their support in helping with the program after we had to cancel our 2020 and 2021 ASB due to COVID-19.

One last update - our Executive Director, Mike Croley, is scheduled to speak at the TTA Highland Rim Chapter meeting on February 28, 2022. The meeting is held in Tullahoma, TN at 7 pm CT. The location of the meeting is the DW Wilson Community Center, 501 N. Collins Street. We hope to see you there!

## CLARKSVILLE CHAPTER

**CHAPTER CO-CHAIRS:** Paula Sanders 954-993-5541  
Suva Bastin 931-645-2849  
[clarksville@tennesseetrails.org](mailto:clarksville@tennesseetrails.org)

### VICE-CHAIR & BOARD REPRESENTATIVE:

Ryan Dowdy 615-925-1796  
[clarksville@tennesseetrails.org](mailto:clarksville@tennesseetrails.org)

### TREASURER:

Mary Schwab 931-801-7172  
[clarksvilletreas@tennesseetrails.org](mailto:clarksvilletreas@tennesseetrails.org)

### OUTINGS COORDINATOR:

Paul Schwab 931-801-9484  
[clarksvillehikes@tennesseetrails.org](mailto:clarksvillehikes@tennesseetrails.org)

*(call Paul & volunteer to lead an outing)*

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

### Mar 5 - Rotary Park, Clarksville. 3.5 or 5.25 mile loop. You have the opportunity to exit after 3.5 miles.

**Moderate.** Most of the trail is on natural turf in the woods. It is curvy with many short ups and downs. You follow pretty Wall Creek part of the way. There is a creek crossing that is hard to do without getting wet when the creek is up. Hiking poles are recommended. Dogs are welcome if on a leash. There is a restroom at the trailhead and another near the end of the trail. Meet 8:00 am CT, first shelter on left after entering park. Contact Ed Oliver 931-561-9946.

### Mar 12 - Montgomery Bell State Park. 5.4 miles.

**Moderate.** Most of the trail is on natural turf in the woods. Dogs are permitted if on a leash. We will eat lunch near "The birthplace of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church". Meet 8:00 am CT, Big Lots parking area, Riverside Drive, Clarksville, TN. 33 miles to trailhead. Contact Suva Bastin 931-645-2849.

**Mar 15 - Monthly Chapter Meeting.** Potluck supper. Bring your own drinks. Contact Paula Sanders 954-993-5541 or Suva Bastin 931-645-28 49.

### Mar 19 - Beaman Park, west section of Laurel Woods Trail. 11.6 miles. Difficult due to length and elevation changes.

The trail is well constructed on natural turf. All of it is in pretty woods. Dogs are welcome if on a leash. Meet 8:00 am CT, Madison Street Food Line parking lot. 32 miles to trailhead. Contact Paul Schwab 931-801-9484.

### Mar 26 - Cedars of Lebanon State Park, Hidden Springs Trail, 5 miles, and Cedar Forest Trail, 2 miles.

**Moderate.** The Hidden Springs Trail passes by several Limestone Cedar Glades which are one of the rarest ecosystems in the world. The Hidden Springs Trail loops through scenic Karst topography. Meet 8:00 am CT, I 24 Exit 11 New Commuter Parking lot. 69 miles to trailhead. Contact Mike Covey 608-206-9850.

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## 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.

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**Mar 1 – Quarterly Chapter Meeting.** Barnabas Center  
behind St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 506 Fair Street,  
Franklin, TN. Social hour from 6:00 - 7:00 pm with the  
meeting to start at 7:00 pm. Bring ideas for hikes,  
presentations, etc. for spring and early summer. **ONLY  
VACCINATED PARTIES WILL BE ADMITTED** per St. Paul's  
rules.

**Mar 19 - Cedars of Lebanon State Park.** 328 Cedar Forest  
Rd, Lebanon, TN 37090. Cedars of Lebanon consists of 900  
acres situated amidst the 9,420-acre Cedars of Lebanon  
State Forest. The park and forest are approximately 10 miles  
south of Lebanon, TN in Wilson County. Cedars of Lebanon  
is considered a moderate trail hike. For further information,  
send an email to Jane Coffey  
(*columbia@tennesseetrails.org*). Please include contact  
information so we can contact you in case of inclement  
weather. Columbia/Franklin chapter members will meet at  
Tollgate Medical Plaza at 8 am. All others should plan to  
meet at the trailhead at 9 am.

**Mar 26 - Henry Horton State Park.** Wild Turkey Trail is a  
1.6 mile moderately trafficked loop trail (111 foot elevation)  
located near Lewisburg, TN that features beautiful  
wildflowers and is good for all skill levels. The trail offers a  
number of activity options and is accessible year-round.  
Dogs are also able to use this trail but must be kept on  
leash. Columbia/Franklin chapter members will meet at  
McDonald's in Spring Hill (4910 Main Street, Williamson  
County) at 8:15 am. All others should plan to meet at the  
trailhead at 9 am. For further information, send an email to  
Chris Hoffman (*columbia@tennesseetrails.org*). Please  
include contact information so we can contact you in case of  
inclement weather.

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## EAST TN CHAPTER (Oak Ridge / Knoxville)

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

**BOARD REPRESENTATIVE:** Tom Cressler 865-588-5622  
*boardeasttennessee@tennesseetrails.org*

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

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**Mar 5 - Devil's Racetrack, Caryville, TN. 5.7 miles in  
and out. Moderate most of the way with only a couple  
of steep climbs to the overlook.** We'll also experience a  
gorgeous waterfall. Most of this trail borders the interstate,  
hence it gets fairly noisy at times. For those who want to  
carpool, we will meet at 9 am ET in the Ingles parking lot  
off the Merchants Rd exit of I-75 North. Go to the 3rd  
traffic light and Ingles will be on your left. For those who  
prefer to meet at the trailhead, just take the Caryville exit  
off I-75 North, turn left at the end of the ramp. Go a short  
distance, and turn right on Bruce Gap Rd. There is a  
large, nicely marked trailhead parking lot on your left. We  
should be there about 9:45 am ET. Preregister with Rosie  
at 865-985-9144 or *rosemary\_l@hotmail.com*.

**Mar 12 - Seven Islands State Birding Park** is  
Tennessee's newest park. It is a 416-acre park that was  
established in the 1990s by private donors and jointly  
managed as Seven Islands Wildlife Refuge by a local  
foundation and Knox County. In the fall of 2013, it was  
designated as a state park effective September 2013 with  
the grand opening July 2014. The park, on former  
farmland, includes the Kelly Bend peninsula along the  
French Broad River. Habitats include wooded hills, an  
intermittent stream, and several fields being restored to  
native warm-season grasses. More than 180 species of  
birds have been sighted in the park. The views are great,  
you can see Smoky Mountains and Mount LeConte. The  
hike is mostly easy with rolling hills. There is one hill  
where you gain perhaps 150 feet. The total distance if we  
take the outer most trails, including Newmans Island, is  
about six miles. This is a hike that almost anyone can do  
so join us. We recommend shoes to wear to and from the  
hike plus sturdy hiking shoes, other appropriate clothing, a  
snack, something to drink and a camera. We will meet at  
the Cracker Barrel at Strawberry Plains Pike, leaving at  
10:00 am, tailgating to the park. If you want to meet at the  
Seven Islands parking lot, we expect to be there about  
10:30 am. For specific information about the hike please  
contact Tom at 588-5622 or send an email to  
*cressler@utk.edu* before March 11<sup>th</sup>.

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**Mar 19 - Ace Gap GSMNP. 9.6 miles. Moderate.** Ace Gap trail begins where Rich Mountain Road meets the park boundary. We will use Dry Valley Road to get to the trailhead. The trail is essentially flat for the first 4.2 miles then it loses about 300 feet in the next 6/10th mile where it reaches Ace Gap and campsite #7. Along the way we will pass campsite #4 at 2.3 miles, Kelly Gap. The end of the trail is about 8/10<sup>th</sup> of a mile past campsite #7, where it meets Beard Cane trail. If some want to go to the end of the trail the others can rest/relax at campsite #7. At Ace Gap an old railroad bed built in the early twentieth century by the Little River Lumber Company crosses the mountain. 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. We will meet at the Browns Creek Shopping Center parking lot nearest the Sonic at 1707 E Lamar Alexander Pkwy, across the street from the Hardee's, near the hospital in Maryville. We will leave there at 9:00 am. After the hike plan on stopping on the way back for a meal and refreshments. For specific information about the hike please call Tom before the 18<sup>th</sup> at 865-588-5622, leave a message or send an email to [cressler@utk.edu](mailto:cressler@utk.edu).

**Mar 26 - Porter Creek GSMNP. 7.4 miles in and out. Moderate.** In the first mile we will hike on an old logging road, then meander through a lush forest of moss-covered trees and rocks. We'll past remnants of farmsteads and a family cemetery. At this point in our hike, we might see a spectacular burst of wonderful wildflowers. At the 2 mile mark, there will be a 60 ft waterfall which drops off the ridge on the left side of the trail. We can turn around at this point or continue another 1.7 miles to campsite 31 to complete the 7.4 mile hike. We'll meet at 8 am ET at the Cracker Barrel at Strawplains Exit off I-40 east for those who want to carpool to the trailhead. Preregistration is advised with Rosie 865-985-9144 or email [rosemary\\_1@hotmail.com](mailto:rosemary_1@hotmail.com).

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### Attention: Hike Coordinators (aka Hike Leaders)

A TTA Release of Claims & Hold Harmless Agreement form (aka "Liability Waiver") must be signed by everyone before you start your hike or before carpooling to your hiking destination. They can be obtained from your local Chapter Officer or downloaded easily from our website: <https://tennesseetrails.org/hikes-events/liability-release-form/>.

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## HIGHLAND RIM CHAPTER (Coffee and Franklin Counties)

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

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**Mar 1 - Sewanee Perimeter Trail: Lake Cheston trailhead to Elliott's Point. 6.2 miles in and out. Moderate. Joint hike with the Soddy-Daisy Chapter.** On the way to Elliott's Point, we will pass Otey Point. There will be good views from both points due to the lack of tree foliage. The trail is rocky in places with ups and downs, but there are no long steep inclines. The total elevation gained and lost is around 800-1000 feet. Please register with Joan Hartvigsen, [jhartvigs@comcast.net](mailto:jhartvigs@comcast.net) or 931-636-2914. Meet in the Lake Cheston Parking in Sewanee, TN lot at 8:15 am CT. Bring lunch, water and hiking sticks. Wear sturdy hiking boots.

**Mar 4-6 – Weekend Backpacking Trip, South Cumberland Recreation Area. Joint trip with the Murfreesboro Chapter.** Savage Gulf State Natural Area. Backpack hike starting Friday March 4 and finishing up on Sunday March 6. Total mileage over three days is approximately 29 miles and rated strenuous due to elevation change and hike distance. Hike starts Friday at 9:00 am CT at the Savage Gulf Ranger Station for a 7 mile hike to the Stagecoach Road backcountry campsite. Set up camp and take a 1.5 mile round trip day hike to waterfalls at the top of Stagecoach Road to explore the historic area and building of the Stagecoach Road. Saturday we will day hike a 13-mile loop starting down Stagecoach Road into Savage Gulf and take the Collins Rim trail back to our campsite. Sunday, we will pack up camp and start our 7 mile hike back down South Rim to the Savage Gulf Ranger Station. This backpack trip will be weather dependent and if freezing temps are expected, hike route could be modified to avoid icy areas. There is a limit of 12 backpackers for the campsites reserved, so sign up early. Stagecoach Road campsites 5 & 7 have been reserved for two nights for a total of \$53.72. This amount will be divided among the number of backpackers going. For more information or to sign up, contact Michael Glennon at 931-588-0302, [kb4jhu@gmail.com](mailto:kb4jhu@gmail.com).

**Mar 12 - Monte Sano State Park, Huntsville, AL. Sinks Trail, Stone Cuts Trail, Mountain Mist Trail and O'Shaughnessy Point forming a six mile loop. Moderate,** about 600 foot elevation change. Meet at the hikers parking lot 9:00 am CT. Stone Cuts Trail passes through several narrow cuts in limestone. There are several scenic overlooks along this route. Admission \$5, Seniors 62+ \$2. Please register with our hike leader and Huntsville, AL native, Bryan Tauchen, [btauch@hiwaay.net](mailto:btauch@hiwaay.net) or 256-852-7505. Bring water, lunch and hiking sticks. Wear sturdy hiking boots.

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**Mar 17-19 – Camping in Pickett State Park. Hiking in Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area. Joint event with the Murfreesboro Chapter.** Marietta Poteet will lead two hikes in Big South Fork NSRRA: Rock Creek Loop and Twin Arches/Charit Creek Loop. Rock Creek Loop is 7.5 miles, rated moderate with several steep sections. It follows an old railroad grade with the potential of some lovely wildflower sections. Twin Arches/Charit Creek Loop is about 6.5 miles with some steep places. We will hike up to two beautiful arches and down to Charit Creek Lodge. Hopefully we'll see more wildflowers. Both hikes are rated moderate, but both have some steep rocky spots. Please be prepared for some challenging sections. We will camp at Pickett State Park Campground. Marietta has reserved six campsites. Please email Marietta at [nannietta@benlomand.net](mailto:nannietta@benlomand.net) to register for a spot.

**Mar 27 – Chumbley Woods Trail and Eagle Trail, Old Stone Fort State Park, Manchester, TN. 3 miles. Easy.** Trailhead is located at Powers Bridge Road Entrance. These are the park's newest trails. Our hike is through a beautiful, mature hardwood forest which drops down to the river gorge. From there the trail runs from the Forks of the River area to follow the Little Duck River and shadows Backbone Ridge Trail cliff line. We will see many different tree species. Nathaniel Mann will help us with winter identification of trees. Please meet us at 1:00 pm at the Powers Bridge entrance for this relaxed, leisurely Sunday afternoon hike. Please register with Joan Hartvigsen, [jhartvigs@comcast.net](mailto:jhartvigs@comcast.net) or 931-636-2914. Bring water, snack, hiking sticks and sturdy hiking boots. Directions from Tullahoma: Take Hwy 55 toward Manchester for about 7.4 miles. Left onto Belmont Road. Travel 1.3 miles on Belmont Road. Right onto Cat Creek Road for 2.9 miles. Left onto Powers Bridge Road. Travel 0.3 miles to trailhead on the right.

**Mar 28 – Chapter Meeting. Joint meeting with the Friends of Short Springs.** 7pm. D.W. Wilson Community Center, 501 N. Collins Street, Tullahoma. Our featured speaker is Yolande Gottfried from the Sewanee Herbarium. She will give a presentation about spring wildflowers. As Short Springs is a reserve known for wildflowers this presentation will be a perfect preview of what we can expect to see at our local State Natural Area. Before the meeting, at 5:30 pm, we will meet for dinner at La Fiesta Bar & Grill, 1410 N. Jackson Street, Tullahoma next to the Quality Inn. Please contact Highland Rim Chapter Chair Patty Deen if you plan to attend dinner so I can confirm the number for our reservation. Contact Patty at [pdeen@palomar.edu](mailto:pdeen@palomar.edu) or 760-703-8115 for more information.

#### Planning Ahead:

**Apr 1-3 – Camping in Fort Mountain State Park, Chatsworth, Georgia. Hiking the Gahuti Trail. 8 mile loop. Moderate. Joint event with the Soddy-Daisy Chapter.** The Gahuti Trail offers grand views of the Cohutta and Fort Mountains, waterfalls and cascades. Contact Joan Hartvigsen for a spot in the reserved tent-only campsites, [jhartvigs@comcast.net](mailto:jhartvigs@comcast.net) or 931-636-2914.

**May 16-19 – Mile High Campground at southern end of Blue Ridge Parkway, near Maggie Valley, NC. Hiking in Great Smoky Mountains National Park and near Shining Rock Wilderness Area off Blue Ridge Parkway. Joint activity with the Murfreesboro Chapter.** Monday we will hike the short, steep, paved Waterrock Knob Trail and then view the sunset from the parking lot. Total mileage is 1.2 miles. Tuesday we will hike the Rough Fork Trail, Caldwell Fork Trail, Hemphill Bald Trail Loop Hike, a strenuous 13.7 mile loop, 2,000 ft. elevation change. On Wednesday we will hike the Art Loeb Trail to Black Balsam Knob and Tennent Mountain, a five mile moderate loop that offers panoramic views from Tennent Mountain and Black Balsam Knob; and the Sam Knob Summit Trail, 2.7 miles out and back. Wednesday's trails are located off the Blue Ridge Parkway, Mile Marker 420, Forest Road 816. Contact Joan Hartvigsen, 931-636-2914 or [jhartvigs@comcast.net](mailto:jhartvigs@comcast.net) to reserve a spot in Mile High Campground. Wednesday after our hike we can eat at J.Arthurs Restaurant in Maggie Valley, NC on our way back to our campsite. Thursday after we check out we can visit nearby Soco Falls and Mingo Falls.

**May 22-26 – Kayaking to Burgess Falls (Tuesday) and Fancher Falls (Wednesday). Camping at Ragland Bottom Campground, Smithville, TN. Hiking at Burgess Falls State Park and Edgar Evins State Park. Joint event with Murfreesboro Chapter.** Ragland Bottom Campground is located on Center Hill Lake. Contact Joan Hartvigsen for camping information, [jhartvigs@comcast.net](mailto:jhartvigs@comcast.net) or 931-636-2914.

**Jun 20-23 – Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Cades Cove. Camping and Hiking Weekend. Joint activity with the Murfreesboro Chapter.** We have reserved a gorgeous group campsite in Cades Cove Campground. Azaleas and spring wildflowers will be blooming. Reserve your spot soon. Monday: short out and back hike on Anthony Creek Trail. Tuesday: Hike to Gregory Bald on Gregory Bald Trail. Wednesday: bike ride in Cades Cove and hike to Abrams Falls. Bring bike lock. Rental bikes available at campground store. On Thursday on our way out we will hike the West Prong Trail in Tremont. Contact Joan Hartvigsen, [jhartvigs@comcast.net](mailto:jhartvigs@comcast.net) or 931-962-0811.

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## Highland Rim Chapter – con't.

**Aug 8 -11 – Camping, Kayaking and Hiking at Devils Fork State Park on Jocassee Lake, Salem, SC.** Private Kayak Tour of Jocassee Lake on Tuesday. Wednesday: hike to Lower Whitewater Falls, then more kayaking. Thursday on our way home we can visit the waterfalls at Gorges State Park, NC. Campsites and reservations for private kayak tour are limited. Contact Joan Hartvigsen early to reserve a spot, [jhartvigs@comcast.net](mailto:jhartvigs@comcast.net) or 931-636-2914.

**Sep 9-11 – Camping on Devils Step Island on Tims Ford Lake. Kayaking Tims Ford Lake. Joint event with the Murfreesboro Chapter.**

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## JACKSON CHAPTER

**CHAPTER CHAIR:** Melinda Pearson 731-225-4293  
[ttajackson68@tennesseetrails.org](mailto:ttajackson68@tennesseetrails.org)  
**BOARD REPRESENTATIVE** Wendy Porter 205-960-8087  
[ttajackson68@tennesseetrails.org](mailto:ttajackson68@tennesseetrails.org)  
**SECRETARY/TREASURER:** Terry Warren 731-535-0625  
[ttajackson68@tennesseetrails.org](mailto:ttajackson68@tennesseetrails.org)  
**HIKE COORDINATOR:** Glen Rognstad 731-217-5966  
[ttajacksonhikes68@tennesseetrails.org](mailto:ttajacksonhikes68@tennesseetrails.org)  
**FACEBOOK COORDINATOR** Priscilla Campbell 731-217-2552  
[ttajacksonfacebk68@tennesseetrails.org](mailto:ttajacksonfacebk68@tennesseetrails.org)  
**MEETS MONTHLY:** 1<sup>st</sup> Monday at 6:00 pm CT

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**Mar 5-6 - Overnight trip/hikes:** On Saturday morning, March 5, Glen Rognstad plans to lead us on a hike thru Sherwood Forest (3 miles, rated easy) and at Shakerag Hollow in the afternoon (3 miles rated easy-moderate). We will meet at the Waffle House off I-40, exit 134 at 8:00 am CT. We will follow Glen to the trailhead. We will eat lunch between the hikes. On Sunday, Glen will lead a hike at Foster Falls and/or Denny Cove. Meet at 8:00 am CT at Waffle House. There is a Super 8 motel in Monteagle which is an easy location to stay on Friday/Saturday nights unless you plan to camp. Please register with Glen by Wednesday, March 2 at [glenrognstad@gmail.com](mailto:glenrognstad@gmail.com) or 731-217-5966. Shakerag Hollow features beautiful wildflowers in the spring, a variety of trees including oak, hickory and sycamore, some rambling creeks, and beautiful rocks and bluffs. Sherwood Forest offers scenic views including the natural bridge and fern garden. May also have spring flowers blooming. Foster Falls is a spectacular 60-foot waterfall plunging into a deep pool. In the spring, mountain laurels, azaleas and hemlocks are blooming above the falls. It is a 2 mile hike rated moderate because of the rocky terrain and steep climb. Denny Cove is a 3.3 mile moderately rated hike that features a waterfall and at times rainbows are visible at the falls. Monteagle/Sewanee is about 3-3 1/2 hours east of Jackson traveling towards Chattanooga.

## Jackson Chapter – con't.

**Mar 7 – Chapter Meeting** at 6 pm at Mulligans in Jackson.

**Mar 12 - Natchez Trace State Park. 11 miles. Difficult.** This will be a leg of the Red Leaves Trail. We will meet at the park headquarters/visitors center at 8:00 am and drive a short distance to the trailhead. This hike will begin at Idem West and meander thru the woods to Browns Creek Lake continuing along its shores and thru the woods to the banks of Pin Oak Lake and back thru the woods to Idem East. A walk from Idem East to Idem West brings you back to parking area. Please register with Terry by Friday, March 11 at [terrymccoy832@yahoo.com](mailto:terrymccoy832@yahoo.com) or 731-525-0625.

**Mar 19 - Ross Forest Natural Area. Easy.** Ross Forest is a unique place. It sits amid 7500 acres that has been owned by the Ross family since 1881. The Ross Forest is largely undiscovered so you have lush forest, less traffic on trails. We will see birds and other wildlife. Sugar Camp Hollow Trail weaves thru hardwood forest and includes a waterfall, abundance of flowers in the spring and summer, a wetland reserve area, a beaver pond and creek crossings. For a better description, see their site on Facebook under "Ross Forests" located near Savannah, TN. Sugar Camp Trail is approximately 4.3 miles however it can be as long as 5-6 miles. There is a small amount of elevation change but generally level. There are two waterfalls with many examples of 400 million year old crinoid fossils. Please register with Melinda Pearson at [hurstme@bellsouth.net](mailto:hurstme@bellsouth.net) or 731-225-4293 and she will provide the meeting place and time.

### Planning Ahead:

**Apr 2 - Joint hike with Memphis chapter to Cane Creek Canyon near Tusculumbia, AL.**

**Apr 9-10 - Virgin Falls near Sparta, TN and Standing Stone State Park north of Cookeville.**

**Apr 30 - Big Hill Pond near Pocahtonas, TN.**

**May 14-15 - Charlies Bunion in Great Smoky Mountains** on Saturday. Rafting/kayak at Nantahala River near Bryson City, NC/Great Smoky Mountains

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## MEMPHIS CHAPTER

**CHAPTER CHAIR:** Charlie Bright 901-829-4434  
*ttamemphis68@tennesseetrails.org*  
**TREASURERS:** Janet Sheahan  
Nancy Wark 901-240-1521  
*ttamemphistreasurer68@tennesseetrails.org*  
**HIKE COORDINATOR:** Wayne Simpson  
*w.simpson1@comcast.net*

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Due to the ice storm many of these hikes may have substantial damage. Please check with the hike leader to see if there is a change in location.

**Mar 5 - Big Hill Pond State Park near Poca hontas, TN. 7 mile loop. Moderate to difficult.** We will meet at the parking lot above the boat dock where the hike begins. We will hike 2.5 miles of rolling hills, followed by a half-mile long boardwalk across the Dismal Swamp. The next 0.7 miles goes up a fairly steep hill to the fire tower where we will have lunch. After lunch we have another 4 miles of mostly moderate hills until we finish back at the boat dock. Good boots are suggested due to a sometimes swampy area near the end of the hike along the lake. Also bring hiking poles if available and plenty of water, a snack and a lunch. Rain will cancel. Registration is required. Contact Michelle Kelley: 901-484-2998 (text or call) or *michelkell38@gmail.com*.

**Mar 12 - Shelby Forest Horse Trail.** Join us for a **moderately strenuous 7 mile hiker/horse loop** trail over a mixture of hills and flat areas around Poplar Tree Lake. This trail is quite rugged in that it is not well maintained so there will be limbs and leaves on the trail. Included is the Benjestown 2.5 mile loop which is quite hilly and not well maintained. There will be restrooms available next to the parking lot. Plan to hike about 4 hours. Bring water and snack. Hiking boots and poles are recommended. Rain will cancel hike. Registration is required at which time you will receive start time. Lynne Witherington: *withlynn@aol.com*.

**Mar 19 - Arkabutla State Park, Coldwater, MS.** Join us for an **easy 5 mile hike** through the Coldwater River bottomlands with woods, swamp and large trees. Trail is level. Wear hiking boots as parts could be muddy. Bring snack and water. A half mile nature trail may be added afterwards. Meet at the trailhead at the recreation area below the dam. Directions to the park: South on I55 to I69, right on I69 west to Ms Hwy 301 turn left on 301 (south) to the park (south Abutment area, below the dam). Turn right just before the spillway into the day use area. Hike begins at 9:30. Rain will cancel hike. Registration is required by 6 pm Thursday March 17. Freddie Felt: *fffelt@att.net* or 901-288-5581 (text).

## Memphis Chapter – con't.

**Mar 26 - Herb Parsons Lake. Fisherville, TN. Easy flat 5 mile hike.** We start off going across the dam into the woods onto the Holiday Loop, the Shoot, Homestead Loop, the Other Lake Loop and Tornado Valley, all different from what we have experienced in the past. Meet at the lake parking lot and bring snacks and water. Boots are recommended. Registration is required by noon Thursday, March 24. Contact Janet Sheahan: *janet.n.sheahan@gmail.com*.

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## 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.



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## 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:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at 7:00 pm CT, Barfield-  
Crescent Park's Wilderness Station, 401 Volunteer Road,  
Murfreesboro  
**BLOG:** [www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/murfreesboro](http://www.tennesseetrails.org/blog/murfreesboro)

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**Mar 4-6 – Weekend Backpacking Trip. South Cumberland Recreation Area. Joint trip with the Highland Rim chapter.** Savage Gulf State Natural Area. Backpack hike starting Friday March 4 and finishing up on Sunday March 6. Total mileage over three days is approximately 29 miles and rated strenuous due to elevation change and hike distance. Hike starts Friday at 9:00 am CT at the Savage Gulf Ranger Station for a 7 mile hike to the Stagecoach Road backcountry campsite. Set up camp and take a 1.5-mile round trip day hike to waterfalls at the top of Stagecoach Road to explore the historic area and building of the Stagecoach Road. Saturday we will day hike a 13 mile loop starting down Stagecoach Road into Savage Gulf and take the Collins Rim trail back to our campsite. Sunday, we will pack up camp and start our 7 mile hike back down South Rim to the Savage Gulf Ranger Station. This backpack trip will be weather dependent and if freezing temps are expected, hike route could be modified to avoid icy areas. There is a limit of 12 backpackers for the campsites reserved, so sign up early. Stagecoach Road campsites 5 & 7 have been reserved for two nights for a total of \$53.72. This amount will be divided among the number of backpackers going. For more information or to sign up, contact Michael Glennon at 931-588- 0302, *kb4jhu@gmail.com* or Sara Pollard at 615-714-3610, *sarabpollard@gmail.com*.

**Mar 8 – Chapter Meeting.** 7:00 pm CT. Barfield Crescent Park Wilderness Station. For more information contact Chapter Co-Chair Jeanne Conatser at *djconatser@comcast.net*.

## Murfreesboro Chapter – con't.

**Mar 12 – “Pick a Park” series. Nathan Bedford Forrest State Park and Johnsonville State Historic Park. 4 miles total. Easy.** Nathan Bedford Forrest State Park began as a local park constructed by the Works Progress Administration, a Depression Era work recovery program. Now, as a Tennessee State Park, it is home to the Tennessee River Folklife Interpretive Center and Museum situated on one of the highest points in West Tennessee, Pilot Knob. The center features the lifeways and customs of folks on the Tennessee River including musseling, crafts, commercial fishing, and more. We'll meet at the Pilot Knob Interpretive Center at 9:00 am CT, tour the museum and hike the 3-mile trail. Then we'll travel to Johnsonville to be there by 1:00 pm CT for the ranger led tour to the Link Farm site. This is a Mississippian Indian mound site, where in 1894 a tenant farmer working a garden plot at the site uncovered what has come to be known as the Duck River Cache, one of the most impressive caches of prehistoric ceremonial items ever discovered in the southeastern United States. A \$10 registration fee is required, refundable due to inclement weather. Register for the 1:00 pm CT tour at <https://tnstateparks.com/parks/events/>. Bring water, lunch, and wear sturdy hiking boots. For more information or to sign up, contact Jeanne Conatser at 615-971-8894 or *djconatser@comcast.net*.

**Mar 17-19 – Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area hiking and Pickett State Park camping. Joint event with the Highland Rim chapter.** Marietta Poteet will lead two hikes in Big South Fork NRR. The Rock Creek Loop is 7.5 miles rated moderate with several steep sections. The trail follows an old railroad grade with the potential of some lovely wildflower sections. The Twin Arches/Charit Creek Loop is about 6.5 miles with some steep places. We'll hike up to two beautiful arches and down to Charit Creek Lodge where we'll see more wildflowers. Both hikes are rated moderate, but both have some steep rocky spots. Marietta has reserved six campsites at Pickett State Park. Please email Marietta at *nannietta@benlomand.net* to register for a spot. For more information or to sign up, contact Sara Pollard at 615-714-3610 or *sarabpollard@gmail.com*.

**Mar 23 – Radnor Lake State Park. Nashville. 5 miles. Moderate.** We will hike the Ganier Ridge Trail and South Radnor Lake Loop. This hike is rated as moderate, but there are a couple of steep climbs. Radnor Lake State Park is a 1,368-acre urban park and is unique due to the abundance of wildlife. There are usually deer, waterfowl and woodland bird sightings on this hike. Bring water and a snack. We will eat lunch at a local restaurant after the hike. For meeting time and to sign up, contact Sara Pollard at 615-714-3610 or *sarabpollard@gmail.com*.

*Con't on next page*

## Murfreesboro Chapter – con't.

**Mar 26 - Cumberland Trail. Mullens Cove Loop. 9.6 miles. Moderately strenuous.** The Mullens Cove Loop section is part of the Tennessee River Gorge segment of the Cumberland Trail. It's located in the Prentice Cooper State Forest outside of Chattanooga. We'll descend a stone stairwell to visit Indian Rockhouse, a big stone shelter and pass two spectacular views at Snooper's Rock Overlook and Mullens Cove Overlook. Bring water, lunch, and wear sturdy hiking boots. For more information or to sign up, contact Sara Pollard at 615-714-3610 or [sarapollard@gmail.com](mailto:sarapollard@gmail.com).

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## NASHVILLE CHAPTER

**CHAPTER CHAIR:** Doug Burroughs 615-587-0085

[ttanashville68@tennesseetrails.org](mailto:ttanashville68@tennesseetrails.org)

**BOARD REPRESENTATIVE:** Alice Cannon 615-646-4234

[tboardnashville68@tennesseetrails.org](mailto:tboardnashville68@tennesseetrails.org)

**HIKE COORDINATOR:** Barbara Bennett 202-236-0880

[ttanashvillehikes68@tennesseetrails.org](mailto:ttanashvillehikes68@tennesseetrails.org)

(email Barbara & volunteer to lead an outing)

**MEETS MONTHLY:** Meetings suspended temporarily pending COVID 19 restrictions

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**Mar 3 - Natchez Trace Parkway (NTP) Double Hike, Leiper's Fork and Franklin, TN. 3-6 miles. Moderate to moderately strenuous.** Hike #1. Natchez Trace Parkway (NTP): Garrison Creek to 1812 War Monument Trail. This trail is a section of the Old Trace and is a moderate out and back for a total of 3.4 miles. The trailhead is at Garrison Creek (NTP milepost 427.6) which is about 10 miles south of the iconic Birdsong Hollow Bridge over Highway 96. There is a rest area at Garrison Creek. The trail takes you through old growth timber to a scenic overlook and then follows the ridgeline to the War of 1812 monument. Hike #2. We'll head north on the NTP to Timberland Park (NTP milepost 437.2) just south of the Birdsong Hollow Bridge for another 3+ miles. Timberland Park has several short trails which we'll put together for the desired distance. Part of our hike will take us onto the Big East Fork Reserve which is private property. The park trails are hilly so sturdy boots and hiking poles are recommended. To sign up for this hike, contact Kathy Woods, 615-473-6824 or [kwoodz@comcast.net](mailto:kwoodz@comcast.net).

## Nashville Chapter – con't.

**Mar 4 - Beaman Laurel Woods Goldilocks Loop, Beaman State Park, Ashland City, TN. 11-1/4 miles. Moderately strenuous for terrain and length.** "Not too easy, not too hard." We'll follow the slightly shorter, less challenging side of the first loop to reach the second so we can enjoy more remote section while reducing the cumulative up and down significantly compared to the complete route. The trail covers ridgetops, switchbacks down to and back from a few creek crossings, and some more gentle slopes. Bring plenty of water, snacks and pack a lunch for the trail. Meet at the Highland Trailhead parking lot in time for an 8:00 am step off. Plan for roughly 7-1/2 hours trail time. Register with Mark for details and updates: [midtn@tnhiker.net](mailto:midtn@tnhiker.net) or 615-669-3221. Alternate date for inclement weather: Friday, March 11.

**Mar 12 - Natchez Trace, various trails, West of Spring Hill, TN. 5-6 miles total before lunch. Moderate.** We will decide on a combination of Gordon House and Ferry (1 mile), Devil's Backbone (3 miles), Stillhouse Hollow (1.5 miles), and /or Meriweather Lewis Loop (3.5 miles). We'll finish in time for lunch at the Mt. Pleasant Grille. Meet at 7:30 am in Franklin. For more information and to register, contact Doug Burroughs at [doughburroughs@tennessee.usa.com](mailto:doughburroughs@tennessee.usa.com) or 615-587-0085 (text or leave a message).

**Mar 25 - Edgar Evins Wildflowers, Highland Rim and Millennium trails, Edgar Evins State Park, Silver point, TN. 4 miles. Easy.** Bring water and snacks for the trail. Meet at the visitor center for an 8:30 am step off. Afterwards, those interested will head over to the Joe L. Evins Appalachian Center for Crafts for lunch at Blue Water Grille On the Hill and visit the gallery. Register with Mark for details and updates: [midtn@tnhiker.net](mailto:midtn@tnhiker.net) or 615-669-3221. Alternate date for inclement weather: Tuesday, March 29.

Jack McFadden, Wendy Fish, Amy Sutton, Debbie Owens, and Libby Francis of the Nashville Chapter and Wayne Drown of Sumner Trails participated in a trail rerouting workday at Beaman Park in northern Davidson's County. Pictured are Debbie Owens and Amy Sutton.



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## PLATEAU CHAPTER (Crossville)

**CHAPTER CHAIR:** Norm Brinsley 931-202-2338  
*plateau@tennesseetrails.org*  
**TREASURER:** Clark Zedric 217-520-9889  
**BOARD REPRESENTATIVE:** Bob Oboboski 931-456-4282  
*boardplateau@tennesseetrails.org*  
**MEETS MONTHLY:** 2nd Thursday at 6:00 pm CT

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The Chapter hikes every Wednesday and two Saturdays a month. For up-to-date information on our hikes visit <https://tennesseetrails.org/chapters/plateau-chapter/>.

**Mar 2 - Racoon Mountain Trails, Chattanooga, TN. Joint hike with Upper Cumberland Chapter.** We'll hike an 8 mile loop of several trails around the Racoon Mountain Lake. The trails can be found on Hiking Project or All Trails. Long Hike: The 8 moderate mile loop. Short Hike: 4 mile moderate in/out. Depart from Central Baptist Church, 1346 S Main St, Crossville, TN at 8 am CT. Bring water, lunch and a snack. Don't forget tick/bug spray and sunscreen. Carpool gas cost \$8. Contact the hike coordinator email [plateauhikes@tennesseetrails.org](mailto:plateauhikes@tennesseetrails.org) or text/call 931-267-2243.

**Mar 5 - CT Possum Gorge Section, Dunlap, TN. Joint hike with Upper Cumberland.** We'll start from the Heiss Mountain Trailhead off Hwy 111. Possum Gorge is full of rock bluffs and creeks, just beautiful. Short Hike: 5 moderate to strenuous miles due to rock hopping and stream crossings. Long Hike: 9.5 mile strenuous thru hike that includes creeks, waterfalls and beautiful views. Requires car shuttle for the long hikers. Depart from Central Baptist Church, 1346 S Main St, Crossville, TN at 7:30 am CT. Carpool gas cost is \$6. Pack water, snacks, lunch. For additional information contact the hike coordinator, [plateauhikes@tennesseetrails.org](mailto:plateauhikes@tennesseetrails.org) or text/call 931-267-2243 for more info.

**Mar 9-10 - Big South Fork NRA, Charit Creek Lodge Overnight, Jamestown, TN. Joint event with Upper Cumberland Chapter.** Day hikers are welcome to join us on the Wednesday 5 mile hike. We will park at the Charit Creek parking lot at the end of Fork Ridge Road. Wednesday: 5 mile out and back to Station Camp Overlook. Dinner is at 6 pm ET. Thursday: breakfast is at 8 am ET. Check-out then hike an 8.8 mile loop on the Sheltolee Trace (Station Camp Creek Trail) and Laurel Fork Creek Trails. Depart 7:30 am CT from the Crossville Cracker Barrel Southeast parking lot. Carpool gas cost \$5 Contact the hike coordinator, Deb Westervelt, via email [plateauhikes@tennesseetrails.org](mailto:plateauhikes@tennesseetrails.org) or text/call 931-267-2243 for more info.

**Mar 10 - Chapter Meeting. 6 pm. Program: Snakes in Tennessee.** First United Methodist Church Annex Building, 69 Neecham St, Crossville, TN. Don Hazel will tell all about the snakes we live with here in Tennessee. Meet at Casa Grande for dinner at 4:30 pm. Please let Norm know if you are coming for dinner. For information contact Norm 931-202-2338 or email [huxianlj@gmail.com](mailto:huxianlj@gmail.com).

## Plateau Chapter – con't.

**Mar 16 - Savage Gulf North Rim Trail, Palmer, TN.** Short Hike: Savage Day Loop. An easy 4.5 mile loop. Long Hike: This is an 8 mile moderate in/out along the North Rim of the gulf with lots of overlooks. Depart 7:30 am CT from Tractor Supply, West Ave, Crossville. Bring lunch, water and snacks. Don't forget tick/bug spray and sunscreen. Carpool gas cost is \$7. For additional information contact the hike coordinator email [plateauhikes@tennesseetrails.org](mailto:plateauhikes@tennesseetrails.org) or text/call 931-267-2243.

**Mar 19 - Dog Cove and Lost Creek, Sparta, TN.** Dog Cove is on the way to Lost Creek for an easy 4-5 mile in/out hike to a circa 1800s farm home following alongside Lost Creek and crossing the creek a couple of times. Water shoes may be needed if the water is high. Optional strenuous side loop trail to an arch. Drive to Lost Creek Cave and Waterfall hike is about a 1.5 mile round-trip, which is located in a sink and faces a 60-foot tall waterfall. Just down the road is a short level trail to Rylander Cascades that crosses a stream several times. Depart 7:30 am CT from Tractor Supply on West Ave. Carpool cost is \$5. Don't forget tick/bug spray and sunscreen. Pack water, snacks and lunch. For additional information contact the hike coordinator, Deb Westervelt, [plateauhikes@tennesseetrails.org](mailto:plateauhikes@tennesseetrails.org) or text/call 931-267-2243.

**Mar 23 - Colditz Cove and Gentleman's Swimming Hole, Rugby, TN. Joint hike with Upper Cumberland Chapter.** Colditz Cove features a 1.5 mile loop to the 60 foot high Northrop Falls. A short drive brings us to the Gentleman's Swimming Hole in Rugby for an additional 2 mile hike. We can also walk around historic Rugby. We'll eat lunch at the RM Brooks General Store. Depart Cracker Barrel at 7:30 am CT. Carpool gas cost \$6. After lunch we can walk across the old highway bridge. Don't forget tick/bug spray and sunscreen. Pack water and snacks. For additional information contact the hike coordinator email [plateauhikes@tennesseetrails.org](mailto:plateauhikes@tennesseetrails.org) or text/call 931-267-2243.

**Mar 30 - Cloudland Canyon, Rising Fawn, GA (Northwest GA).** Located on the western edge of Lookout Mountain, this is one of the most scenic parks in Georgia, offering rugged geology and beautiful vistas. The park straddles a deep gorge cut into the mountain by Sitton Gulch Creek with elevations from 800 to 1,980 feet. The driving time from Crossville is a little over 2 hours. Bring water, lunch, and snacks. Short Hike: 4 mile in-out hike moderate to strenuous on the Sutton Gulch Trail, Waterfall trail (600-step staircase on the way to two waterfalls) and overlook Trail. Long Hike: This will be a 6 mile is a moderate to strenuous (due to 1200 steps) thru hike on the Overlook, Waterfall and Sutton Gorge Trails. Depart 7:30 am CT from Central Baptist Church, 1346 S Main St, Crossville, TN. Carpool gas cost is \$8. Don't forget tick/bug spray and sunscreen. Pack water, snacks and lunch. For additional information contact the hike coordinator email [plateauhikes@tennesseetrails.org](mailto:plateauhikes@tennesseetrails.org) or text/call 931-267-2243.

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

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Jane Ellett, Chapter Chair, presented Bob McGavock with the 2021 Bob Brown Lifetime Achievement Award at the last Soddy Daisy Chapter Quarterly Meeting. Congratulations Bob, well deserved.



**Mar 1 - Sewanee Perimeter Trail: Lake Cheston trailhead to Elliott's Point. 6.2 miles in and out. Moderate. Joint hike with the Highland Rim Chapter.** On the way to Elliott's Point, we will pass Otey Point. There will be good views from both points due to the lack of tree foliage. The trail is rocky in places with ups and downs, but there are no long steep inclines. The total elevation gained and lost is around 800-1000 feet. Please register with Delores Ladd 214-422-7206 or *ladddelores@gmail.com*. Meet in the lot on the far side of La Quinta Inn, north off I-24 at Exit 175, Brown's Ferry, at 8:30 am.

**Mar 5 - Fiery Gizzard Trail to Raven's Point, loop trail. 11.4 miles. Difficult.** Rocky terrain, spectacular views, cascading streams, rocky gorges, chimney rocks, Sycamore Falls, etc. Tough but incredibly rewarding! We'll meet in the lot on the far side of La Quinta Inn, right (north) off I-24 at Exit 175, Brown's Ferry, at 8:30 am. Please register with hike leader Betsy Darken, 423-718-2060.

**Mar 8 - North Chickamauga Creek to Boston Branch overlook. 4.6 miles. Moderate (quite a few rocks), in & out.** We will hike along the beautiful North Chick, ascend to a huge rock house, walk below the bluff, then climb an easy wooden stairway to the best overlook of the North Chick gorge. We'll meet at the Walmart Supercenter in Soddy Daisy on Dayton Pike, at the NE corner of the parking lot, near Dayton Pike, at 8:30 am. Please register with Tammy Hendrick, 315-949-8187.

## Soddy-Daisy Chapter – con't.

**Mar 12 - Stone Door, Big Creek Gulf, Ranger Falls, Big Creek Rim Trail Loop. Strenuous. 9-10 miles.** Fall colors, beautiful waterfalls, great views, impressive cliffs. We'll meet at Durham St, Soddy Daisy, at 8:30 am. Please register with Bob Caperton, 423-902-7898, *rhcaperton@aol.com*.

**Mar 15 - Lookout Mountain loop trail. 3 or so miles. Moderate.** Start on Craven's House Trail, turn left on the Bluff Trail, go up the steps to Point Park, then back down and right on the Bluff/Mountain Beautiful Trail. At a fort go left and down to get back to Craven's House. We'll meet at Food City on Tennessee Ave in St. Elmo at 8:30 am. Please register with hike leader Tom McElhone, 805-208-4654 or *sarmitta@yahoo.com*.

**Mar 19 - Clemmer trail. 8.8 miles in-and-out with a short spur to Benton Falls. Moderate.** The trail crosses a few small creeks so bring water shoes just in case, as well as lunch. The trail begins by gently ascending through a hardwood forest in Cherokee National Forest. The return hike is mostly downhill. Meet at Food City in Ooltewah, right at I-75 Exit 11 at 8:30 am. Please register with Tammy Hendrick, 315-949-8187.

**Mar 22 - Cumberland Trail: Rock Creek Loop and Lower Connector Trail. 5.5 miles. Moderate.** Beautiful cascades along the creek, lots of wildflowers (hopefully), and a fine view. We'll start from the lower trailhead and travel counterclockwise on the loop to go uphill gradually. Please register with hike leaders Marti and Roy Owensby, 423-386-5222 (voice only) or *sewmarti@aol.com*.

**Mar 26 - Laurel Falls, Bryant's Overlook, and beyond. 6-8 miles. Moderate, exploratory.** Laurel Falls is always magnificent! From the bottom of the falls, we will head up to the top, cross Laurel Creek not far from the top of the falls, and hike to Bryant's Overlook. Next we venture onto a mysterious trail marked by orange ribbons and in reasonably good shape. It heads SSE from the overlook, along the top of the bluff and then down through a break in the cliffs, heading in the general direction of the parking lot. Your hike leader did not get to the end of the trail, but it is probably not far from our cars. Bushwhacking is unlikely but not out of the question. We'll meet in the parking lot by the ballfields off Durham St, just off Dayton Pike in Soddy Daisy. Please register with hike leader Betsy Darken, 423-718-2060.

**Mar 29 - Sitton Gulch trail. 3-5 miles out & back. Easy to moderate,** depending on your turnaround point. A well-maintained trail, three spectacular waterfalls, a rushing whitewater creek, looming cliffs, and lots of wildflowers (we hope). What more could you ask for? Starts in Trenton GA and heads up into Cloudland Canyon SP. We'll meet in the lot on the far side of La Quinta Inn, north off I-24 at Exit 175, Brown's Ferry, at 8:30 am. Please register with hike leaders Marti and Roy Owensby, 423-386-5222 (voice only) or *sewmarti@aol.com*.

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## SUMNER TRAILS CHAPTER

**CHAPTER CO-CHAIRS:** Donna & David Hobbs 803-634-3470  
*sumner@tennesseetrails.org*  
**TREASURER:** John Jones 615-533-0127  
*sumnertreas@tennesseetrails.org*  
**BOARD REPRESENTATIVE:** John Thomas 925-759-0517  
*boardsumner@tennesseetrails.org*

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**Mar 16 – High Ridge Trail/Shoreline Trail, Bledsoe Creek State Park. Moderate. 2.4 mile loop.** Steep steps on High Ridge Trail. Hiking shoes and hiking poles are recommended. Meet at 9:30 am at the park office parking lot at 400 Zieglers Fort Road Gallatin, TN. For details or more information, contact Bob Dudley at *rdudney@yahoo.com*.

**Mar 25 - Shelby Bottoms Greenway, Nashville. 3-4 Miles. Easy due to all paved and flat.** Help us welcome daylight savings time and, hopefully, some nice spring weather. We will caravan/carpool from Glenbrook Kroger, 1050 Glenbrook Way, Hendersonville at 9 am and drive to the trailhead parking lot at the Wave Country, 2320 Two Rivers Pkwy, shortly after Opry Mills, at Exit 10 on Briley Pkwy East, at about 9:45. We will hike from the trailhead via the Cumberland River Pedestrian Bridge to the Greenway. On the Greenway we will walk the east arm, which is a lollipop loop bringing us back to the Pedestrian Bridge after 3 miles. You may terminate here or continue on for another 1 mile with us on the west arm of the Greenway, returning again to the Bridge and the Wave Country trailhead parking lot for a total of 4 miles. If you plan to meet us at Wave Country or need other information, please contact Donna at 925-759-0518 or John at 925-759-0517.

**Mar 30 - Old Stone Fort State Archaeological Park, Manchester, TN. 3 miles. Moderate with uneven difficult footing in places.** We will hike the Old Stone Fort Trail and possibly the somewhat steep Backbone trail. Hopefully, we will see some early wildflowers. The Old Stone Fort is a 2,000 year old American Indian ceremonial site. The two forks of the Duck River cut into the edge of the Highland Rim Plateau at the site of the Old Stone Fort. On the hike, we will see waterfalls, cascades and rock bluffs bordering the Duck River. You will need hiking poles, hiking shoes, desired snacks and water. We will eat lunch after the hike at a local restaurant. Those carpooling, meet at 8:30 am CT at the Kroger, Glenbrook Shopping Center, 1010 Glenbrook Way, Hendersonville. Please call if meeting at the trailhead by the museum at 10:00 am CT. Contact Judy Jenkins at *judy\_jenkins@comcast.net* or 615-403-0002 for more information.

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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*

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**Mar 2 - Raccoon Mountain Trails, Chattanooga, TN. Joint hike with Plateau Chapter.** See listing under that chapter for hike details and registration information.

**Mar 5 - CT Possum Gorge Section, Dunlap, TN. Joint hike with Plateau Chapter.** See listing under that chapter for hike details and registration information.

**Mar 9-10 - Big South Fork NRA - Charit Creek Lodge Overnight, Jamestown, TN. Joint event with Plateau Chapter.** See listing under that chapter for details and registration information.

**Mar 23 - Colditz Cove and Gentleman's Swimming Hole, Rugby, TN. Joint hike with Plateau Chapter.** See listing under that chapter for hike details and registration information.

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### 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.

## OFFICERS:

### President

Libby Francis 615-319-7501  
*president@tennesseetrails.org*

### Vice-President

Duane Frichtl 309-830-9720  
*vicepresident@tennesseetrails.org*

### Treasurer

June Callahan 615-945-7462  
*ttatreasurer68@tennesseetrails.org*

### Secretary

Melinda Pearson 731-225-4293  
*secretary@tennesseetrails.org*

## At-large Directors (terms expiring listed after name)

Libby Francis (2024) 615-319-7501  
*president@tennesseetrails.org*  
Duane Frichtl (2024) 309-830-9720  
*vicepresident@tennesseetrails.org*  
June Callahan (2024) 615-945-7462  
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Mark Hubbard (2022) 615-715-1517  
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*secretary@tennesseetrails.org*  
Susan Woods (2022) 731-441-8066  
*ttaboard68@tennesseetrails.org*  
Cheryl Heckler (2023) 931-200-7436  
*membership@tennesseetrails.org*  
Jenny Fitzgerald (2023) 615-517-8185  
*ttaboard68@tennesseetrails.org*  
Jane Coffey (2023) 615-614-1083  
*ttaboard68@tennesseetrails.org*

## Regional Directors

### West TN

Terry Warren (2023) 731-535-0625  
*regionalwest@tennesseetrails.org*

### Middle TN

Joan Hartvigsen (2022) 931-962-0811  
*jhartvigs@comcast.net*

### East TN

Patricia Appleton (2024)  
) 423-332-6517  
*regionaleast@tennesseetrails.org*

CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVES ON THE BOARD  
ARE LISTED WITHIN EACH CHAPTER'S HEADER

### Newsletter Editor

LouAnn Partington 931-393-4835  
*editor@tennesseetrails.org*

## 2022 TTA Board of Directors Meetings

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

Tuesday, May 3, 6:30 PM CT Zoom Video  
Conference

Tuesday, Aug 2, 6:30 PM CT Zoom Video  
Conference

November, Date/time TBD Townsend  
Annual Meeting

## 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.

## Newsletter Deadlines:

Deadlines for Chapter announcements and articles of special interest are due on the 10<sup>th</sup> 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**

Mar 22

☐

**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](mailto:membership@tennesseetrails.org)

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

**PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY.**

___ Individual	\$25.00	Name	_____
___ Family	\$35.00	Address	_____
___ Student (FULL TIME)	\$15.00	City	_____ State _____
___ Supporting (\$50.00, \$100.00 or more)		Phone ( )	_____ Zip _____ -- _____
___ Life Member (Individual) \$500.00			
___ Life Member (Family) \$750.00		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 have access to the Members Area of our website ([www.tennesseetrails.org](http://www.tennesseetrails.org)) which includes the Membership Directory listing members by chapter and how to reach them. You will also receive our monthly newsletter which contains information on upcoming hikes, events, chapter meetings, and volunteer opportunities. We encourage you to review the Hiking Handbook (under the Hikes & Events section), a reference containing information about TTA, trail etiquette, and hiker responsibilities. We invite you to attend any number of monthly meetings where you will enjoy diverse programs, socializing and refreshments. Also, we hold our annual meeting 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.

***Not a member yet? Please check out one of our hikes or meetings soon!***