

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

PLATEAU CHAPTER SUPPORTING “HIKE FOR HEALTH”

For the 4th year in a row, members of the Plateau Chapter, together with Fairfield Glade’s Friends-of-the Trails are supporting Covenant Health and the Cumberland Medical Center’s Hike for Health. The program was initiated in 2019 to help cancer patients and survivors become more active.

Since its inception, Plateau Chapter members have selected trails to hike and have led many of the hikes. The program consists of 13 weekly hikes of 1 mile each. Hike for Health will have leaders at the front and back of each group to provide support for others who are slowly building their physical endurance and gaining socialization with others.

The Hike for Health will help both the new and the experienced hikers accomplish a half marathon distance in just 13 weeks. For those interested in learning more about this program, go to <https://crossvilletrails.com/health-walks>.

SECOND QUARTER BOARD MEETING

The 2022 2nd Quarter Regular meeting of the TTA Board of Directors will be held on Tuesday, May 3 at 6:30 pm Central Time, via Zoom video conferencing. Any Association member is welcome to attend, and may do so by contacting Libby Francis (president@tennesseetrails.org) for the link to join the meeting.



CTC ALTERNATIVE SPRING BREAK



*Alternative Spring Break students on a bluff overlooking
the Piney Gorge*



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
Website: www.cumberlandtrail.org

Cumberland Trails Conference (CTC) had a very successful Alternative Spring Break (ASB) for 2022. Through volunteer labor and the work of our dedicated trail crew, we removed 1400 feet of duff in just three days of work. Unfortunately, the winter storm affected our workday on Friday and the student volunteers went home early but we are incredibly proud of all the effort put forth by everyone involved. We would like to thank the TTA for their involvement in both donations and volunteer efforts to make ASB successful and we look forward to working together in future events!

Now that Alternative Spring Break is over, the Cumberland Trails Conference will continue with our monthly volunteer weekends. We are expecting around 15 people to join us on April 8th & 9th to continue work on the Upper Piney section located near Spring City, TN. Keep an eye out on our website and social media pages for the May Volunteer Weekend event. If you are interested in volunteering reach out to us via email ctcoffice2014@gmail.com and we will fill you in on the details of upcoming volunteer opportunities.

The CTC will be hitting the road to set up at several festivals in our area. On Saturday, April 9th, we set up a booth at the Nashville Outdoor Recreation Festival at Bell's Bend Outdoor Center. On April 30th, the CTC will be setting up a booth at the Ivy Academy Spring Festival in Soddy Daisy, TN. If you know of a festival you would like to see the CTC set up a booth, please let us know!

Lastly, our Executive Director, Mike Croley, is scheduled to give a presentation at the Clarksville TTA meeting on April 19th at the Wade Bourne Nature Center in Clarksville, TN. His presentation covers the current status of the Cumberland Trail and the Cumberland Trails Conference.

CLARKSVILLE CHAPTER

CHAPTER CO-CHAIRS: Paula Sanders 954-993-5541
Suva Bastin 931-645-2849
clarksville@tennesseetrails.org

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

SECRETARY: Blue Bastin 931-272-1190
ttaclarksvillesecretary68@tennesseetrails.org

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

May 4 - RichEllen Park. 2.0 miles. Moderate. The trail is paved and mostly out in the open. Dogs are permitted if on a leash. There is a restroom in the park. Meet 8:30 am CT at the Dollar Store on the left side of Highway 149. The Dollar Store is just before Hill Top Market and there is a traffic light just past Hill Top Market. Contact Suva Bastin 931-645-2849.

May 14 - Two Falls & Blue Hole, South Cumberland Recreation Area. 2.7 miles. Moderately difficult. We will see both Greeter and Boardtree Falls. Both are beautiful. And we will also see Blue Hole a nice swimming hole. All are on Firescald Creek. The trail is on natural turf in the woods. Trekking poles are recommended. Dogs are allowed if on a leash. There are no toilet facilities at the trailhead. Bring your lunch. Meet 7:00 am CT at the new I24 Exit 11 Park and Ride. 128 miles to trailhead; Contact Paul Schwab 931-801-9484.

May 17 - Monthly Chapter Meeting. Two volunteers will provide snacks for everyone. Bring your own drinks. Contact Paula Sanders 954-993-5541 or Suva Bastin 931-645-2849.

May 21 - Clarksville Greenway & Austin Peay Blue Trail. 4.2 total miles. Easy. Hike from the Red River East Trailhead, 820 Kraft Street, through Austin Peay State University's campus and back. The entire hike is paved. The first ≈0.75 mile goes up hill through a pretty woods and grass. After leaving the woods there is very little elevation change. We walk a short distance along city streets to Austin Peay's Blue Trail which leads us through and around the campus. Dogs are allowed if on a leash. There is a porta potty at the trail head. Meet 8:00 am CT at the trailhead. Contact Blue Bastin 931-272-1190.

May 28 - Montgomery Bell Trail, Montgomery Bell State Park. 10.4 miles. Moderate. The trail is on natural turf, in the woods. It encircles the portion of the park south of Highway US70. It cross creeks several times and there will probably be a few muddy spots. It passes by pits where iron ore was mined in the early 1800s. Dogs are permitted if on a leash. Trekking poles are recommended. Bring your lunch. Restrooms are available at the trailhead. Meet 8:00 am CT, Big Lots parking area, Riverside Drive, Clarksville, TN. 33 miles to trailhead. Contact Paul Schwab 931-801-9484.

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
columbiiahikes@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.

Hike information unavailable at press time. Please check the
TTA website for updated information.

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

May 7 - Chestnut Top, GSMNP. This hike starts at the
Townsend "Y", a popular swimming and tubing spot. The
wildflowers are most abundant in April on this trail, but I am
positive we will see quite a few remaining on this hike. After
we begin hiking up this trail, we will see Thunderhead
Mountain on our left between mile 2.0 and 2.5. Thunderhead
is the tallest peak in the western part of the Smokies at
5,527 feet. It is 4.3 miles to the Schoolhouse Gap junction
where we will break for lunch. This trail is not overly crowded
with hikers. It should be a great hike. Please come and join
us. We will meet at Brown's Shopping Center near The
Sonic at 1807 East Lamar Alexander Parkway at 8:30 am.
For more information about the hike contact Carolyn Reeves
at 865-399-2972 or *crhiker04@gmail.com*.

East TN Chapter – con't.

**May 14 - Hike parts of the 2300-acre Norris Watershed
and the adjoining Norris Dam State Park.** Meet at 9:30
am in the parking lot in front of Norris Middle School and
across from the Commons. The trailhead for the starting
point off Upper Clear Creek Road has limited parking, so
consider car-pooling. The entrance to Upper Clear Creek
Road is about 4 miles away, and it's another 3 miles or so
to the trailhead for Hi Point Trail. Take the trail to its
intersection with Lakeside Loop Trail, which is a gradual
downhill walk. Take a left on Lakeview Trail, where
glimpses of Norris Lake can be seen off to the right.
There's a shortcut - Scenic Cove Trail - that intersects
with Hi Point Trail. Turn left at the next intersection and
you're back on Hi Point Trail. Otherwise, stay on Lakeview
Trail to its intersection with Hi Point Spur Trail. A short
uphill hike ends up at High Point - the highest point in the
watershed. Take Hi Point Trail back to the vehicles. It's
either 3.8 or 5.4 miles. After the hike, some participants
may want to gather for lunch at a location to be decided.
More information: *rbfowler65@gmail.com* or 865-315-
2266.

**May 21 - Knoxville Urban Wilderness - Ijams Quarries.
6 miles. Moderate.** Mostly through the woods, with rolling
hills, one or two are steep but not very long. We will meet
at the Meads Quarry parking lot (see the map referred to
below) and leave at 9:30 am. 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. The hike will be on the trails around Ross Marble
Quarry and Mead's Quarry. The hike will include Imery's,
Turnbuckle, Burnett Ridge, Ross Marble and Tharp Trace
trails. After the hike plan on stopping on the way back for
a meal and refreshments, perhaps at Calhoun's or
somewhere in South Knoxville. For specific information
about the hike please call Tom at 865-588-5622, leave a
message or send an email to *cressler@utk.edu* before
May 20th.

May 28 - Injun Creek, GSMNP. This trail is very scenic to
be an unmaintained trail in our Smokies. It follows a creek
most of the 6.5 miles and in that creek we will see parts of
an old abandoned steam engine, evidence of homesteads
and an old cemetery. There are lots of interesting things
to see on this trail. After approximately 3 miles we will
connect to Grapeyard trail and descend to our shuttle
vehicle which will take us to our cars. Let's meet at the
Cracker Barrel Straw Plains exit at 8:00 am and hopefully
we will arrive at the Greenbriar Ranger station to begin
our hike by 9:30 am. Be sure to bring \$\$ for carpooling
and pre-register with Rosie at 865-985-9144 or
rosemary_1@hotmail.com.

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

May 7 - Monte Sano State Park, Huntsville, AL. Sinks Trail, Stone Cuts Trail, Mountain Mist Trail and O'Shaughnessy Point. 6 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* or 256-852-7505. Bring water, lunch and hiking sticks. Wear sturdy hiking boots.

May 10 - Cloudland Canyon State Park, Trenton, GA. Overlook Trail, Waterfalls Trail and West Rim Loop Trail. 7 miles. Moderate. Meet at 9:00 am CT at the visitor center. Please register with Joan Hartvigsen, *jhartvigs@comcast.net* or 931-636-2914. We will view two beautiful waterfalls, hemlocks, mountain laurel and rhododendrons. We will enjoy spectacular vistas down into the canyon. \$5.00 parking fee.

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. Please see the Murfreesboro Chapter listing for hike details. Contact Joan Hartvigsen, 931-636-2914 or *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 on our way home we can visit nearby Soco Falls and Mingo Falls.

May 23-26 – Camping at Ragland Bottom Campground, Smithville, TN. Paddling to Burgess Falls on Tuesday from Cane Hollow Road Recreation Area. Hiking at Burgess Falls State Park after the paddle. Paddling to Fancher Falls on Wednesday from Johnson Chapel Recreation Area. Hiking at Edgar Evins State Park after the paddle. Joint activity with the Murfreesboro Chapter. Beautiful Ragland Bottom Campground is located on Center Hill Lake. Contact Joan Hartvigsen for more information and camping reservations, *jhartvigs@comcast.net* or 931-636-2914.

Highland Rim Chapter – con't.

Planning Ahead:

Jun 12 - Tennessee River Gorge Paddle, Marion County. Prentice Cooper State Forest. Suck Creek Ramp to Raccoon Mountain Ramp. 9 miles. Joint event with Murfreesboro Chapter. We will paddle through the beautiful Tennessee River Gorge. Bring a lot of water, snacks, lunch, sunscreen, hat, sunglasses, binoculars and a camera. We will see Osprey and Bald Eagles. One year a river otter swam next to my kayak! You must wear your PFD. Meet at 8:00 am CT at the Suck Creek Boat Ramp to arrange a shuttle. Please contact Joan Hartvigsen at *jhartvigs@comcast.net*, 931-962-0811 to register. The address for the Suck Creek Boat Ramp is 1900 Suck Creek Road, Chattanooga.

Jun 20-23 – Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Cades Cove. Camping, Hiking, Bike Riding Event. 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* or 931-962-0811.

Aug 8 -11 – Hiking, Camping and Kayaking. Camping 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* or 931-636-2914.

Sep 9-11 - Camping on Devils Step Island and Kayaking on Tims Ford Lake. Joint outing with the Murfreesboro Chapter. Contact Joan Hartvigsen to reserve a spot on Devils Step Island, *jhartvigs@comcast.net* or 931-962-0811. Paddlers have the option of camping at nearby Fairview Campground. Make your own reservations for Fairview Campground early. Or paddlers can meet us at 8 am CT Saturday on Devils Step Island if they do not want to camp. Friday evening we will paddle in the local area. Saturday morning at 8 am we will head out west to explore Maple Bend and Goose Islands and paddle to the end of Owl Hollow Creek and return. Saturday evening we will drive to Winchester and eat outdoors at Twin Creeks Marina. Sunday morning we will enjoy an early morning paddle heading east to explore Dripping Springs/Dry Creek Area.

JACKSON CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Melinda Pearson 731-225-4293
ttajackson68@tennesseetrails.org
BOARD REPRESENTATIVE Wendy Porter 205-960-8087
ttboardjackson68@tennesseetrails.org
SECRETARY/TREASURER: Terry Warren 731-535-0625
ttajacksontreas68@tennesseetrails.org
HIKE COORDINATOR: Glen Rognstad 731-217-5966
ttajacksonhikes68@tennesseetrails.org
FACEBOOK COORDINATOR: Vacant
ttajacksonfacebk68@tennesseetrails.org
MEETS MONTHLY: 1st Monday at 6:00 pm CT

May 2 – Chapter Meeting. Mulligans in Jackson at 6 pm.

May 14 - Charlie's Bunion in Gatlinburg. 8 miles. Difficult due to length and elevation. Hike begins at the parking lot at Newfound Gap rest area. We will meet at 9:00 am ET. The trailhead is near the restrooms at the east (left) side of the overlook. You will head northeast from the parking lot through mixed pines and hardwood forest. The trail continues at a steady climb. The trail then passes thru a section dominated by Fraser fir then a successional forest creating an ideal environment for berries in the summer. And note, the trail continues at a steady climb. You will be able to see the southern slopes of Mt. LeConte. You will reach the top of a ridge and a grassy area, where a spur trail leads to a partially obscured overlook to the north. You may see signs of wild hogs in this area. The trail levels out and rejoins the ridgeline and intersects with the Sweat Heifer Trail that should be full of spring beauties and trout lilies. The trail descends along the creek on the North Carolina side and connects to the Kephart Prong Trail. Then the trail ascends steeply providing some spectacular views into North Carolina. This trail connects to the Boulevard Trail. This portion of the AT continues straight ahead and then descends steadily thru a rutted section thru red spruce, Fraser fir, black cherry, yellow birch, American birch and a thornless blackberry. After curving around the shoulder of Mount Kephart, you'll see a dramatic view of Charlies Bunion. Along the trail you will also see rock walls and crags. Please dress accordingly and bring water, snacks, lunch. Please register with Jeff at *chambers.jeffreyb@gmail.com* or 731-431-1538 by Thursday, May 12.

MEMPHIS CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Charlie Bright 901-829-4434
ttamemphis68@tennesseetrails.org
BOARD REPRESENTATIVE: Michelle Kelley
ttboardmemphis68@tennesseetrails.org
TREASURERS: Janet Sheahan
Nancy Wark 901-240-1521
ttamemphistreasurer68@tennesseetrails.org
HIKE COORDINATOR: Wayne Simpson
w.simpson1@comcast.net

May 7 - Ft. Pillow Historic Park. 8 miles. Strenuous. We will hike the Red Trail which is rated strenuous by West Tennessee standards due to some very steep hills. Early in the hike we visit the site of the historic fort, scene of a well-known Civil War battle. We will have lunch overlooking the Fort Pillow Lake. After lunch, we plan to offer an option that shortens the hike by about a mile and avoids some of the steepest hills. Hiking boots are highly recommended. Bring a snack, lunch & plenty of water. For more information and to register contact Wayne Simpson: *w.simpson1@comcast.net* or 901-385-1988 - no texts.

May 14 - T.O. Fuller State Park Hike and Picnic. This 4 mile hike covers moderate to rugged terrain with some wet lands, hills and a possible stream crossing. Hiking boots or sturdy shoes are recommended. Bring water and a snack for the hike. The Discovery Loop Trail includes part of the Nature Bluff Trail of the Chucalissa Indian Village. After hiking we will picnic at Shelter 1. Marion Quinlen is in charge of the picnic. For the picnic everyone should bring their own lunch and drink. Cups and ice will be provided. If you would like to bring a dessert or something to share, please text Marion: 901-482-8640. Lynne Witherington will lead the hike so register with her at *withlynn@aol.com* (no texts). We will meet at the Picnic Shelter #1 before the hike. To get to this shelter drive past the Visitor Center and take the next right onto Pavilion Drive where there is a sign for the Shelby Bluff and Interpretative Center. Picnic Shelter #1 is on the left at the top of the hill. There is parking at the shelter and further down the road in a larger parking lot. The shelter has bathrooms.

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*

May 5 – Machine Falls, Adams Falls, Busby Falls and Laurel Bluff Loop Trails, Short Springs State Natural Area. Tullahoma. 5 miles. Moderate. We will start on the Busby Falls trail crossing Bobo Creek and follow the Laurel Bluff loop. Then back to the bridge and continue on the Busby Falls trail. After visiting Machine Falls, we will hike to Adams Falls and head back to the trailhead on the Machine Falls trail. Bring water, snacks, and lunch. For more information or to sign up, contact Sara Pollard at 615-714-3610 or *sarabpollard@gmail.com*.

May 10 – Chapter Meeting. 7 pm. This is our hike planning meeting for July through December. Bring your calendars to schedule hikes you want to lead or ideas for hikes. If you cannot attend and want to lead a hike, contact hike coordinator Sara Pollard at 615-714-3610 or *sarabpollard@gmail.com*.

May 14 – Window Cliffs State Natural Area. Baxter. 5.5 miles round trip. Moderate. Window Cliffs is located approximately 18 miles south of Cookeville near Burgess Falls State Park. There is a bluff that separates the upstream and downstream parts of Cane Creek, and the bluff has eroded from both sides causing an opening to develop, which is how the name “Window Cliffs” came about. There are several creek crossings over Cane Creek. Hiking boots are recommended, and a pair of water shoes is suggested for the water crossings. Pets are not permitted within the state natural area. Bring water, snacks, and lunch. For more information or to sign up, contact Sara Pollard at 615-714-3610 or *sarabpollard@gmail.com*.

Murfreesboro Chapter – con’t.

May 16-19 – Great Smoky Mountains National Park and Blue Ridge Parkway Camping and Hiking. Joint event with the Highland Rim chapter. Camping in Mile High Campground at the southern end of the Blue Ridge Parkway. Hiking in GSMNP and near Shining Rock Wilderness Area off Blue Ridge Parkway near Maggie Valley, NC. 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, and Hemphill Bald Trail Loop. This hike is a strenuous 13.7-mile loop with a 2,000 ft. elevation change. On Wednesday we will hike the Art Loeb Trail to Black Balsam Knob and Tennent Mountain and the Sam Knob Summit Trail. The Art Loeb Trail to Black Balsam Knob and Tennent Mountain is a 5-mile moderate loop and offers panoramic views from Tennent Mountain and Black Balsam Knob. The Sam Knob Summit Trail is 2.7 miles out and back. Wednesday on our way back to our campsite, we can eat at J. Arthur's Restaurant in Maggie Valley, NC. On our way home Thursday, we can visit nearby Soco Falls and Mingo Falls. Contact Joan Hartvigsen by email *jhartvigs@comcast.net* or 931-636-2914 to reserve a spot in the Mile High group campsite. For more information, contact Sara Pollard at 615-714-3610 or *sarabpollard@gmail.com*.

May 23-26 – Camping at Ragland Bottom Campground and Kayaking to Burgess Falls and Fancher Falls. Smithville. Joint event with the Highland Rim chapter. Paddling to Burgess Falls on Tuesday from Cane Hollow Road Recreation Area and hiking at Burgess Falls State Park after the paddle. Paddling to Fancher Falls on Wednesday from Johnson Chapel Recreation Area and hiking at Edgar Evins State Park after the paddle. Beautiful Ragland Bottom Campground is located on Center Hill Lake. There is a limited number of campsites that are reserved so register early. For more information or to register, contact Sara Pollard at 615-714-3610 or *sarabpollard@gmail.com*.

NASHVILLE CHAPTER

CHAPTER CHAIR: Doug Burroughs 615-587-0085
ttanashville68@tennesseetrails.org
BOARD REPRESENTATIVE: Alice Cannon 615-646-4234
ttaboardnashville68@tennesseetrails.org
HIKE COORDINATOR: Barbara Bennett 202-236-0880
ttanashvillehikes68@tennesseetrails.org
(email Barbara & volunteer to lead an outing)
MEETS MONTHLY: 4th Tuesday 6:00 pm CT in the REI
Community Room 261 Franklin Rd, Brentwood TN. For
directions, contact the Chapter Chair.

May 1 - Flat Rock State Natural Area Wildflowers, Flat Rock Cedar Glades and Barrens, Central Basin near Murfreesboro, TN. 4 miles. Easy. Flat Rock is a lesser used trail and offers a great example of middle Tennessee cedar glades and barrens. The wooded sections, meadows, and contrastingly stark rocky areas yield their own unique variety of what are often specifically adapted wildflower species. We'll hike at a pace that allows us to appreciate the natural beauty around us. The loop trail is relatively flat with a few gentle inclines. The first segment is rocky and others may be wet or muddy so hiking shoes or boots are recommended. Bring water and snacks for the trail. We'll meet at the trailhead at 9:00 am. Afterwards we'll head over to Carmen's Taqueria for lunch. Register with Mark for details and updates: midtn@tnhiker.net or 615-669-3221. Alternate date for inclement weather: May 6th.

May 6 - Nashville Chapter Volunteer Activity at Beaman Park, Ashland City, TN. 9:15 am - Noon. Meet at Creekside Trailhead, just off Little Marrowbone Road at Beaman Park. Heather Gallagher, Beaman Park Manager, will bring tools and gloves. Bring your own water and snacks. Remaining scheduled volunteer days at Beaman for 2022: August 5, November TBA. Contact Wendy Fish at 615-268-4586 or 04fishies@gmail.com to register to get possible cancellation information or other updates.

May 8 - Jones Mill Trail, Long Hunter State Park, Hermitage, TN. Options for 3 1/2 or 7 3/4 miles. East to moderate for length. This is a hiker-friendly biking trail that features cedar glades and barrens along with other types of terrain. While this won't be a wildflower-focused hike we can expect to see quite a few. Bring plenty of water and snacks. We'll meet at the Jones Mill trailhead for an 8:15 am step-off. Register with Mark for details and updates: midtn@tnhiker.net or 615-669-3221. Alternate date for inclement weather: May 12th.

Nashville Chapter – con't.

May 24 - Annual Nashville Chapter Picnic, Edwin Warner Park, Nashville TN. This year the picnic will be held at Shelter 5, a new location, 4:00 pm CT until sunset. Following a potluck meal at 5:30 pm, we'll take a twilight walk on the park roads. The chapter will provide tableware, napkins, and ice, but we encourage you to bring your own non-disposable "mess kits" as a more sustainable alternative. If you have a camping lantern and folding chair, you may want to bring those also. The shelters aren't lit. For the walk, you will want a flashlight or headlamp. Bring friends! This is the only chapter meeting that also includes a hike, so bring along a friend who's been thinking about going beyond walking in the neighborhood. Directions from Nashville: Drive west on West End / Harding. Turn left at the "split" in Belle Meade to go on Highway 100. Continue on Highway 100 for 3.2 miles and turn left on Old Hickory. Drive 0.7 miles over the ridge and turn right on Vaughn Road at the traffic light. In about 0.3 miles, turn right into the Edwin Warner Park Picnic Area. We will be at Shelter #5, not too far on the left - look for the TTA Banner. Contact Jackie York at jac_yor@msn.com or 615-294-8241 (cell), or Alice Cannon at acannon12@bellsouth.net or 615-646-4234, for more information.

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

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/>.

May 4 - Indian Rock Trail, Big Ridge State Park, Maynardville, TN. Joint hike with Upper Cumberland Chapter. Long hike: The park is on the South side of Norris Lake. We will combine several short trails (easy to strenuous) to get to Indian Rock and Sharps Station for total of 7.9 miles. Along the way we will see an old mill, cemeteries, sinkholes, and the site where settler Peter Graves was scalped. Depart from Dorton UMC, 3405 Hwy 70 East, Crossville at 7:30 am CT. Carpool fee is \$7.00. For additional information contact the hike coordinator, Deb Westervelt, email plateauhikes@tennesseetrails.org or text/call 931-267-2243.

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May 11 - Big South Fork NRA/Daniel Boone Forest - Sheltowee Trace -Gobblers Arch, Stearns, KY. Joint hike with Upper Cumberland Chapter. Long hike: 8 mile moderate to strenuous. Short Hike: 5 mile moderate in/out to the KY Wild River. Start at Peter's Mountain Trailhead descending down the Sheltowee Trace Trail following the Mark Branch Creek past rock houses and rock bluffs. The trail crosses the creek several times although there are plenty of stepping rocks to make most of the crossings to the Mark Branch Falls where the trail drops down a set of stairs to the bottom of the falls. We follow the Trace on to the bottom where we meet up with the Kentucky Wild River. Hikers may choose to cross the river (bring water shoes) to get to the restrooms and picnic tables for lunch. After lunch we'll hike a mile along the river before the climb up Gobblers Arch Trail and start a short but steep accent up to and around steep rock bluffs & rock houses until we reach the Kentucky Wild River overlook. From here we follow the trail thru Gobbler's Arch. Depart 7:30 am CT from the Crossville Cracker Barrel Southeast parking lot. Carpool gas cost \$8. Bring lunch, water and snacks. Don't forget tick/bug spray and sunscreen. For additional information contact the hike coordinator email plateauhikes@tennesseetrails.org or text/call 931-267-2243.

May 12 -Chapter Meeting. 6 pm First United Methodist Church Annex Building, 69 Neecham St, Crossville, TN. Trail Building Status of the Cumberland Trail. Speaker, Shauna Wilson is the project's crew chief. Meet at Los Margaritas, 72 Woodmere Mall, for dinner at 4:30 pm. Please text Deb 931-267-2243 know if you are coming for dinner.

May 14 - Smoky Mountain National Park- Schoolhouse Gap, White Oak Sinks and Chestnut Top Trails. Joint hike with Upper Cumberland Chapter. Long Hike: This is a moderate to strenuous one-way hike arranging shuttles at each trailhead which are 3 miles apart by road. The hike will begin on Schoolhouse Gap trail. In about 1 mile the hike will go into White Oak Sinks, a popular area not on the Great Smoky Mt National Park map. We will be there after the abundant spring flowers are gone, but a few may still around. We will explore this area on well-worn paths to Rainbow Falls Cave and Blowhole Cave. If interested we can check out the grave of Abraham Law 1790-1864 before venturing on through and out to the end of Schoolhouse Gap. After a lunch break the hike will continue till it intersects Chestnut Top Trail which we will hike on to the Townsend Wye. Chestnut Top Trail is on a ridge with views on both sides of Thunderhead Mountain and the Smokies Crest on the descent to the road. Hopefully we will hit it right to enjoy Mountain Laurel and some Flame Azaleas in bloom. The mileage for this hike is 6.5 miles plus wandering in White Oak Sinks with a total estimate of about 8 miles. The hike starts out at 1543' elevation and ends at 1060' elevation but has some gain and loss along the way with around 1000' descent in the last 2.5 miles.

Short Hike: 4.6 miles in on Schoolhouse Gap to White Oak Sinks and out with a 692' elevation gain. Don't forget tick/bug spray and sunscreen. Pack water, snacks and lunch. We'll stop for dinner on the way home. Depart from Dorton UMC, 3405 Hwy 70 East, Crossville at 7:30 am CT. Carpool fee is \$10. For additional information contact the hike coordinator Deb at plateauhikes@tennesseetrails.org or text/call 931-267-2243 or Cheryl Heckler 931-200-7436 who will lead the hike.

May 18 - Hidden Passage Trail, Pickett State Park, Jamestown, TN. Joint hike with Upper Cumberland Chapter. Short Hike: 5 mile moderate in/out. Long Hike: 9 mile moderate to strenuous loop with overlooks, rock bluffs and waterfalls. Depart 7:30 am CT from the Crossville Cracker Barrel Southeast parking lot. Carpool gas cost \$6. Bring lunch, water and snacks. Don't forget tick/bug spray and sunscreen. For additional information contact the hike coordinator email plateauhikes@tennesseetrails.org or text/call 931-267-2243.

May 21 - Trail Maintenance. Black Mountain, Crab Orchard, TN. Joint venture with Upper Cumberland Chapter. Annual trail maintenance of Black Mountain including the upper loop and lower loop plus down the mountain toward Windless Cave. We'll divide up into 3 crews. Bring swing blade, saw, loppers, clippers and gloves. As usual, bring water, tick and bug spray. We'll cook hot dogs at the campground around noon. Depart 8 am from Dorton United Methodist Church 3405 HWY 70E (1 mile East of Peavine Rd). Carpool cost is \$2. For additional information contact the hike coordinator email plateauhikes@tennesseetrails.org or text/call 931-267-2243 or Bruce Whitehead 941-716-3620.

May 25 - Norris City Watershed Park, Norris, TN. Joint hike with Upper Cumberland Chapter. Long Hike: This is 8 mostly easy miles combining Clear Creek, White Oak and Cliff trails. We'll hike the Clear Creek Trail after lunch. The Cliff Trail is moderate due to elevation changes with views of Norris Dam, the river and lots of wildflowers. Short Hike: Hikers will turn around at the 2.5 mi mark then wander the museum before we all go to lunch. We will start at the Grist Mill next door to the Lenior Museum. On the Clear Creek Trail we'll see an old weir and stream gauging station, the "kissing tree", G. Taylor Mill site, an old millrace, some stream crossings (may need water shoes), a large spring inside a fenced concrete structure, and other weir stations. Watch for wild flowers along the way. A wildlife watering hole and CCC foundations are also there. The museum is open on Wednesdays and is fascinating. We'll eat lunch at the Clinch River Brewery. Bring water and snacks. Depart from Dorton UMC, 3405 Hwy 70 East, Crossville at 7:30 am CT. Carpool fee is \$7.00. For additional information contact the hike coordinator, Deb Westervelt, email plateauhikes@tennesseetrails.org or text/call 931-267-2243.

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>

May 3 - Spring trip, Pickett State Park.

May 7 – Piney River. 9-10 miles. Moderate. We will hike along Piney River and Duskin Creek, with beautiful cascades and waterfalls, rock walls and bluffs, and a 100-foot suspension bridge! Shuttle required. Meet at Durham St in Soddy Daisy at 8:30 am. Please register with Tammy Hendrick at 315-949-8187.

May 10 – Cloudland Canyon State Park: Overlook Trail and West Rim Loop Trail. 4.8 miles. Moderate. Joint hike with Highland Rim Chapter. We will view hemlocks, mountain laurel and rhododendrons, along with spectacular vistas down into the canyon. Optional: continue with a hike down the Waterfalls Trail to see Hemlock and Cherokee Waterfalls, about 1.5 miles, difficult (staircases, many staircases to Cherokee). \$5.00 parking fee per vehicle. Meet at 10:00 am ET at the Cloudland Canyon visitor center or at 9:15 am at the parking lot on the far side of LaQuinta Inn, north off I-24 Exit 174. NOTE THE DIFFERENT MEETING TIME: 9:15 am. Please register with hike leader Joan Hartvigsen, *jhartvigs@comcast.net* or 931-636-2914, or text Betsy Darken, 423-718-2060.

May 14 – High Voltage Trail, Raccoon Mountain. Moderately strenuous. 8-9 miles, out and back. A gentle walk through pleasant woods followed by a moderately steep ascent to the top of the mountain, which includes TVA's pumped storage lake. Meet at the parking lot just past LaQuinta Inn, north off I-24 Exit 175, at 8:30 am. Turn right at the bottom of the exit ramp if coming west from Chattanooga. Please register with hike leader Tom McElhone, 805-208-4654 or *sarmitta@yahoo.com*.

May 17 – Little Cedar Mountain. 3.2 miles. Easy. Very pleasant hike through the woods and along Nickajack Lake. Meet at the parking lot on the far side of LaQuinta Inn, north off I-24 Exit 174, at 8:30 am. Please register with Nancy Allen, 423-987-0941.

Soddy-Daisy Chapter – con't.

May 21 – Dunn overlook, Snow Falls, and Buzzard's Point. Strenuous. 9.8 miles in and out. Bring water shoes to make a short creek crossing, if the water is not too high. Leave any strong fear of heights behind so we can check out the nooks and crannies and cranky buzzards of Buzzard's Roost. Bring snacks, lunch, water, bug spray and sunscreen. Please register with hike leader Betsy Darken by texting 423-718-2060. Meet at Durham St, Soddy Daisy, at 8:30 am.

May 24 - Cloudland Canyon State Park: Can't Hardly Loop. 3.5 miles. Easy. We will start the hike at the Ascalon trailhead in Georgia, learning how the trail received its name. There is a \$5 parking fee. This is a 3.5-mile loop with fairly easy terrain and an elevation gain of roughly 300 feet, with some rocks and some uphill, but no extended climb. The hike will take us along a scenic trail through the woods along a creek bed. In the past, there have been reports of river otters along the creek. If all hikers agree, we can explore a little further to see how this trail connects to the main section of Cloudland Canyon. The return to the parking area will be on the Cloudland Connector trail. All hiking speeds will be accommodated. Meet at Food City off Tennessee Avenue in St. Elmo at 8:30 am. Please register with hike leader Delores Ladd at *ladddelores@gmail.com* or text to 214-422-7206. If registering by email, please include a phone number so you can be notified of any changes.

May 28 – Fall Creek Falls State Park. 6-7 miles. Combination of two moderate 3-mile loop trails. We'll hike the Gorge Overlook and Woodland Trails (loop) and the Paw Paw Trail (loop), and maybe add the Turkeypen Ridge Trail (1 mile out and back). Waterfalls, overlooks, and a suspension bridge. Meet at Durham Street in Soddy Daisy at 8:30 am. Please register with Bob Caperton, 423-902-7898 or *rhcaperon@aol.com*.

May 31 - Falls Loop at DeSoto State Park. 5.6 miles. Moderate. We'll start out on the Quarry Trail among interesting rock formations, wriggle along the snakelike Family Bike Loop in the midst of a pine forest, follow the Orange Trail to the lovely Laurel Creek, and pass through impressive boulders to arrive back where we started. Bring lunch, bug spray, etc. Meet at the parking lot just past LaQuinta Inn, north off I-24 Exit 175, at 8:30 am. Please register with hike leader Betsy Darken, 423-718-2060.

SUMNER TRAILS CHAPTER

CHAPTER CO-CHAIRS: Donna & David Hobbs 803-634-3470
ttasumnertrails68@tennesseetrails.org
TREASURER: John Jones 615-533-0127
ttasumnertrails68@tennesseetrails.org
BOARD REPRESENTATIVE: John Thomas 925-759-0517
ttasumnertrails68@tennesseetrails.org

May 4 - Winding Stairs. Lafayette, TN. 2 miles. Moderate with difficult uneven footing in places. There are several small waterfalls and beautiful rock formations. The trail consists of some optional stairs and concrete trail but most of the trail is rock, dirt and gravel with a creek crossing or two. Hiking boots, hiking poles, and water are recommended. Those carpooling or caravanning, meet in Gallatin beside the Gallatin Chick-fil-a in front of Wal Mart at 9:00 am or meet at the trailhead, 655 Nature Trail Way, Lafayette, TN at 10:00 am. There are restrooms at the trailhead. If meeting at the trailhead or for additional information, contact Wayne Drown at *wetdrown@bellsouth.net* or call or text 803-646-0972.

May 10-12 – Hiking near Monteagle. Stay two nights at the Smoke House Lodge, Monteagle, TN. Drive to Monteagle on May 10 to hike and check in to rooms at Smoke House Lodge. Hiking in the morning and the afternoon on May 11. We will drive back home on May 12 after a short hike. The Smoke House Lodge is close to South Cumberland State Park where there are several hiking options (Fiery Gizzard, Blue Hole Falls) and Sewanee (Bridal Veil Falls, Perimeter Trail). The Smoke House Lodge has a block of ten rooms set aside for our chapter. Reservation can be made by calling 931-924-2091 and requesting rooms held for Sumner County TTA. The rooms including tax are \$72.28 a night and the reservation can be canceled up until 24 hours before check in. For questions contact Marcia Powell *mpow1221@gmail.com*, 217-855-3013.

May 18 - Springfield Greenway. 4.2 miles. Easy. Level and paved, mostly along Sulphur Fork Creek, 2.1 miles each way from the Garner Street Park trailhead, 200 North Garner St., Springfield, TN 37172 to J. Travis Price Park with its lake and historic log cabin. Good restrooms at both ends of trail. Dogs welcome. Lunch to follow at a local restaurant. Meet to caravan at Glenbrook Kroger, 1010 Glenbrook Way, Hendersonville at 9 am, or meet us at 10 am at the trailhead. Contact John at 925-759-0517; or Donna at 925-759-0518 if you intend to meet at the trailhead or need additional information.

May 27 - White House Greenway. 2.6 miles. Easy. Join us at 9:00 a.m. at White House High School parking lot, 508 Tyree Springs Road, (New Shackle Island Road) for an easy out and back on the paved and mostly level White House Greenway to the Andrew Jackson trailhead. We can extend the hike towards the Veterans Memorial trailhead if desired. Contact David (803-634-3470, *davidthobbs@gmail.com*) or Donna Hobbs (706-627-2268, *donna.s.hobbs@gmail.com*) for more information and to let us know you are coming.

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

May 4 - Indian Rock Trail, Big Ridge State Park, Maynardville, TN. Joint hike with Plateau Chapter. Please see the listing under Plateau Chapter for hike details and registration information.

May 11 - Big South Fork NRA/Daniel Boone Forest - Sheltowee Trace -Gobblers Arch, Stearns, KY. Joint hike with Plateau Chapter. Please see the listing under Plateau Chapter for hike details and registration information.

May 14 - Smoky Mountain National Park- Schoolhouse Gap, White Oak Sinks and Chestnut Top Trails. Joint hike with Plateau Chapter. Please see the listing under Plateau Chapter for hike details and registration information.

May 18 - Hidden Passage Trail, Pickett State Park, Jamestown, TN. Joint hike with Plateau Chapter. Please see the listing under Plateau Chapter for hike details and registration information.

May 21 - Trail Maintenance. Black Mountain, Crab Orchard, TN. Joint venture with Plateau Chapter. Please see the listing under Plateau Chapter for hike details and registration information.

May 25 - Norris City Watershed Park, Norris, TN. Joint hike with Plateau Chapter. Please see the listing under Plateau Chapter for hike details and registration information.

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.

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Vice-President

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Secretary

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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

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.

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

May 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

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 _____

Phone () _____ Zip _____ -- _____

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) 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!