

TENNESSEE TRAILS

The monthly newsletter of the Tennessee Trails Association



1995 TTA HIKE SCHEDULE

CL	Clarksville Chapter	MU	Murfreesboro Chapter
CU	Cumberland Mtn. Chapter	N	Nashville Chapter
ET	East Tennessee Chapter	UC	Upper Cumberland Chapter
ME	Memphis Chapter		

JANUARY

1	MU	Frozen Head, Heloise Shilstat 896-6278
7	ME	Reelfoot Lake Eagle Watch, Betty Porter 363-0213
11	N	Piney River TSRA/TTA Meeting, Rob Weber 952-2949
14	MU	Cedars of Lebanon, Cathy Williams 893-7748
14	UC	Laurel/Snow Falls Trail, Paul Miller 526-9259
21	CM	Slave Falls, BSFNRA, Marvin Shanks 879-9765
21	ME	Herb Parsons Lake, Freddi Felt 685-9915
21	CL	Cedars of Lebanon, J.R. Tate 326-5453
21	MU	Cedars of Lebanon, Cathy Williams 893-7748
21-22	N	Mousetail Landing Backpack, Nina Fitzgerald 228-9188
21	ET	Big South Fork, Russ Manning 494-8121
21	UC	Mystery Hike #3 w/Ross, Bonnie Greene 836-3696
28	UC	Copper Cascade, Scott's Gulf, Bonnie Greene 836-3696
28	N	Virgin Falls, Kevin Kimbro 333-0629
29	ME	Meeman-Shelby S.P., Ken Novak 377-9127

FEBRUARY

5	N	Radnor Lake, Bob & Arleen Barnett 832-6484
11	N	Board Meeting at Gerst Haus, Shelby Bottoms Hike
12	N	Old Stone Fort, Bob & Arleen Barnett 832-6484
18	UC	Clifty Creek, Scott's Gulf, Bonnie Greene 836-3696
18	ME	Ole Miss Campus and Rowan Oak, Jerri Bull 363-4408
18	MU	Stones River Battlefield, George Williams 890-3693
18	N	Warner Park, Ninez Giles 297-2281
25	ME	Chickasaw Bluff Trail, Anne Lindholm 388-4123
25	N	Brady Mtn., Cumberland Trail Meeting Rob Weber 952-2949
26	N	Black Mtn., Bob Brown 352-7474

MARCH

4	N	Meriwether Lewis, Bob & Arleen Barnett 832-6484
4	ME	Big Hill Pond, Ken Novak 377-9127
18	ME	Ft. Pillow Historic Area, Debbie Gilbert 454-0613
18	MU	Franklin Forest, Mark Hall
25	CL	Natchez Trace, Suva Bastin 645-2849
24-25	N	Group Campout, Long Hunter S.P., Bob Barnett 832-6484
25	N	Honey Creek, Jim Poteet 377-4777

APRIL

1-2	ME	Mousetail Landing/Ladyfinger Bluff, Debbie Gilbert 454-0613
8	N	Long Hunter Backpack, Libby Francis 889-5718
8-9	N	Old Settler's Trail Backpack, Bob & Arleen Barnett
9	MU	Short Springs Wildflower Hike, Bertha Chrietzberg 896-1146
15	N	Ramsey Cascades, Bob & Arleen Barnett 832-6484
21-22	CL	Frozen Head S.P. Overnight, John Sneed 648-3828
22	ME	Bagley Bottoms, Jerri Bull 363-4408
29	N	Piney River, Bob & Arleen Barnett 832-6484
29-30	N	Leatherwood Ford, BSFNRA, Nina Fitzgerald 228-9188
TBA	N	Virgin Falls, Jeannie Myers 860-0842

MAY

6	ME	N.B. Forrest S.P., Margaret Dixon 795-8634
20	MU	Hidden Passage Trail, Cathy Williams 893-7748
20	CL	Fall Creek Falls, Wanda Cumberland 358-3338
21	ME	Wolf River Trail, Norma McMinn 785-1479
26-29	N	Shawnee Nat'l Forest, Illinois, Bob & Arleen Barnett
TBA	N	Mammoth Cave, Kentucky, Bob & Arleen Barnett
TBA	N	Bluebell Island, Charlie Hahn 941-1503

JUNE

3-4	ME	Board Meeting, Reelfoot Lake, Jerri Bull 363-4408
TBA	N	Roan Mtn., Bob & Arleen Barnett 832-6484
24	MU	Angel Falls Day Loop, BSFNRA, Daniel Parker
24	CL	Pennyrile S.P., Ky., James McKenzie (502) 424-5285

JULY

TBA	N	Rock Island Swim, Pat Anderson 383-2355
15	MU	Duck River Canoe Trip, Tom Shepherd 895-2098
16	ME	Spring River Canoe Trip, Paul Goldstein 276-2824
		Betty Porter 363-0213
22	CL	Smoky Mtns., Robert Alley 647-7960
TBA	N	Rutledge Falls, Bob & Arleen Barnett

AUGUST

5	MU	Wild Orchid Hike, Bertha Chrietzberg 896-1146
5-6	N	Cumberland Gap, Bob & Arleen Barnett 832-6484
11-13	N	Smoky Mtns., Paul Smith 270-0738
19	CL	Virgin Falls, James Neblett 387-3317
20	ME	Annual Picnic, Place and Time TBA
26		Board Meeting, Hike TBA

SEPTEMBER

1-4	N	Big Bone Lick S.P., Kentucky, Bob & Arleen Barnett
7-10	N	Grandfather Mtn., N.C., Bob Stephenson
18	MU	Piney River Backpack, Tom Shepherd 895-2098
22-24	CL	Roan Mtn. Area, J.R. Tate 326-5453
23	ME	Village Creek, Ark., Elaine Green 684-6250
TBA	N	Full Moon Hike, Bledsoe Creek, Bob & Arleen Barnett
TBA	N	Work Hike, Cedars of Lebanon, Bob Barnett 832-6484

OCTOBER

6-8	N	Storytelling Festival, Jonesborough, Bob & Arleen Barnett
7-8	N	Chimney Rock, BSFNRA, Rob Weber 952-2949
7-8	ME	Shawnee Nat'l Forest, Martye & Ray Burkett 357-9183
14	ME	Natchez Trace, Ken Novak 377-9127
21-22	CL	Fiery Gizzard, J.R. Tate 326-5453
21	MU	William Bankhead Forest, Ala., Heloise Shilstat
22	N	Prentice Cooper Forest, C.T. Section 9 Jim Poteet 377-4777
TBA	N	Short Mountain, Bob & Arleen Barnett 832-6484
27-29	UC	ANNUAL MEETING, BOARD MEETING, BEERSHEBA SPRINGS ASSEMBLY GROUNDS

NOVEMBER

11	ME	Shiloh Nat'l Military Park, Margaret Dixon 795-8634
25	CL	Mousetail Landing S.P., Bessie Daniel 647-4837
26	ME	Arkabutla Lake, Miss., Ralph Gabb 357-1719

DECEMBER

10	ME	Parkin Archeological Area, Ark., Jerri Bull 363-4408
21	ME	Christmas Party
31	CL	New Year's Eve Hike, Clarksville, Wanda Cumberland 358-3338
TBA	N	Winter Solstice Hike, Bob & Arleen Barnett 832-6484

Cumberland Trail Proposal

Assumptions:

- 1) TTA, as an organization, cannot handle the CT issue on its own.
- 2) The State will not reinstate a trails administrator or dollars for the CT any time soon.

Proposal:

TTA needs to make the CT a much larger and broader issue and build an awareness throughout the state of what the CT could represent. To accomplish this, we need to bring other groups into the picture. Possible groups include, but are not limited to:

The State of Tennessee
Sierra Club
Audubon
Boy Scouts
Key Individuals

Tennessee Citizens for Wilderness Planning
Smoky Mountains Hiking Club
Chattanooga Hiking Club
Tennessee Scenic Rivers Association
Tennessee River Gorge Trust

We would like a group's involvement to be broad based and include:

Vocal Support
Written Support--thru their publications
Volunteer support--work projects etc.

The key to the proposal is a **Steering Committee** to be made up of a key member from each supporting organization and members of TTA. The Steering Committee would then give life to this issue and can proceed with establishing the ground work for reviving the CT. Certainly, initial points to be covered by the Committee, would be whether there is a need for the CT, and if so, what shape or form the CT is to take.

The Cumberland Trail has always been an important part of TTA and we should take the lead in reviving it. Our first meeting will be at Cumberland Mountain State Park on the evening of February 25. We will hike Brady Mountain--Section 5 of the C.T.--that Saturday and Black Mountain on Sunday. It is imperative that we have TTA member support on this issue--it can not and will not work any other way. More information will follow in late January, watch your mail.

Thanks!!
Rob Weber
President TTA

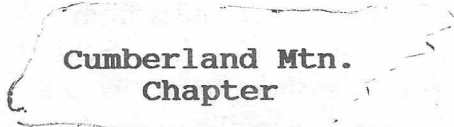
CHAPTER NEWS



Clarksville Chapter

Meets the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm in the Community Room at Governor's Square Mall.

JAN. 21 - Cedars of Lebanon S.P., J.R. Tate (615) 326-5453.



Cumberland Mtn. Chapter

JAN. 21 - Slave Falls Loop Hike, Big South Fork. Easy winter hike, 3.7 miles to a beautiful bluffline waterfall. Meet at Hardee's in Jamestown 9:00 am CST to caravan to trailhead. Call Marvin Shanks 879-9765.

Welcome Back!
Cumberland Mountain Chapter

It has been a long time since we've hiked with the Cumberland Mountain Chapter--some old timers like Pat Anderson say its been 10 years--memories fail. We are glad to see this group alive again! More than 20 folks, new faces and old, joined us for a brief organizational meeting on Nov. 19th on the lawn of Marvin Shanks' house in Allardt, followed by a hike of Burnt Mill Bridge Loop. Pictures were taken,

votes cast, and Marvin Shanks was elected their Chapter Chair for 1995. Barbara Stagg of Rugby was elected secretary/treasurer. The Chapter's presence in the ever-changing Pickett/Big South Fork area will give our members even more opportunities to wander and mystify at the beauty of this Tennessee landscape. Thanks to everyone who helped us kick off the revival of the Cumberland Mtn. Chapter.

Attending were: Ken and Dean Pittman, Ella Jones, James Smith, and Betty Wright of Jamestown; Marvin and Maudean Shanks of Allardt; Jeanie & Justin Chambers of Oneida, Barbara Stagg and Eric Wilson of Rugby; Bob Washburn of Pall Mall; Bert Schappel and Roger Macklin of Oak Ridge, Dan Parker of Murfreesboro, Jim Poteet, Martha Lisle, Gary Cox, Rob & Susan Weber, Jim & Jenice Johnson, and Ed & Stacey Joyce of Nashville.

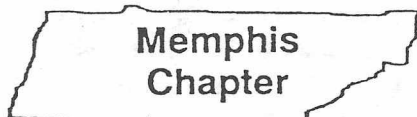
--Rob Weber



East Tennessee Chapter

JAN. 21 - Big South Fork NRR. Come hike with authors Russ Manning and Sondra Jamieson in the national river and recreation area. Russ and Sondra are authors of the hiking guide, *The Best of the Big South Fork*, and the new handbook to the park, *Exploring the Big South Fork*. We'll walk the 5.9 mile John Litton Farm Loop. Knoxville and Norris people meet

in front of the Norris Middle School across from the Norris Commons to carpool at 8:30 am. If you're coming from other areas, meet at the Bandy Creek Visitor Center at the Big South Fork at 10:00 am eastern time. For info, call Russ 494-8121.



Meets the third Thursday of each month at 7:30 pm in the Scout Building at Kingsway Church.

JAN. 19 - Monthly Meeting. We have tentatively scheduled to have as our guest a representative of Ducks Unlimited. If you've hiked with us at Chewalla, you've seen a project that Ducks Unlimited made possible, so we'd like everyone to learn more about the conservation work this organization does.

**EAGLE TOUR, REELFOOT LAKE
SATURDAY, JANUARY 7, 1995**

Twenty spaces have been reserved on the Park Service tour bus to see the eagles. Bring binoculars if you have them or use the telescopes set up by the Park Rangers. Dress for the weather and expect colder temperatures on the lake.

After the bus ride we will eat lunch at a local restaurant. If there is time, we will tour the Visitor Center/Museum where there is an earthquake simulator and a display cage for injured eagles.

There is usually a special program on

Saturday night at the Air Park Inn. Anyone interested in staying over on Sat. night should make reservations early. The Reelfoot Park phone number is (901) 253-7756 and there are many motels in the area also.

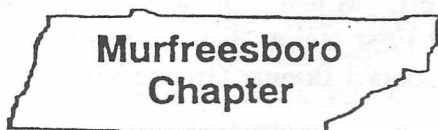
Anyone staying overnight can join us on Sunday morning for a look at the Canadian geese on the north refuge and a 6-mile walk into the east refuge. We may find time for a fried apple pie!

Reservations for the bus ride are required. You must be there by 9:30 am. All unclaimed tickets will be turned back in at 9:45 am. The tour bus leaves the Air Park Inn at 10:00 am. Bus tickets are \$2.00.

It is approximately 120 miles from Memphis to the Air Park Inn. Take Hwy 51 North to Dyersburg, then Hwy 78 North through Tiptonville to the Air Park Inn. Call Betty Porter at (901) 363-0213 for further details or to make reservations for the bus..

JAN. 21 - Herb Parsons Lake at Fisherville. Meet at 8:30 am at the soccer field parking lot at Walnut Grove. Hike starts at 9:00 am at the lake. About 6 miles on easy terrain. For info, call Freddi Felt 685-9915.

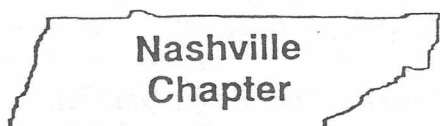
JAN. 29 - Meeman-Shelby S.P. If you like to hike in the woods on a Sunday afternoon, but hate getting up early and driving for hours, this one is for you. Meet at 1:30 pm at the visitor center (camper check-in station at north end of park--not the museum). We'll hike the Woodland Shelter Trail which is about 3 miles long and has some very steep hills. Boots recommended. Bring water and snacks. For info, call Ken Novak 377-9127.



Meets the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm at St. Mark's Methodist Church.

JAN. 1 - Frozen Head. Call Heloise Shilstat for details 896-6278.

JAN. 21 - Cedars of Lebanon S.P. Hidden Springs Trail. This is an easy 4 1/2 mile hike through cedar forests and glades. We'll meet at the trailhead parking lot at 10:00 am. After entering the park, follow the main road for 1.9 miles past the swimming pool and then turn right at the Hidden Springs Trail sign. Bring water and snacks. Please preregister by calling Cathy Williams 893-7748.



Meets the fourth Thursday of each month at 7:30 pm at Cumberland Science Museum.

JAN. 11 - Joint Meeting of Tennessee Scenic Rivers Association and TTA Regarding the Piney River, 7:30 pm at Cheekwood Botanic Hall, Nashville.

Featured guest speaker will be F. David Rhyne. The Piney River, located on the Cumberland Plateau in Rhea County, is a

jewel in an almost natural state. Most of the Piney gorge has been protected through wise land-use policies by a conservation-minded paper company--Bowater Southern. Bowater has refrained from any active logging or other disturbances during its several decades of ownership. Obtaining Scenic River status for the Piney River gorge is a natural project for joint sponsorship of TSRA and TTA. The river offers 14 miles of challenging whitewater paddling, and, as part of a multiple use program, Bowater Southern built two trails into the gorge in the 1970's. One trail climbs to points that overlook both the great valley of the Tennessee and the Piney River gorge. The other extends 4 miles into the gorge itself and continues up some of its tributaries. Paddlers and hikers alike can experience the beauty of the river, the unique vegetation and the breathtaking views of the gorge and escarpments.

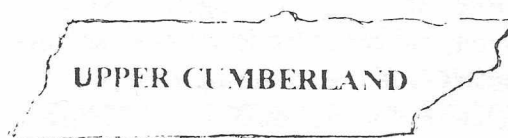
David Rhyne believes that now is the time to act to ensure that the Piney River can be enjoyed into the future in an unspoiled condition. He is convinced that it's possible for us to work together with Bowater and other landowners to achieve voluntary Tennessee Scenic River designation for the Piney River. Please attend this important meeting to find out how you can help. All chapters are invited and encouraged to attend.

JAN. 21-22 - Mousetail Landing Backpack. OK, all you backpacking lightweights, I'm giving you another chance! This is NOT a grueling, 35-mile, 5-day marathon in the Smokies (which, I'm pleased to report, was hiked in late October splendor by myself and two other stalwart hikers). This is an EASY, 8-mile loop in a newer state park located on the east bank of the Tennessee River. It's also a Tennessee Nat'l Migratory Wildlife

Refuge, so I'm hoping we'll see eagles and other wildlife without having to go all the way to Reelfoot. There's a campground, but I'm opting for the additional solitude of a backcountry shelter on a bluff overlooking the river. (The campground is away from the river anyway.) It's a 5 mile hike in (easy) and 3 miles out (easy). It will probably be cold (hey, it's January) but that will give us the chance to air out and use our cold weather gear. Nearby (10 minute drive) is Ladyfinger Bluff, a TVA small wilds area with a 2.7 mile trail to overlooks on the Tennessee River. We can go there Sunday before heading home. For more info, call Nina Fitzgerald 228-9188.

JAN. 26 - Program Meeting at Cumberland Museum.

JAN. 28 - Virgin Falls. Call Kevin Kimbro for details 333-0629.



Meets the first Tuesday of each month at First Union Bank in Sparta.

JAN. 14 - Bowater's Laurel/Snow Falls Trail. 6-8 miles, moderate to easy. Meet at First Union Bank in Sparta or Penney's in Cookeville at 9 a.m. Hardee's in Monterey at 9:30 am. Cracker Barrel in Crossville at 10 a.m. or at trailhead at 11 a.m. Contact Bonnie Greene 836-3696 Sparta or Paul Miller 526-9259 Cookeville.

JAN. 21 - Mystery Hike #3 with Ross Cardwell. Mileage unknown, strenuous. Meet at First Union Bank in Sparta at 9 a.m. Contact Bonnie Greene 836-3696.

JAN. 28 - Copper Cascade in Scott's Gulf Area. 8-10 miles, very strenuous. This will be a rugged and fast-paced hike. Meet at First Union Bank in Sparta at 9 a.m. Call Bonnie Greene 836-3696.

Ross Cardwell's Mystery Hike #2

We had a good turnout for Ross' second hike. Nineteen showed up at First Union Bank. The water pump on David Anderson's truck decided to leak just as we were leaving the parking lot, so we lost three hikers as the Andersons headed for the Ford dealer. The rest of us followed Ross on a scenic drive thru the countryside to the Laurel Creek community near Bone Cave, TN in Van Buren County.

Hitting the trail with Ross and his dog, Jack, were Dorothy Sills and her new dog, Boo. We were sad to hear Dorothy's dog, Sundance, passed away earlier this year. Also along were Cliff and Barbara Phifer, Bonnie Greene, Tom Kelly, Dale and Mark Sims, Marnell Cothran, Sam and Charlie Griego, Gwen Guy, Paul R., Nora and Pam Miller and I. Our new dogs are not quite ready for the trail yet. (Rusty passed away in November.)

What a treat it was. The trail was wide and quiet and an easy walk except for a hill or two. Sow's Branch was pretty, with a good flow of water. Half the group went off the trail to the base of Miller Falls, an enchanting little cove complete with Indian rockhouse with running water. The water for both falls came from nearby caves.

The hike really got intriguing as we neared

the turnaround at the halfway point. Ross led us off the trail to a tall chimney. Legend has it that a family of Hatfields had a cabin there many years ago. About 1/4 mile away we paused to admire a gigantic beech tree. I noticed an inscription near the bottom. It said, "...W.L. McCoy...this day Nov. 23, 1933..." There were a number of large round holes among the letters and some large marks, as from an ax. Above it all was what looked like a large capital A. In a clearing nearby were the bleached and weathered bones of seven or more horses. We debated the significance of all this most of the hike out. Ross said the round bullet holes from the demise of Mr. McCoy replaced the words describing what happened to him. Gwen said she saw the words "Wed 1933," thus indicating to her that it was a wedding. With Hatfields nearby, there were probably shotguns present, either way.

Nora promptly changed the subject by scoring a perfect 10 in the "roll over and smile" category, when she stumbled near Sow's Branch. Her form easily topped Bonnie's 10 when she slipped in the snow above Beecher Wallace's near Dog Cove. All in all it was a most enjoyable day and we will have to get Ross to take us there again. Thanks, Ross!

Paul Miller

**IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR
MEMBERSHIP FOR 1995 IF YOU
HAVEN'T ALREADY DONE SO!**

Note from the Editor: I hope you weren't planning to go hiking the weekend of January 21st because there's absolutely NOTHING going on that weekend!! I believe this is a first since I've been editing the newsletter--all seven chapters are hiking that weekend.

ALERT!

Your immediate action is requested. An article appeared in the December 21, 1994 *Tennessean* by staff writer Ann Paine regarding the State Building Commission's approval on a contract giving a Texas developer use of \$20 million in state bonds to build 4 golf courses in Tennessee state parks--Natchez Trace, Chickasaw, Cumberland Mountain and Panther Creek. This is devastating news, particularly to Cumberland Mountain and Panther Creek State Parks, which are relatively small in size. Construction of golf courses would seriously impact wildlife and vegetation, as well as interfere with users who visit state parks to hike and walk. In a 1993 survey by the Dept. of Conservation, from a list of 25 park activities visitors preferred, golf was near the bottom, ranked 21st. Walking, hiking, picnicking and wildlife observation were the top four, in that order.

PLEASE call or write immediately to your legislator, the state Building Commission and Golf Services Group in Houston, Texas. The person letters and/or phone calls should go to is:

Paula Eger
Golf Services Group
12777 Jones Rd., Suite 150
Houston, TX 77070
Phone: (713) 955-6263
FAX: (713) 955-2664

—Arleen Barnett

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Unless you have a lifetime membership in TTA, your membership expires on January 1 of each year. All TTA memberships are based on the calendar year and not 1 year from the month you join. Please register me as a member for the calendar year 1995 (Jan-Dec) with the type membership checked below.

<input type="checkbox"/> Student	6.00	MAIL DUES TO:	Membership Director
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual/Family	15.00		Tennessee Trails Assoc.
<input type="checkbox"/> Supporting	30, 40 or 50		P. O. Box 41446
<input type="checkbox"/> Life	150.00		Nashville, TN 37204

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

(PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____ HOME PHONE: _____

WORK PHONE: _____ PLEASE LIST ME WITH THE FOLLOWING CHAPTER:
☐ CLARKSVILLE ☐ EAST TENN. ☐ CUMBERLAND MTN ☐ MEMPHIS
☐ MURFREESBORO ☐ NASHVILLE ☐ UPPER CUMBERLAND ☐ AT LARGE

All newsletter submissions are due by the 15th of each month. Mail to Arleen Barnett,
Newsletter Editor, P. O. Box 41446, Nashville, TN 37204

TTA OBJECTIVES: TO PROMOTE, CONSTRUCT AND MAINTAIN A STATEWIDE SYSTEM OF HIKING TRAILS, AND TO WORK FOR THE CONSERVATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES INHERENT TO THIS OBJECTIVE. SPONSOR FOR THE CUMBERLAND TRAIL.

1995 TTA LEADERS

PRESIDENT:	Rob Weber (615) 952-2949
VICE PRESIDENT:	Jim Johnson (615) 356-6246
CORRES. SEC/TREAS:	Judy Van Cleve (615) 473-8136
SECRETARY:	Evelyn Tretter (615) 859-0566
BOARD REP:	Heloise Shilstat (615) 896-6278
BOARD REP:	Bertha Chrietberg (615) 896-1146
BOARD REP:	Bessie Daniel (615) 647-4837
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CUMBERLAND TRAIL:	Bob Brown (615) 352-7474
ADOPT-A-TRAIL:	Jerri Bull (901) 363-4408
CLARKSVILLE CHAPTER:	J.R. Tate, Chair (615) 326-5453
CUMBERLAND MTN.:	Marvin Shanks (615) 879-9765
EAST TENNESSEE	Harold Draper (615) 689-7757
MEMPHIS CHAPTER:	Debbie Gilbert (901) 454-0613
MURFREESBORO CHAPTER:	David Dill (615) 273-2707
NASHVILLE CHAPTER:	Jim Poteet (615) 377-4777
UPPER CUMBERLAND CHAPTER:	Paul D. Miller (615) 526-9259

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Come Hike With Us!
P. O. Box 41446
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