



# TENNESSEE TRAILS ASSOCIATION

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Fall Creek Falls State Park  
November 15, 1975

## MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING <sup>Reply To:</sup>

The meeting was held at the Inn, Fall Creek Falls State Park, on November 15, 1975, beginning at 9:30 A.M. CST.

Minutes of the 1974 annual meeting and the financial statement were read.

President Evan Means reviewed the work and activities of the Association during the past year. He stated that the Association had been certified as a non-profit association.

Mr. Means stated that it had been proposed to hold an interstate trails symposium in the late winter or spring to be sponsored by the TTA. A suggested place was Brandon Springs Group Camp at the Land Between the Lakes. Cost per person for the week end at the group camp would be \$13.00 for food and lodging. A motion by Paul Adams was passed to authorize the Board to consider this matter and make a decision.

The president asked for reports from trail committees, which were given as follows:

Grimes Slaughter, north end, Cumberland Trail, reported that the trail is complete from Oliver Springs to Cove Lake, and has been marked from Lake City to Caryville.

Dorothy Lingerfelt, reporting for Sam Powell, south end, Cumberland Trail, said that an immense amount of hard work is being done by Boy Scouts and by adult volunteers. A bridge across a main stream had been fabricated and was to be installed shortly by the Scouts. TTA's December activity has been planned for a hike on this portion of the CT and date has been changed from December 27 to December 20, group to meet at Signal Point Park at 9:30 EST.

Stan Gorin, Trail of Tears, reported that the route of the Cherokees is being researched and has been established from Cleveland to Woodbury. He said it would be difficult if not impossible to plot it through the remainder of Middle Tennessee. There was some discussion as to which route it should take.

Objective: To promote, construct, and maintain a state-wide system of hiking trails, and to work for the conservation of natural resources inherent to this objective.

Sponsor for the Cumberland Trail

It was reported by the president that an effort is being made to have the Natchez Trace Trail designated a National Scenic Trail. A study has been completed. Members were asked to write their Congressmen recommending this. An effort is also being made to have the John Muir Trail so designated.

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The president reported that Gordon Newland is preparing a new history and brochure for the Association. He also suggested that a speakers bureau might be set up for furnishing speakers to groups about the TTA.

Joe Gaines, Planning, Division, State Department of Conservation, in charge of trails, reported on trail work in general, as follows:

Active work by the state is limited at present to the south end of the Cumberland Trail.

One full-time Conservation Department person is assigned to the Cumberland Trail and the Chickasaw Bluffs Trail and until recently to the Trail of the Lonesome Pine - this last probably to be replaced soon.

A portion of the Chickasaw Bluffs Trail through private property will have to be dropped at present. It has not proved feasible for a trail to provide hiking and also protect natural landmarks. There is opposition also from citizens near Crossville on the Cumberland Trail since the Obed River project has been active. This may cause a slow-down in building the CT.

The new back-parking trail at Fall Creek Falls is in use and back-parking trails are being built at Montgomery Bell.

The state bike trail plan has been completed.

A rural scenic and historical bicycle tour route has been established in Rutherford County. Brochures are being printed. Total cost of the project has been \$1500. The route follows public roads.

TTA needs to play a role with the state government in order to get funds restored that have been reduced.

Legislation has been drafted for the Department of Conservation to enter contracts with citizens groups such as the TTA for joint development of trails, the citizens group to secure easements, the state to develop trails.

Contract has been negotiated to appraise private property on the south end of the Cumberland Trail.

A crew has worked this year in Frozen Head on federal funds - which was very successful. It would be helpful for the TTA to schedule a back-parking work trip to finish some of this work.

Maps of Pickett, Montgomery Bell and Nathan Bedford Forrest State Parks will soon be complete.

The state hopes to acquire two old railroad rights-of-way to develop as trails - one from Dickson to Hohenwald and one from Harriman to Petros, with cross-over to be made to Frozen Head.

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Bill Stutz said there should be more information about trails in the "Tennessee Conservationist." Dave Rhyne suggested an article each month on a specific trail would be a good project.

The chairman of the newly-formed Nashville Unit of TTA, Jim Whittle, was introduced. He said that he would concentrate on activities.

Dave Rhyne reported on a session of the National Trails Symposium devoted to "Future of Trails in America." He said the consensus was that getting to work on the local level would be the most effective plan.

A new proposed manual for trail construction to be published by the State Department of Conservation was displayed. Joe Gaines stated that credits for all those who had contributed would be included in the final draft. Some of these contributors are TTA members. It was stated that a vest-pocket manual with additional material could be published and sold by TTA, to include advertising. This would include some of the material in the state manual. Mr. Gaines stated that the state would not have this material copyrighted.

A motion by Dorothy Lingerfelt was passed to authorize the state to use material prepared by TTA members with credits given and to authorize Dave Rhyne to prepare a manual to be sold by TTA.

The following officers were elected for the coming year:

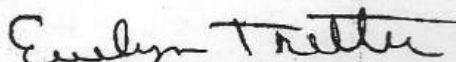
President: Grimes Slaughter  
Vice President: Dave Rhyne  
Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer: Dorothy Lingerfelt  
Recording Secretary: Evelyn Tretter  
Director: Gordon Newland  
Director: Bill Stutz

The other directors are Don Todd Sr. and Evan Means, past president. Also Jim Whittle, chairman, Nashville Unit.

Paul Adams, who established the first camp on top of Mt. Le Conte 50 years ago, showed slides made the week end of July 13, 1975, when the 50th anniversary of that occasion was celebrated with a hike up Le Conte by Mr. Adams and a group of friends.

Adjournment was at 12:00 noon.

The group had lunch together at the Inn and hiked on the new back-packing trail in the afternoon.

  
Evelyn Tretter  
Recording Secretary