



# TENNESSEE TRAILS ASSOCIATION

INC.

P.O. BOX 4913  
CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE 37405

## MINUTES FIRST QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING March 27, 1976

The meeting was held at the Gray Badger Inn, Kingston, Tennessee, beginning at 10:00 A.M. EDT.

Present:	Grimes Slaughter, President	Absent:	Don Todd Sr.
	Dave and Pat Rhyne		Jim Whittle
	Evan Means		
	Gordon Newland		
	Bill Stutz		
	Evelyn Tretter		
	Dorothy Lingerfelt		

Dorothy Lingerfelt reported on her efforts to secure tax-exempt status for people and organizations donating to the Association. Under the regulations it may not be possible to secure such exemption. Mrs. Lingerfelt will consult a lawyer and report on this at the next board meeting.

Proposed layout for the new brochure was displayed. Dave Rhyne and Mrs. Lingerfelt will choose a cover photo and it will go to the printer in the near future.

President Grimes Slaughter stated that the National Trails Council has requested information on all trails as to location, length, difficulty, type of use and other facts. Mr. Slaughter and Evan Means will report to the NTC on the Cumberland Trail north from Oliver Springs and will ask Bob Brown and Sam Powell to report on their sections. It was pointed out that the Nashville Unit of TTA is considering a project to rate all Tennessee trails and this information when ready can be furnished to the NTC.

Gordon Newland gave his opinion that under the present status of state funds, the only way to get trails built is to enlist the continuous aid of the Boy Scout troops and said the proposal should be presented to the East Tennessee Scout Council. Patches will be made available to Scouts for this work. Mrs. Lingerfelt has obtained quotations on such patches, to begin with the Cumberland Trail. TTA patches will be made available to members for a nominal sum, not contingent upon hiking.

Journey II, seven-week Bicentennial hike from Kingsport to Nashville along the 1779 route of James Robertson, founder of Nashville, was discussed. The Association will decline the invitation to coordinate a section of the hike but will publicize it. Application blanks have been mailed to TTA members with the April newsletter.

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*

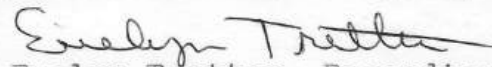
It was announced that the Association had been asked to furnish a member for one of the task teams that will assist the Corps of Engineers in making a study of water resources in a ten-county area around Nashville. Dr. Richard Renfro of Goodlettsville will serve on the team to consider water-related recreation/wildlife conservation. The Association has the privilege of furnishing a member on each of five other task teams. Evelyn Tretter will attempt to secure members for these teams.

Gordon Newland reported on the Trail of the Lonesome Pine, of which he is chairman. When the new brochures are out he will start getting permission from landowners for easements and start construction of the trail. He has enough volunteers for the job. Mr. Newland thinks there will be no state input for eight or ten years and recommends that all efforts on the part of the Association be kept separate from the state as much as possible, mainly to keep from prejudicing landowners.

The Master Plan of the Chickasaw Bluffs Trail was displayed. TTA will coordinate efforts of other civic organization on maintenance and other work for this trail.

The proposed Southeastern Regional Trails Symposium was discussed. The week end of October 23, 1976, was proposed, place to be either Paris Landing or Montgomery Bell State Park. Evan Means will contact key people on their ability to work on this.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30, after which the group had lunch together at the Inn.

  
Evelyn Tretter, Recording Secretary



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## MINUTES THIRD QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING AUGUST 14, 1976

The meeting was held atop Buzzard Point, Morgan Springs, during Fun Day, August 14, 1976, beginning at 2:00 P.M. EDT.

Present:	Grimes Slaughter, Pres.	Absent:	Gordon Newland
	Bill Stutz		Don Todd Sr.
	Evan Means		Dave Rhyne
	Dorothy Lingerfelt		
	Evelyn Tretter		

The main topic of the meeting was the upcoming Southeastern Regional Trails Conference to be held at Paris Landing State Park October 28-31, 1976, to be hosted by TTA and Kentucky Trails Association. Evan Means, chairman for TTA, stated that he and Evelyn Tretter had met with Dr. Phillip Lavelly and Dick Cottrell at Montgomery Bell State Park on June 12 to work out preliminary plans. Invitations were to go out September 1.

The president stated that he would appear before the Great Smoky Mountain Boy Scout Council and hopes to get Scouts working on the north end of the Cumberland Trail. Dot Lingerfelt said that Dave Shupe of the State Department of Conservation had stated the state will work on the south end.

The question was raised as to whether the completed portion of the CT between Caryville and Lake City should be publicized. The consensus was that it should be.

It was brought out that under state law, landowners who have given trail easements are not liable for any injuries to hikers using the trail.

The annual meeting was set for November 13, place to be decided on later.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 P.M.

*Evelyn Tretter*  
Evelyn Tretter, Recording Secretary

Note: No meeting was held during the second quarter.



# TENNESSEE TRAILS ASSOCIATION

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November 13, 1976

## MINUTES FOURTH QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING

The meeting was held at 9:00 A.M. in the Lodge at Cumberland Mountain State Park.

<u>Present:</u>	Grimes Slaughter	Bill Stutz	<u>Absent:</u>	Gordon Newland
	Dorothy Lingerfelt	Dave Stidham		Dave Rhyne
	Evelyn Tretter	Evan Means		
	Don Todd			

Jonathan Gibson of the Tennessee Environmental council presented a proposal of the Council to employ a lobbyist to represent conservation and environmental interests at the Tennessee legislature. He stated that an Environmental Action Fund would be set up, administered by a board of directors and executive committee. Member organizations of the Council will be asked to contribute where possible.

Mr. Gibson announced a small intergroup meeting would be held at U.T. Nashville all day on December 11, 1976, to develop a platform. Don Todd was appointed to represent TTA at this meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 A.M., prior to the opening of the annual meeting.

*Evelyn Tretter*  
Evelyn Tretter, Recording Secretary

Tennessee Department of  
**Conservation** Division of Planning & Development

RAY BLANTON - GOVERNOR

2611 West End Ave. Nashville, Tennessee 37203

(615)741-1061

R. ALLISON - COMMISSIONER

WALTER L. CRILEY - DIRECTOR

Steve Trussler's Report  
to Annual Meeting

MEMORANDUM

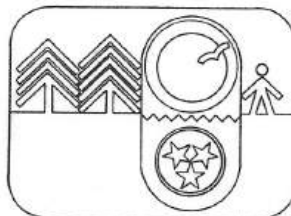
TO: Tennessee Trails Association  
FROM: Joe Gaines *JG*  
DATE: November 10, 1976  
SUBJECT: Tennessee Trails Program

Regretfully, a personal commitment has prevented me from attending the Annual Meeting of the Tennessee Trails Association. David Shupe, Steve Trussler, and other members of the trail staff will be in attendance to give first hand reports concerning the status of the various projects in which they are involved. This memorandum shall serve to outline other activities of the Tennessee Trails Program over the past year or so.

For organizational purposes I would like to separate the content of this memorandum into three general and sometimes overlapping sections. These include past accomplishments, what we are presently doing regarding trails, and what we expect to do in the future. I have not elaborated a great deal on each project so please feel free to request more information if it is needed.

THE PAST

Our early efforts at implementation of the Scenic Trails Program dwelt heavily upon land and easement acquisition. This emphasis required considerable amounts of funding and complicated dealings with trail landowners. Our efforts ran into many troubles mainly due to the lack of funding and landowner objections to governmental acquisitions of land and easements. The reasons that





we had structured the program initially to concentrate on this approach were, one, the implied legislative intent of the Trails Act when it was initially passed; two, the past history of project implementation efforts by the Department of Conservation; and, three, the desire of the Department to build the best quality scenic trails that it could in such a manner that this quality could be preserved and handed down through generations of Tennesseans.

We found after some very critical problems on the Chickasaw Bluffs Trail that we must change our approach if we are to establish scenic trails on the ground. The problems of funding and landowner acquisition can only be resolved by cooperative dealings with landowners and a de-emphasis of land acquisition. The volunteer or private citizen must also be directly involved in implementation. The valuable experience that we gained will assist the overall establishment of scenic trails.

Because of problems with landowners and political pressures, the emphasis of the trails program was shifted about a year and a half ago from scenic trail development to the development of recreation trails. Primarily these trails would be developed in existing Tennessee Outdoor Recreation Areas. This approach would minimize the problems of land acquisition and funding and would help to meet the demands for long distance trails in areas of the State where they were in short supply. Labor for the construction of these recreation trails was provided by federal jobs programs. The future availability of these labor resources is not assured and we desired to make as much good use as possible of them.

During the past year we completed a 25-mile trail (two loops) at Fall Creek Falls State Resort Park, a 13-mile backpack loop at Montgomery Bell State Resort Park, and a 15-mile trail crossing both public and private properties in the South Cumberland Recreation Area (the Fiery Gizzard Trail). Additionally we did some trail cleanup work and a trail map at Frozen Head State Natural Area and published a trail map for Nathan Bedford Forrest State Historic Area. Two miles of day use trails were constructed in other trail matters, at the Harry Lee Carter State Natural Area.

The Department has for the past two years been involved in efforts aimed at the acquisition and development of two sections of abandoned railroad rights-of-way for use as a horse, foot, and bicycle trails. These sections of abandoned rights-of-way are the CNO & TP (11 miles) in Morgan County, and the Centerville Branch of the L&N Railroad (48 miles) located in Dickson, Lewis and Hickman Counties. The

acquisitions of these rights-of-way are extremely complicated and involve some very basic and uncertain legal questions as to the rights of private landowners and railroad companies to ownership of the titles to the abandoned rights-of-way. The Tennessee Valley Authority has assisted us in preparing a conceptual plan for the CNO & TP right-of-way conversion. Title work has also been completed for this section of railroad. We are continuing to pursue these facilities.

One of our most satisfying projects has been the establishment of the Rutherford County Bicycle Touring System. This was a demonstration project of the Department of Conservation. The project had two main purposes. One was the establishment of a recreational bicycle touring system in Rutherford County. The second objective was creation of a "demonstration project" to show cities and counties across the State how low cost bicycle routes can be established. Some 150 miles of bicycle touring roads were mapped and marked in Rutherford County and a dedication ceremony was held in late September. The success with which this system has been received leads to believe that this will be a most fruitful and productive project. I am currently writing a technical article explaining to county judges and mayors how the Rutherford County project came into being and how they can implement similar projects.

Another productive project has been our cooperation with the South Cumberland Trail Committee in the development of the section of the Cumberland Trail near Chattanooga. The Trail Committee has completed approximately 8 miles of trail while the staff of Prentice Cooper State Forest has completed another 6 miles. About 3 miles remain to be built to connect the two trail segments. The Trail Committee has helped not only in building the trail but also in getting support from landowners. Their actions and accomplishments should serve as a blueprint for joint efforts of the State and TTA aimed at establishing other sections of scenic trails.

#### THE PRESENT

Currently trail crews are located at Natchez Trace State Resort Park and Forest and Savage Gulf State Natural Area. These trail crews are working on approximately 50 miles of long distance hiking and back-packing trails. We have located crews in areas of the State that have relatively low supplies of long distance trails and/or which are easily accessible from major population centers.

We are continuing work with the South Cumberland Trail Committee in the establishment of the Cumberland Trail between Prentice Cooper State Forest and Signal Point. The efforts of Sam Powell and

November 10, 1976

his associates have been invaluable in opening this section of trail. Tools have been purchased for use by the Committee. We are also working with the State Forest staff to construct a trail system inside of Prentice Cooper State Forest. Hopefully, Sam and his committee will be able to assist us in getting a trail easement across the Patten properties north of Prentice Cooper so that the Cumberland Trail can be extended northward.

We are beginning work to upgrade the trail system and trail map at Frozen Head State Natural Area. The Natural Area staff supplemented and trained by personnel from the trails program will upgrade the existing trails system, mark it better in the field, and produce a new trail map. Included within these actions will be an upgrading of the Cumberland Trail across Frozen Head.

In early 1977 we will locate a trail crew at Meeman-Shelby Forest State Environmental Education Area and Fort Pillow State Historic Area to construct the Chickasaw Bluffs Trail and campsites in both of these areas. Federal monies are being applied to assist in this project.

We are continuing our efforts at the acquisition of the CNO & TP Railroad right-of-way. In the near future appraisal contracts will be let, providing the State Building Commission approves. Following completion of appraisals we will be ready to begin acquisition.

We are continuing to compile information on Appalachian Trail matters and to participate on the Appalachian National Scenic Trail Advisory Council.

Coordination efforts will be made with the Cherokee National Forest to make the Gee Creek Campground on the Hiwassee State Scenic River the focal point for a system of horse trails in the Hiwassee River area.

Aerial photographs and ownership data has just been received on the Trail of the Lonesome Pine. Unfortunately we lost our project administrator for this trail in the budget cuts of a year ago. I plan to meet with members of the TTA in the Kingsport area to see if we can structure a State-TTA effort aimed at opening sections of the TLP.

We are working with the Division of State Parks to lengthen the bicycle trail located at Fall Creek Falls. The trail will be located on the scenic road going past Millikan's Overlook and will initially be striped with paint markings. Eventually we would like to install an asphalt berm to separate bicyclists from automobiles.



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Funds have been requested to assist in the acquisition of critical lands in the Roan highlands area adjacent to the Appalachian Trail. This project is in cooperation with the Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy, Inc., in which several TTA members are active. The acquisition of these lands will enhance the AT as well as providing protection for some very unique ecosystems.

#### THE FUTURE

In the future we plan to continue our trail development efforts. Following the development of the Cumberland Trail between Cumberland Gap and Cove Lake, we would like to work on the opening of the section within Cumberland and Morgan Counties using a similar approach. Again, TTA help will be most crucial in this undertaking.

Next year we plan to begin work on Master Plans for the Trail of Tears and John Muir Trail. Another project that I hope to complete, providing funds are approved, is a statewide touring map for bicyclists. This map would identify rural roads appropriate for bicycle use connecting areas of scenic and natural beauty across the State.

We also plan to get into the preparatory work necessary to begin acquisition of the L&N Railroad abandonment in Dickson, Lewis and Hickman Counties. This will involve title and appraisal contracts.

We will continue coordination with the Bartram Trail Conference and the Appalachian National Scenic Trail Advisory Council, as well as coordinating matters in the State pertaining to the Natchez Trace Trail.

Provided our federally funded trail crews are provided again next fiscal year, I would like to continue development of long distance trails in state owned areas. While exact sites for construction have not been selected at this time, areas under consideration are Bledsoe State Forest, Pickett State Forest, Cedars of Lebanon State Forest, and Marion-Franklin State Forest. One crew will remain committed to Savage Gulf to continue our trail work there.

State funds have been requested to fund trail construction crews for the Cumberland Trail and the South Cumberland Recreation Area.

David Shupe is concentrating on the establishment of the northern section of the Cumberland Trail. This section lies roughly between Cove Lake State Day Use Park and Cumberland Gap National Historic Park. David will be working with landowners asking their permission to develop the trail across their property. No easement

acquisitions will be solicited. The assistance of the Tennessee Trails Association in acting as go-betweens between David and the landowner and in furnishing him assistance in making necessary arrangements is most vital to this project. In some cases it may even be necessary for the TTA to obtain a right-of-way from a landowner who does not wish to deal with the state.

One of the most important aspects of our efforts to establish this section of the Cumberland Trail will be public relations and community involvement. The TTA can provide valuable assistance in helping us "sell" the idea of the Cumberland Trail to political, historical, economic, environmental, and civic groups in the trail area. This preliminary work must be done before we begin to contact landowners. David will be asking for your help and guidance in this project.

I am now working with Bob Brandt, Sierra Club, on a "Backpacking in Tennessee" brochure. This brochure will identify high quality trails in the State suitable for backpacking use. A tentative publication date of late spring, 1977 has been set.

Funds have also been requested next year with which to build a one mile boardwalk nature trail at the Big Cypress Tree Natural Area in Weakley County. This trail will enable us to open this unique area for public use.

A bike trail connecting Cumberland Mountain State Rustic Park and Crossville is also planned. The Department will build that section of the trail within the Park while the City will take it on into the town square. This project is also contingent upon obtaining the necessary funding.

I hope that this letter will serve to highlight some of the trail projects in which the Department of Conservation is involved. The input and assistance of the Tennessee Trails Association is welcome on any of these projects.

Again, I regret not being with you at the Annual Meeting. Please contact me or other trail program staff members if we can be of assistance.

JG/dh

cc: Asst. Commissioner M. H. Stanford  
Walter L. Criley  
Steve Trussler  
Gene Hyde  
David Shupe



# TENNESSEE TRAILS ASSOCIATION

INC.

P.O. BOX 4913  
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November 13, 1976

## MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING

The meeting was held at 10:00 A.M. in the Lodge at Cumberland Mountain State Park. Twenty-three people attended. The minutes of the last meeting and the financial statement were read. There was a balance on hand of \$123.03.

Steve Trussler of the State Department of Conservation, Planning Division, gave a most informative report on the Division's work on trails, including the past year, in progress and planned for the near future. A copy of this report is on file with the recording secretary and a copy will be made for any board member requesting it. The state approach on acquiring easements is now to get agreements with landowners, as purchasing rights-of-way has been found to be not feasible.

Mr. Trussler stated that federal funds are available for trails on public land only. He said the Cumberland Trail will receive priority on state funds.

Hank Landers, senior job foreman of trail construction crews, State Department of Conservation, talked on volunteer trail building. He recommends setting definite goals and having one person in charge, and having "pep" meetings, using maps, etc.

Bob Richards, job foreman for trail construction crews, reported on his work building trails at Fall Creek Falls and Savage Gulf. There are 25 miles of backpacking trails at Fall Creek. At Savage Gulf, he expects 46 miles to be built next year, with an eventual total of 120 miles. A welcome center is planned to be built in Tracy City. Mr. Richards said that TTA should push for adequate state personnel to patrol trails and serve hikers, and for adequate maintenance crews.

Dave Shupe, State coordinator for the Cumberland Trail, reported on the work on that trail. He said various types of agreements for easements were being worked out. He said the work is piecemeal, here and there on the route, with his main attention being given to the north section. Trails maps for different sections will be produced when the sections are opened. TTA will help in the work both before the trail is ready (walkable) and later. Mr. Shupe's advice was "keep after it and you will get it."

The following tentative schedule of activities for 1977 was drawn up:

January 15 - Cedars of Lebanon State Park, leader Russell Fryen.  
February 19 - Cumberland Trail - Cumberland Gap to Baptist Gap,  
leader Grimes Slaughter or Evan Means.  
March 19 and 20 - Overnight or day hike (choice), Fiery Gizzard,  
leader, Joe Gaines.  
April 16 - Laurel Snow or New Piney Creek Trail, leader Dave Rhyne.  
May 14 - Savage Gulf, leader Bob Richards.  
June 25 - Highlands of Roane, leader Charlotte Ellis.  
July 23 - Balsam Mountain, leader Don Todd.  
August 13 - Cades Cove Bicycle Trail, leader Al Lookofsky.  
September 17 - Cumberland Falls (Kentucky) Moonbow Trail, leader  
Dave Stidham.  
October - To be announced. Leader Dave Rhyne.  
November - Date to be announced. Cordell Hull Reservation, leader  
Al Lookofsky.  
December 10 - Pickett State Forest, /leader Grimes Slaughter.  
Tandem Arches,  
November 19 - Annual Meeting, Place to be announced.

At the suggestion of Paul Adams, the members went on record as favoring sending cards to Mr. and Mrs. Jim Bailey in the serious illness of Mrs. Bailey. They live at 450 Moss Trail, Goodlettsville, Tn., 37072.

Don Todd suggested polling legislators on their position before the legislature meets. He had had good results from this method in his area. He also suggested incentive plaques for landowners who grant easements.

Evan Means reported on the Southeast Trail Conference held at Paris Landing State Park the last week in October. He was extended a vote of thanks and congratulations on the great success of this meeting, which produced many high quality ideas and suggestions and other valuable information. Eighty-five people had registered. Mr. Means especially cited the presentation by Richard Howerton, Project Director, Kentucky FIVCO Area Development District, on the Jenny Wiley Trail, which is 80% on private lands, and uses a very practical shelter system and cisterns for water.

Dot Lingerfelt reported on the work on the south Cumberland Trail, headed by Sam Powell. Within the next 3 or 4 weeks, 19-1/2 miles will be open, starting at Signal Point.

Grimes Slaughter reported on work on the north Cumberland Trail. he had met with the Great Smoky Mountain Boy Scout Council and had gotten commitments, which had been confirmed, for volunteer work. Landowners agreements, mostly verbal, are being obtained. The next business will be getting the route sited and flagged from Cove Lake north.

Charlotte Ellis, representing the South Appalachian Highlands Conservancy, presented a slide program on the Highlands of Roane, for which her organization is raising funds to preserve. This



land adjoins the public lands of Roane Mountain, between Carters Gap and Highway 19E and contains 12 miles of the Appalachian Trail. Prints of a painting of the area by a well known local artist are available for \$25.00. These may be obtained from Mrs. Ellis, 5200 Old Island Road, Kingsport, Th. 37664.

Dave Rhyne showed slides depicting the building of a bridge on one of the Bowaters Paper Company trails.

Harry Hubbell reported the following slate of officers for the nominating committee for reelection. All were elected:

President - Grimes Slaughter  
Vice President - Dave Rhyne  
Corresponding Secretary & Treasurer - Dot Lingerfelt  
Recording Secretary - Evelyn Tretter  
Director - Don Todd

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 P.M. Eight people proceeded to the new Piney Creek Trail in the Bowaters Pocket Wilderness at Spring City, where Dave Rhyne led them on a short hike, ending at twilight.



Evelyn Tretter, Recording Secretary





6000 Dot 1.50 Patch-4-28

# TENNESSEE TRAILS ASSOCIATION

INC.

P.O. BOX 4913

CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE 37405

March 26, 1977

## MINUTES FIRST QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING

The meeting was hosted by Grimes Slaughter and Ruth Slusher at the Braski cottage on Watts Bar Lake at Rockwood, beginning at 11:00 a.m.

Present: Grimes Slaughter  
Bill Stutz  
Don Todd  
Evan Means  
Dave & Pat Rhyne  
Ruth Slusher  
Evelyn Tretter  
Dorothy Lingerfelt

Absent: Dave Stidham  
Gordon Newland

There was a discussion of landowner agreements. Various stipulations were suggested. Grimes Slaughter, Dave Rhyne, Evan Means and Don Todd will meet on March 29 with Dave Shupe of the Department of Conservation to work out details. Work on getting these agreements will start immediately on the north Cumberland Trail. It was suggested that landowners who give easements be recognized in some way.

The president presented a plan for a TTA library which had been proposed by a member of the Nashville Chapter, Bill Hager. The board approved this plan and it will be carried out as soon as a librarian can be found. Volunteers will be solicited through the "Tennessee Trails" newsletter.

It was announced that House Bill 199 had been introduced in the legislature to provide rangers for trails on private lands.

It was also announced that Joe Gaines, state trails administrator, had appointed Pete Ostrowski, TTA member who lives in Chattanooga, to represent the Department of Conservation at the North Carolina trails symposium to be held April 22-23.

The president stated that Gordon Newland, TTA chairman of the Trail of the Lonesome Pine, had asked the Department of Conservation to secure private citizens to contact landowners for easements for this trail. A couple who live in the area have been obtained.

Bill Stutz reported that three TTA members, i.e., Dot Ventress, Elizabeth Cade and himself, and Bessie Shelton of the Tri-State Trail Club, had attended the meeting on Lookout Mountain trails at De Soto State Park.

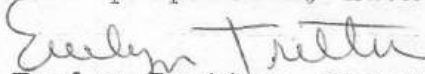
The president read a proposal of the Nashville Chapter to sponsor and supervise hikes for school age children. Al Lookofsky is coordinator of this planned activity to be worked out in the near future.

Dorothy Lingerfelt reported 112 paid memberships this year, 49 of them in the Nashville Chapter. Bill Stutz, membership chairman, reported he has been placing brochures at strategic locations, such as state parks.

Evelyn Tretter asked that by-laws for local chapters be considered. The consensus was that the state by-laws can be amended to cover chapters, so that all chapters would have the same guidelines. The president will appoint a committee to present such amendment at the annual meeting.

Plans were made to designate April 23 "Don Todd Day." Ceremonies will be held preceding the wildflower hike at Frozen Head on that date.

The group enjoyed a delicious lunch prepared by Ruth Slusher.



Evelyn Tretter, Recording Secretary

Emelyn Trotter

Bill Stealy

Charlotte Ellis

Ruth Musker

Steve TRUSSLER

Bob Richards

Frank Janders

Evan Means

Harry Hubbell

Sylvia Hubbell

Shay Gorin

Al Lookofsky & Betsy + Walter

David Stidham - Nashville

Bob Richards - Tracy City

David V. Shupe - Crossville

F. David Rhyne

Pat Rhyne

Donald Todd

Paul J. Adams - Great Bear River

Grimes Slaughter

Art Lingafelt

Jonathan Bilsan (TEC)

Annual  
Meeting  
1976



# TENNESSEE TRAILS ASSOCIATION

INC.

P.O. BOX 4913  
CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE 37405

July 16, 1977

## MINUTES THIRD QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING

The meeting was hosted by Grimes Slaughter and Ruth Slusher and held beside the lake at Braski cottage on Watts Bar Lake at Rockwood, beginning at 12:00 noon.

Present: Grimes Slaughter, president  
Don Todd  
Gordon Newland  
Dave and Pat Rhyne  
Evan and Virginia Means  
Dave and Tana Shupe  
Ruth Slusher  
Evelyn Tretter  
Dot Lingerfelt

Absent: Bill Stutz  
Dave Stidham

Gordon Newland reported at length on the progress of the Trail of the Lonesome Pine. He stated that the state had employed Mrs. Elmer Bostick, a resident of the area, to work full-time on getting easement agreements. She is assisted by her husband. They had already contacted 80% of the landowners and obtained agreements from 87% of those contacted - or 430 agreements in the first 36 miles. Mr. Newland said there remained only two difficult spots, where landowners on both sides had refused easements, but he felt the problem could be worked out. He displayed aerial survey maps of the entire trail. He expects the trail to be open by the end of 1977. Ten miles will be built and marked in the very near future.

The Board voted a "Well Done" commendation to Mr. Newland.  
amendment

The following/to the by-laws was approved by the board and will be presented for vote at the annual meeting on November 22.

7. Officers for Local Chapters--The members of a local chapter may, at their discretion, elect a chairman, a vice chairman and a secretary and treasurer. The conditions of office shall be the same as set forth in the constitution of the Tennessee Trails Association for officers of the association.

The president stated that Joe Gaines, state trails administrator, had discussed with him the desirability of having the TTA annual meeting at the same site as a proposed state trails symposium the week of Nov. 22, and having a joint session with TTA. This will be discussed further.

Dave Shupe, State Conservation Department coordinator for the Cumberland Trail, stated that two U.T. agriculture graduates had been employed



for the summer by the state to clear and regrade the boundary trail at Frozen Head Natural Area.

Mr. Shupe presented a landowner easement agreement between the American Company and TTA, which he had drawn up. He was in favor of tailoring each agreement to fit the situation, with the American Company agreement to be the extreme in detail, down to simple verbal agreements.

Attorney David Gray of Nashville will be asked to pass on the legality of the agreement, and to examine the TTA charter to be sure making such agreements is within the limits of the charter.

\* The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m, after which the group enjoyed a delicious lunch prepared by Ruth Slusher.

Evelyn Tretter, Recording Secretary

Note: No meeting was held during the second quarter.

\* Rating of trails as proposed by Russell Fryer was not acted upon, as the group felt that a rating system for trails is not feasible



Critical Areas  
Specific Trail Needs

- i. Make state bureaucratic processes more flexible and workable ("liberal")
  - a) Grant TDOC authority to process leases, easements, etc. ourselves rather than going thru Prop. Management and F&A.
  - b.) the state needs to be able to protect landowners from liability; existing legislation does not do enough. Need to assure landowner liability (i.e., we need to guarantee landowner that if he is liable for certain non-malicious liability occurring to a hiker the state will cover him. After all, the state has invited the public to use his land via the trail. Also need to protect landowner from property damages that the hiker may cause (say a hiker tears down a fence, starts a forest fire, shoots a cow, etc.)
  - c.) legislation to mandate decreased local property taxes for lands over which a trail easement or lease runs.
  - d.) release requirements to do costly surveys and appraisals for trail easements and leases.
  - e.) need a more "liberal" attitude on the part of high state officials and agencies towards the processes and problems associated with trail development (also river and natural areas). They have unique problems that cannot be effectively handled with standard procedures.

A second recommendation is to develop standards for trail activities. Unless we are developing trails for the experts which I hope we never accept as our goal, we must plan our trails for use by all types of people. We must standards as to the erosion control, the safety of the visitor, and protection of the land itself. While individually we perhaps can accept less we must remember that the trails we are developing are for use by the public and that we must plan and develop trails with their safety and outdoor recreational experience, in mind. The third recommendation is that the TTA must be aggressive in investigating all aspects of its trail programs. There are several questions that I myself have not satisfied have been answered adequately. These include topics such as the liability of the Tennessee Trails Association, and the private landowner over whose land the trail passes. We need to get legal opinion as to these topics. We need to determine whether or not the Tennessee Trails Association needs an insurance policy to cover both the organization and the private landowner. The legal relationship of the TTA and the Department of Conservation should also be investigated. As soon as possible I am going to present a rough draft of a contract between TTA and the Department of Conservation for the public and trail development, in joint programs. I need some assistance as to what this contract should contain. We will be able to grant funds in a limited amount to incorporated non-profit conservation organization. What should these funds be spent for? In detail what they will be? How are we going to control them from a physical FISCAL standpoint?

We also need to take a look into what we are going to do with trails after we have developed them, we need to set up long range maintenance and operation programs. After our initial effort at getting a trail established, hopefully we will have generations of trail use. We must develop the TTA into a strong organization so that as older people leave there are younger motivated people to continue their

trail work of the TTA pioneers. We must develop a capability of what needs to be done relative to trail operation and maintenance. When will an area receive its maximum use and when this use be curtailed? Many of these problems are today being faced by trail clubs who have to sponsor the Appalachian Trail.

On this final note I would like to touch upon another area in which the TTA must assume a vital role. This is in the political arena. I know I have said this over and over repeatedly and repeatedly but it is always a basic fact. Trail users need to have a strong trail voice. It needs to be a continuous voice. This voice must be presented in an effective way and not only when crisis appear. The TTA must assume a major role in dealing with candidates for public office, and in their conduct while in office. Without use or demands, government can do nothing. TTA and the Department of Conservation must have a symbolic relationship each group facilitating the existence of the other.

Rough Draft -  
Joe Gaines' Talk

TTA Annual Meeting - 1977

*Evelyn,  
This is a very  
rough draft of my  
talk. You can  
determine whether or  
not to include it  
in the  
minutes -  
JG*

The purpose of my talk today is to give a brief description of the Tennessee Trails Programs' activities and accomplishments over the past year or so and also to give an indication of what we plan to do in the future. I plan to highlight some of the bright spots and also to dwell on some of our problems. I would like to start this talk off by saying our program is open for review and input at all stages. We welcome both input about things we have done in the past and input about ways you think we should be going in the future. I feel that within the trails program we have always enjoyed one of the best working relationship with citizens across the state with any the Department has done. We certainly hope that it continues.

Since 1975 the Trails Program has had some of its darkest moments and yet has had some of its most productive periods. Many of the concepts that we have operated under have changed and some of the changes have been healthy. While our progress on the Scenic Trails System has not been what was visualized in the early 70's we have made progress in developing primarily long distance foot trail facilities for public use.

Many of you have hiked some of the trails that we have developed over the past couple of years. Two years ago we finished our Fiery Gizzard Trail the two loops of trail at Fall Creek Falls State Park, the long distance trail at Montgomery Bell and the Cumberland Trail near Chattanooga. Some work is still continuing on all of these trail segments. These trail segments total over 60 miles in length. All of these trails, especially the 10-mile portion

of the Cumberland Trail near Chattanooga, have been developed in part or totally by groups of the Tennessee Trails Association.

This past year we have completed trail development on several other portions of trails within TORAS areas. These include 15-miles of trail in Meeman-Shelby Forest State Day Use Area and Fort Pillow State Historic Area. These form portions of the Chickasaw Bluffs Trail. Also a 30-mile trail at Natchez Trace State Resort Park and Forest. Incidentally, today a ceremony is being held at the Park to designate this trail as part of a National Recreation trail system. We also completed 18-miles of trail on the North Plateau of Savage Gulf, 2-miles of trail at the Harry Lee Carter State Natural Area, and are still involved in the redevelopment of approximately a 19-mile portion of the boundary trail at Frozen Head State Natural Area. This project is involved equipping a two man backpacking crew who spend a week working on the trail. These total to some 75 miles of trail open for public use.

In addition to these trail projects we've also been involved in trail planning for other TORAS areas. We have planned and located trail systems for Roane Mountain State Rustic Park, Mousetail Landing State Rustic Park, Big Hill Pond State Environmental Education Area, and Edgar Evans State Rustic Park,. All of these are being or will in the near future be developed. In addition to these we have worked with the Nashville Chapter of The Tennessee Trails Association in the planning of a 6-mile trail at Long Hunter State Rustic Park near Nashville, The Corps of Engineers has also been involved in this project.

Coordination has also been maintained in the various state and federal agencies and private groups which are involved in the Appalachian Trail. Representing the State of Tennessee on the Appalachian National Scenic Trail Advisory Council, we have attended meetings and helped to influence policy determination on the AT.



3

This trail is the world's most famous foot path, and probably the most used. It is truly a national asset and some pending legislation on the federal level should assist in the preservation for future generations. We have also maintained contact with the Bartram Trail Association. Currently a study is being prepared by the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation again with the assistance of state and federal agencies to see just how we want to implement this trail. The Bartram Trail Conference, Inc. has received a federal grant to study the Bartram Trail as a potential pilot of American Heritage Program. This Program is currently being allocated by President Carter. Only a portion of this trail will involve Tennessee and it will be located somewhere within Cherokee National Forest, south of the Smokey Mountain. One current proposal has one end of the Bartram Trail in Tennessee connecting with the Appalachian Trail in North Carolina, and the other end connecting with our John Muir State Scenic Trail near the Hiwassee River. Individuals working on the Bartram Trail Conference will appreciate any assistance that the TTA could offer. A public meeting will be held in Cleveland at 7:00 on December 6 to discuss this proposed project. I certainly would like to welcome and request TTA attendance at this meeting. One item which has occurred recently which has an impact upon the Trails program is the formulation of a National Resources Unit within the Division of Planning of the Department of Conservation. In effect the Scenic Trails, Scenic Rivers, and Natural Areas Program have been consolidated, into one working unit. This formal organization should allow better communication and implementation of all three of these projects.

Several projects are already under way or will be undertaken in the near future. These involve our proposed trails activities through July to September of next year. Under the reorganization concept that I mentioned earlier with the formulation of the natural resources planning unit, we will also be

regionalizing many of our field project administrators. We are consolidating an East Tennessee office which will contain several Department of Conservation employees including Mike Dahl who will be working on the Trail of the Lonesome Pine and other East Tennessee trail projects. This regionalization in combining the functions to be more economical and also result in better and quicker project developments. Mike will be primarily working with Gordon Newland and his TTA members in the Kingsport Area and the implementation of the northern half of the Trail of the Lonesome Pine. Gordon has done an outstanding job in the development of this trail. Last February we were able to obtain funds with which to hire Mrs. Floyd Bostic and her husband Mr. Bostic to contact landowners along the route of the Trail (on the crest of the Clinch Mountain). Mr. and Mrs. Bostic had a tremendous amount of success and received verbal permission for much of the trail routing along the top of the Clinch Mountain. Gordon Newland has invested several amount of man hours in directing Mrs. Bostic efforts. He has also personally visited many landowners, although he and I can both vouch that not all of them have been very cooperative.

Mike will also be working to increase our role and visibility on the Appalachian Trail. We want to assist the federal government and Appalachian Trail matters in by having an East Tennessee Representative that should be facilitated. We want to coordinate such things as DOT road crossings, incompatible development, and assist volunteer groups in the acquisition of land and easements along the Appalachian Trail as much as possible within state budgetary and policies limitations. Mike will also be working in preparation of the John Muir Trail master plan in the future.

We continue to have our plateau trails administrator located in his Crossville office. I think most everybody here knows David Shupe. David's primary activities will be along the Cumberland Trail, northern most section.

We have had valuable assistance from the Tennessee Trails Association in receiving landowner permission for trail development especially the American Association. Construction activity will begin in the near future on this section of trails. We very much need Tennessee Trails Association assistance in the construction as well as in acquiring landowner permission. Plateau Administrator will also be working in our continuing Frozen Head trail redevelopment program and in some maintenance on our trails at Fall Creek Falls and Pickett. In addition we are very much interested in acquisition of abandoned railroad right-of-way travelling from near Frozen Head down to Harriman. This is an eleven mile section of trail which will form a portion of the John Muir Trail. This acquisition will also fall within the responsibility of our Plateau Office.

Our third major rim of activities within the South Cumberland Recreation Area. As I have mentioned earlier we developed some 18 miles of trails last year along the North Plateau at Savage. This year we are pushing for something like 25 miles of trail to connect our 18-mile existing system with the Great Stone Door Area. In the years to come we also want to do some additional hiking trails along the Collins River Gulf within the Savage Area as well as some foot and horse trails within the same general area.

I've touched on briefly on the three above project areas because each of the project administrators will be discussing them in more depth later.

What are some of our long range objectives and plans for the trails program? We will continue our policy of developing trails where opportunities exist. We do not have the resources to do a comprehensive plan to determine what section of trail should be developed where. We do hope however to keep ourselves flexible to be able to move when an opportunity exists. When a landowner expresses interest

in the trails program when Tennessee Trails Association groups become interested in development of an area, when an opportunity comes to work with other governmental agencies, we will definitely move in that direction. Our overall goals are to have over a period of years long connected systems of scenic trail.

One area in which we are very much interested and which I briefly touched on earlier was in the field of abandoned railroad rights-of-way. These rights-of-way are desirable for acquisition and development as trail facilities for a variety of reasons. One of the most desirable reasons is because you only have to deal with one landowner usually to acquire this right-of-way. The right-of-way could vary from the 11-mile section we are interested in in Morgan County to an approximate 35-mile section we plan to investigate near the Mississippi River. By having to deal with only landowner you have less landowner opposition to a project as well as \_\_\_\_\_ lining the vastly complicated bureaucratic process of dealing with dozens or even hundreds of private landowners. These facilities in many cases traverse near population centers as well as going through areas of significant natural and cultural beauty. At this time there are many railroad being abandoned across the nation and we want to review all of those in Tennessee as thoroughly as possible.

There are several problems which we have encountered in acquiring these railroad rights-of-way however. One is in the area of title commitments. The railroad in many cases back when the rights-of-way were built acquired the right-of-way by variety of means. Some they purchase outright, while others were condemned, others were acquired by easements, and some were just built upon with never any agreement with a private landowner. These present a variety of problems when you try to acquire them. Our state bureaucratic procedures did not give us much flexibility in dealing with a clouded title. Another problem has been in convincing high state officials as to the desirability of these railroad rights-of-way or even the trails themselves. Officials of the Department of Finance &



Administration, the Comptrollers office, Legislative Committees, the State Building Commission, and other agencies are constantly raised questions about these. In many cases they have killed or effectively delayed indefinitely trail projects. Our attempts at communicating with these groups and informing them as to our intense has been unsuccessful.

Another long range goal or direction in which I would like to see the trails program take is in providing trail opportunities for a wide variety of trail users. In particular I would like to see us develop some horse trails for use for horse back riders across the State. Our statistical survey of recreational users point out that bicyclists and horseback riders are some of the largest number of trail users. However their facilities are much lower than those for hikers. We need to develop these horse trails in both TORAS areas and <sup>on</sup> private land and along rural dirt roads and areas of the State. We would like to try the development of a long distance horse facilities using similar implementation techniques as we used in the Rutherford County bicycle touring system.

Of course ~~w~~ one of our most important long range goals is to continue implementation of the scenic trails mandated for development, by the 1971 Trails System Act. It is in this general area we have frequently faced problems and will continue to do so in the future.

One area in which we are facing problems is ~~the~~ with instate government itself. There is an trend in state government as well as in the national government for there to be more centralization of authority and budgeting. This centralizing trend has left the first line department of Conservation with very low authority which to <sup>with</sup> develop projects. We have had to justify our programs to accountants, lawyers, and politicians who have little feeling or understanding for natural resource especially trail projects.



Many of the attitudes have been negative and resulted in decreased activities regarding natural resource areas. Some changes must be made within the State System for us to have an effective scenic trail program. Some of the areas in which we need to work include:

Because of the unlikely event that state government is going to become more responsive, more activities will be required of private groups and agencies such as the Tennessee Trails Association. If we are to have a comprehensive state trails system, TTA and other organizations must be willing to shoulder the responsibility where the State has proven inadequate. Areas which help is going to be needed is in dealing with landowners and in acquiring needed donation gift or purchase trail rights-of-way. The TTA has taken our lead role in this activity today. Additional assistance is going to be necessary in the area of trail operation and maintenance. With limited budgets and personnel ceilings the role of the private trail volunteer is \_\_\_\_\_ very much more important especially in the area of trails.

What are some recommendations for the Tennessee Trails Association, What needs do I see for the TTA? One is to develop a close working relationship with the Department of Conservation and other trail related agencies. We need to communicate fully and effectively. And we must not leave this role for the governmental agency to perform. We must be aggressive in desiring to learn what is going on in Government. There are so many demands and pressures on the governmental employees that it is extremely difficult to have an effective communications program unless its demanding and sought by citizens group.



# TENNESSEE TRAILS ASSOCIATION

P. O. BOX 733  
OAK RIDGE, TENNESSEE 37830  
November 19, 1977

## MINUTES FOURTH QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING

The meeting was held at Cumberland Mountain State Park following the annual meeting. Those present were:

Reply To:

Grimes Slaughter	Don Todd	Absent: Gordon Newland
Dot Lingerfelt	Dave Stidham	Dave Rhyne
Bill Stutz	Evan Means	
Evelyn Tretter		Also present: Bob Martin

There was a discussion of liability insurance for easement landowners. This matter will be investigated further.

Evelyn Tretter will write a letter for TTA to Senator Henry Jackson asking his support of Senate Bill 2026, providing for wider right-of-way for the Appalachian Trail. ↖ 2066

Evelyn Tretter presented two issues which are being pursued by the Tennessee Hobos Retirees Chapter of the National Campers and Hikers Association, for which support is being asked.

1. Making a survey of citizens of Tennessee on the subject of litter, in an effort to strengthen and obtaining enforcement of the state litter law. A copy of the questionnaire will be distributed with the newsletter, with the request that it be returned to Mrs. Tretter, who will make a summary and send to the sponsors.
2. Support of a Tennessee bottle bill. The board agreed to make an effort to obtain sponsors for Senate Bill S-876, HB-885. A copy of an information sheet will be mailed to each board member by Mrs. Tretter. Oak Ridge, Chattanooga and Nashville area board members will make an effort to obtain six sponsors in each area, before the legislature convenes in January.

After adjournment, seven people took a short hike on the Cumberland Trail on Bradley Mountain.

Evelyn Tretter, Recording Secretary

Keep in

Correction to 1977 Annual Minutes read at 1978 meeting

only two difficult spots, where landowners on some of the trail segments, but he felt the problem could be worked out. He displayed aerial survey maps of the entire trail. He expects the trail to be open by the end of 1977. Ten miles will be built and marked in the very near future.

The Board voted a "Well Done" commendation to Mr. Newland.  
amendment

The following amendment to the by-laws was approved by the board and will be presented for vote at the annual meeting on November 22.

7. Officers for Local Chapters--The members of a local chapter may, at their discretion, elect a chairman, a vice chairman and a secretary and treasurer. The conditions of office shall be the same as set forth in the constitution of the Tennessee Trails Association for officers of the association.

Passed:  
at  
Annual meeting

The president stated that Joe Gaines, state trails administrator, had discussed with him the desirability of having the TTA annual meeting at the same site as a proposed state trails symposium the week of Nov. 22, and having a joint session with TTA. This will be discussed further.

Dave Shupe, State Conservation Department coordinator for the Cumberland Trail, stated that two U.T. agriculture graduates had been employed

for the summer by the state to clear and regrade the boundary trail at Frozen Head Natural Area.

Mr. Shupe presented a landowner easement agreement between the American Company and TTA, which he had drawn up. He was in favor of tailoring each agreement to fit the situation, with the American Company agreement to be the extreme in detail, down to simple verbal agreements.

Attorney David Gray of Nashville will be asked to pass on the legality of the agreement, and to examine the TTA charter to be sure making such agreements is within the limits of the charter.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m., after which the group enjoyed a delicious lunch prepared by Ruth Slusher.

Evelyn Tretter, Recording Secretary

Note: No meeting was held during the second quarter.





See Connection - preceding page.

# TENNESSEE TRAILS ASSOCIATION

P. O. BOX 733  
OAK RIDGE, TENNESSEE 37830  
November 19, 1977

## MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING

The meeting was held at 10:00 A.M. in the Lodge at Cumberland Mountain State Park. The following attended:

Grimes Slaughter, Oak Ridge	Ruth Slusher, Oak Ridge
Edward Oliver, McMinnville	Dot Lingerfelt, Chattanooga
Stan Gorin, McMinnville	Dave Rhyne, Riceville
Mary Barber, Tullahoma	Gordon Newland, Kingsport
Donald Todd, Wartburg	Faye Garrison, Crossville
Polly and Tod Haydon, Oak Ridge	Evelyn Tretter, Goodlettsville
Evan Means, Oak Ridge	Dave Stidham, Nashville
Dave Shupe, Crossville	Bob Martin, Nashville
Mike Dahl, Knoxville	Sara Smith, Crossville
Bob Richards, Tracy City	Bill Stutz, Chattanooga
Joe Gaines, Nashville	Bessie Shelton, Chattanooga
Bob Brown, Nashville	Elizabeth Cade, Chattanooga
Ellra and Floy Bostic, Surgionsville	

The minutes of the previous year's annual meeting and the financial statement were read and approved. Treasurer Dot Lingerfelt stated that there are 195 paid members, a substantial increase over 1976.

Publicity chairman Evan Means stated that he is writing a book on trails in Tennessee to be published and sold. He wishes to include every hiking trail in Tennessee.

Bill Stutz, membership chairman, stated that he has placed TTA brochures in state parks and other public places. He answers a number of letters of inquiry throughout the year.

The following tentative schedule of activities was planned for 1978:

Jan. 14, H&NE railroad bed between Harriman and Petros, leader Grimes Slaughter.  
Feb. 11, Savage Gulf, overnight option, Bob Brown  
Mar. 18, Trail of Tears, McMinnville, Stan Gorin.  
April, date to be announced, Piney River trail (dedication), Dave Rhyne  
April 22, Frozen Head Natural Area, Don Todd  
May 20, Prentice Cooper State Forest (Cumberland Trail), Dot Lingerfelt  
June 17 or 24, Roane Mountain, Mike Dahl  
July 15, Cumberland Gap (Cumberland Trail), Evan Means (date tentative)

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



Aug. 12, Hiwassee River float trip with side hike to John Muir Trail, Dave Rhyne  
Sept. 23, Little River, Lookout Mountain, Ed Oliver  
Oct. 14, Virgin Falls, Sara Smith and Faye Garrison  
Oct. 21, Natchez Trace State Park, optional overnight, Joe Gaines  
Nov. 18, Annual Meeting, place to be announced  
Dec. 9, Fiery Gizzard, Bob Richards

Dave Stidham reported on the activities of the Nashville Chapter during the year. Monthly hikes, cookouts, etc. were held. Meetings are held on alternate months. The chapter is working on building 8-1/2 miles of trail at Percy Priest Lake. The chapter was involved in a conservation effort to get state protection for Indian Town Bluff in Cheatham County.

Joe Gaines, state planning division, asked for TTA sponsorship for a state trails symposium to be held in late March or April, 1978, at a Middle Tennessee location. He said the format would be varied, with working sessions. A motion was passed to sponsor this symposium. Evan Means agreed to head it up.

\* Among other topics, Mr. Gaines reported as follows:

Since 1974, there has been a more liberal attitude in state government and more funds available, and more support from the public. State staffs are smaller. The trend is toward more power in the legislature branch instead of the executive, and toward centralization of power. The TTA is an avenue around state bureaucracy. A change in the easement program has resulted in less land acquisition.

About 200 miles of state trails have been built in the last two years, not counting scenic trails. Middle and West Tennessee activities will be emphasized during the coming year.

The study on the Trail of Tears had been completed. The concept is to make this historic route an automobile tour, with side hikes to places of interest.

2066 more authority to Federal Gov.  
Senate Bill 2066, concerning in purchasing wider right-of-way & more funds for the Appalachian Trail, needs supporting. Letters should be addressed to Senator Henry Jackson.

Eight miles of the Bartram Trail will be in Tennessee and will be part of a connector between the John Muir Trail and the Appalachian Trail.

State plans in the immediate future will be long-range and flexible, to allow for spending funds as the opportunity is presented to acquire lands. The acquisition of railroad abandonments will be made where possible, as an economical way of obtaining excellent trail rights-of-way. Bicycle and horse trails will be emphasized.

Bob Richards of the planning division reported on the South Cumberland Recreation Area. The following is a summary of his report:

Personnel change: S. Trussler transferred to Department of Human Services. Hank Landers, new project administrator. Bob Richards, senior trail supervisor.

1976-77 objectives accomplished: 18 miles completed, 4-mile day loop, North Plateau Trail, and 19-mile overnight loop. 4-mile trail, parking area, picnic table, Carter Natural Area. Maintenance of 40 miles of trail. Development of 2 campsites. 3 major bridges, 70', 55' and 48' spans.

1977-78 goals to be accomplished: 25 miles of trail, 2 campsites, 4 major bridges.

TTA needs to request for more trail rangers and for adequate maintenance crews for the trails being built.

Dave Shupe, planning division, reported on the Cumberland Trail.

Mike Dahl, planning division, reported on the Trail of the Lonesome Pine. He introduced Mr. and Mrs. Bostic, who have been obtaining easements. A vote of thanks was extended to Mr. and Mrs. Bostic and to Gordon Newland, TTA chairman for this trail.

Don Todd reported on efforts by the state to acquire the abandoned railbed of the Old Harriman and Northeastern railroad to be used as a hike-bike segment of the John Muir State trail. He asked that each person contact his state legislators before Dec. 1 and ask that they contact the state building commission and request that this be approved.

The following officers were elected: President, Grimes Slaughter; vice president, Dave Rhyne; corresponding secretary and treasurer, Dot Lingerfelt; recording secretary, Evelyn Tretter; director, Bill Stutz.

The matter of a TTA library was discussed. It was suggested that an alternate plan would be to circulate lists of available publications on subjects of interest to members, who might then purchase them or obtain from their local libraries. No action was taken.

The matter of a trail rating system was discussed. The president read a new list of classifications made by Dave Rhyne. No action was taken.

Some form of recognition of people who have granted easements will be made.

After lunch and a short afternoon session, the meeting was adjourned. Seven people took a short hike on the Cumberland Trail on Bradley Mountain.

Evelyn Tretter, Recording Secretary

\* See attached draft



# TENNESSEE TRAILS ASSOCIATION

INC.

~~P.O. BOX 4913~~

~~CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE 37405~~

MINUTES  
SECOND QUARTER BOARD MEETING  
June 3, 1978

The meeting was held beside the swimming pool at Gray Badger Inn, Kingston.

Present:	Bill Stutz	Pat Rhyne	Absent:	Gordon Newland
	Dave Stidham	Evan Means		
	Jack Neff	Dot Lingerfelt		
	Grimes Slaughter	Evelyn Tretter		
	Dave Rhyne	Don Todd		

Don Todd discussed the matter of the proposed state prison to be built near Frozen Head State Natural Area, to possibly start construction in July. The Tennessee Citizens for Wilderness Planning oppose the proposed site on the main road and Mr. Todd stated that there are 60,000 state-owned acres in Morgan County and that a location near the Lone Mountain-State Forest boundary had been recommended by environmental groups. The proposed location on the main road would interfere with an environmental education center which has been tentatively planned for that area.

The group approved a motion to have the corresponding secretary write a letter to the governor; conservation commissioner, Buck Allison; and the commissioner of corrections, urging that the prison not be built on the main road as proposed and recommending the Lone Mountain-State Forest boundary site.

The president, Grimes Slaughter, stated that the U.S. Forest Service had asked TTA's aid in making an agreement for easements with Stearn Coal and Lumber Company for the Daniel Boone Forest Trail to cross their property. The group concurred in recommending that this be done. The president will go ahead with the project.

Evan Means reported that in his recent contacts, he had found interest in the trails program was building up in the Memphis area. A TTA chapter needs to be organized there. He is encouraging interested persons there to attempt to do this.

Mr. Means reported that plans for the Southeastern Trails Conference to be held at Cumberland Falls State Park, Kentucky, Sept. 21-24, co-hosted by Kentucky Trails Association and TTA, are shaping up. Invitations will go out soon.



Mr. Means stated that he needs all material for the book on trails he is writing by October 1. He is assigning royalties to TTA,

Jack Neff of Nashville, TTA member, who is representing the Nashville Chapter on the committee to make recommendations to the Corps of Engineers on administering Cordell Hull lake shore, presented the report he has completed. He had toured the Cordell Hull reservation, and also those at Center Hill and Old Hickory, as a member of the committee made up of organization representatives. Other committees represent lake area community groups, civic groups, users, government agencies, etc. Dr. Neff had made recommendations in the report not only for Cordell Hull but also for Old Hickory and Center Hill.

The board passed a motion to have Dr. Neff represent the state organization also and endorsed his recommendations.

A motion was passed to buy a chain saw for Sam Powell, South Cumberland Trail chairman for TTA, to assist his group in the construction of the trail in the vicinity of Chattanooga.

A suggestion was approved to send a complete list of members to each member.

A suggestion by an outdoor magazine to act as newsletter for TTA was rejected.

After adjournment, the group had lunch together at the smorgasbord next to the Inn.

Evelyn Tretter  
Recording Secretary

NOTE: No meeting was held during the first quarter.





# TENNESSEE TRAILS ASSOCIATION

INC.

P.O. BOX 4913  
CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE 37405

## MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING November 18, 1978

The meeting was held at the Resource Manager's Office at Cordell Hull Lake. The following were present:

Jim Dahl  
Mike Casad  
Harry Williamson  
Bill Hager  
Evelyn Tretter  
Betty Smith  
Dot Lingerfelt  
Bessie Shelton  
Bob Brown  
Grimes Slaughter  
Ruth Slusher

Stan Gorin  
Mike Dahl  
Russell Fryer  
Russell Jarrell  
Dave Stidham  
Elizabeth Cade  
Margaret Mann  
John Brown  
Bill Stutz  
Evan Means

Board members  
not present:

Don Todd  
Gordon Newland  
Dave Rhyne

The president, Grimes Slaughter, outlined some of the TTA activities of the past year:

1. The association had opposed the building of a prison at the entrance to Frozen Head Natural Area. Grimes Slaughter and Don Todd had been active in this matter.
2. Jack Neff had very actively represented TTA on a committee to help formulate shore management policy at Cordell Hull Lake.
3. The association had been instrumental in reaching an informal verbal agreement with Stearns Coal and Lumber Co. to get a trail easement connecting Daniel Boone National Forest to Pickett State Park and Forest.
4. Bob Brown had headed an effort to prevent a radar tower being placed on Black Mountain. This matter was still pending.
5. A letter had been written supporting state protection for Indian Town Bluff, and urging further development of the Chickasaw Bluffs Trail.
6. The Association had participated in the dedication hike of Piney River Pocket Wilderness trail opened by Bowaters Paper Co., with a huge turnout of hikers.
7. The association had pushed for the successful acquirement by the state of the Harriman and Northeastern railroad abandoned right-of-way for the John Muir Trail.

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*

8. Grimes Slaughter, Ruth Slusher and others had attended a public hearing in Morgan County to support enforcement of strip mining laws in the vicinity. On this occasion, Grimes Slaughter was pushed around considerably by irate miners.

The following officers were elected for 1979: Joe Gaines, president; Russell Fryer, vice president; Dot Lingerfelt, corresponding secretary and treasurer; Evelyn Tretter, recording secretary.

Evan Means was elected to the board of directors to replace Gordon Newland, whose term was expiring. Other board members are Dave Stidham, chairman of the Nashville chapter; Grimes Slaughter immediate past president; Bill Stutz; Don Todd.

The outgoing president suggested that a proposal to adopt a trail classification system be resumed.

A tentative schedule of hikes for 1979 was made up. The final list will be published in the January newsletter activities

Dave Stidham reported on ~~activities~~ by the Hashville Chapter. Some were:

1. A telegram had been sent to the federal senators supporting the Alaska Coalition effort.
2. The chapter had joined the effort to keep a radar tower off Black Mountain, and to seek state protection for Indian Town Bluff and push the Chickasaw Bluff Trail.
3. The chapter had contributed \$15.00 to the Solar Coalition for Sun Day.

A suggestion by the Nashville Chapter to give a bar to be worn with the TTA patch for trail work was adopted by motion.

Harry Williamson, state trails administrator, reported on the Trail of Tears, the South Cumberland Recreation Area, the Cumberland Trail and other matters. The Young Adult Conservation Corps had worked on the north segment of the Cumberland Trail. Acquirement of easements had been the main job during the year, with some new trail cut. Some sections along Walden Ridge had been difficult areas to acquire easements and an effort to establish rapport with the public would be made before pushing forward.

The Trail of Tears, an automobile route with side hikes, is ready for use. Interim brochures were about ready. Signs had been erected for trails at Cumberland Caverns and at Pilot Knob in Rutherford County. The Trail of Tears was about to become the first trail to be completed under the state scenic trails act.

In the South Cumberland Area, the CETA crew was about to be immobilized due to lack of further government funding. The Youth Conservation Corps was being utilized and two new campsites had been completed. A trail map of the whole system was at the printers.

Mr. Williamson said that maintenance in some parks had fallen down, and that there is hope that the division will soon have its own maintenance system.

He reported that Bone Cave and Big Hill Pond are being developed by the state.

An administrator had been acquired to push trail work in West Tennessee. YCC is available.

The abandoned railroad in Morgan County will have trestles restored in the near future and bike and horse trails will be established on it.

Mike Dahl reported on the Trail of the Lonesome Pine. Seventeen to twenty miles had been opened on Nov. 1, 1978. Twelve to fourteen more miles were usable. The north portion Virginia line to Highway 25, should be ready for grand opening by July. The YCC had built three campsites. The trail is not quite ready for backpacking. 92% of easement agreements have been obtained. A unique public relations program has been carried out in releases to area newspapers. The many small communities in the long corridor are considered as one long community in these releases. Feature stories about people and places along the trail have done much to improve the public attitude. Mr. Dahl expressed the hope that the trail would be continued 30 miles into Virginia.

Mr. Dahl suggested that TTA's role in regard to this trail could be in maintaining it. He hopes to organize a TLP conference, open only to TTA members.

Bob Brown said that Boy Scout troops had done a great deal of work on the Cumberland Trail and could be utilized again.

Mr. Dahl announced that cross country skiing will soon be available at Roan Mountain State Park on an experimental basis. Rental equipment will be available. Three trails are being opened.

Mr. Dahl stated that an attractive and historic statue of Nancy Ward had been located and would be acquired for a museum along the Trail of Tears.

Evan Means reported that an avid interest in hiking trails is developing in the Memphis area, and that a membership drive should be conducted there.

Mr. Means stated that the final draft of his book on trails in Tennessee is being typed. TTA members have contributed to the book, and Mr. Means has assigned royalties to the association.

Mr. Means also reported that the Southeastern Trails Conference that had been held in September at Cumberland Falls State Park in Kentucky had been disappointing as to attendance. Only about 80 people had registered. Promotion had not been adequate.

After adjournment of the meeting, members of the group hiked to the lake on a portion of the Bearwallow Trail and rode boats back to the dam, courtesy of the Corps of Engineers.

Evelyn Tretter, Recording Secretary





# TENNESSEE TRAILS ASSOCIATION

INC.

P.O. BOX 4913  
CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE 37405

MINUTES  
FIRST QUARTER BOARD MEETING  
March 10, 1979

The meeting was held at the home of Joe Gaines, president, in Nashville, after a hamburger supper hosted by Mr. Gaines.

Present: Joe Gaines, president  
Russell Fryer, vice president  
Dot Lingerfelt, corresponding  
secretary, treasurer  
Evelyn Tretter, recording  
secretary  
Dave Stidham, director  
Evan Means, director  
Harry Williamson  
Sharen Patterson  
John Hart

Absent: Grimes Slaughter  
Bill Stutz  
Don Todd

The president said he had attended a meeting in February with the new commissioner of Conservation, Ann Tuck. Subjects discussed were:

1. Policy for Savage Gulf. Hunting will take a secondary place in the state area, but will not be entirely eliminated. Provision will be made for rock climbers at Savage and other locations.
2. Accelerated program on Cumberland Trail.
3. More aggressive enforcement of surface mining regulations.
4. More attention to maintenance of trails in state parks and forests, and to the general environment outside developed areas.
5. Employment of person to do bikeway plan and implementation.

The president reported that it had been a very good meeting.

Motorized off-road vehicles were discussed. It was agreed that this section of the public must be served on public lands but needs much more control.

The group agreed to a suggestion by the president that a reception be given for the new commissioner of Conservation, for Col. Tenner of the Corps of Engineers, and possibly some other honorees, in late April or early May. TTA will be sponsor and do leg work. The cost will be about \$30. Other environmental organizations would also contribute.

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 suggested to the editor of the newsletter that a subscription blank for the Tennessee Conservationist be enclosed. Another suggestion was for the enclosure of special releases on various subjects. The editor and president will decide this matter.

Ways were discussed to give TTA more publicity. Dave Stidham will put together a slide show.

An effort will be launched to form more local chapters. Local contacts will be made by the president. Memphis was suggested as a desirable area for a chapter, as well as the eastern Highland Rim and adjoining Plateau area.

It was pointed out that the obtaining of easements for the Cumberland Trail has somewhat bogged down. Harry Williamson, state trails administrator, will take measures to push this project.

The president proposed a plan of action on a statewide bike touring system. He will get in touch with bike clubs for suggestions and action. Possibly the state would give TTA the money and TTA would contract with someone to do the plans. An effort will be made to get a resolution on this passed in the legislature.

Plans for a Fourth State Trails seminar are being made.

The president suggested that the trails classification list be refined. He will implement this.

The president said he would like for TTA to get into an awards program for those who had made outstanding contributions to trail work.

The next meeting will be held at the president's business office on May 18, in Nashville, in the evening (tentatively). Later announcement will be made.

Evelyn Tretter  
Recording Secretary

Insert above:

A motion was passed to make Governor Lamar Alexander an honorary member of TTA, and that he be given a plaque and complimented on his walk across the state during his campaign.

Add at end of minutes: The Board approved Tennessee trails awards to the following, provided the amendment to by-laws passed: Evan Means, Bill Stutz and Paul Adams.



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## MINUTES SECOND, THIRD AND FOURTH QUARTER BOARD MEETINGS

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The second quarter meeting was held at Jamestown on May 18, 1979, without a quorum being present, but plans were made for the Trails Symposium to be held at Standing Stone State Park in October.

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The third quarter meeting was held at Shute's Branch Recreation Area, Old Hickory Lake, on Aug. 23, 1979. The following matters were announced and/or discussed:

Joe Gaines will forward a copy of Thurman Simmons letter to Ann Tuck, commissioner of conservation (concerning Meeman-Shelby Forest trails).

Joe Gaines will sponsor an amendment to bylaws, raising student dues to \$3 per year.

Joe Gaines will investigate production of TTA decals and T-shirts.

Joe Gaines will proceed with production of plaque for Gov. Alexander, and honorary membership for his walk across the state during his election campaign in 1978.

Dave Stidham, with Gaines' help, will write TTA letters supporting bottle bill, Carter Mountain National Forest (Cumberland Plateau National Forest), and defeat of the Tellico amendment to the Energy and Water Bill.

Gaines will write letter forwarding resolution about improving state campgrounds to Ann Tuck.

Dave Stidham, Betty Smith and Russ Fryer will serve as committee to nominate officers for 1980.

\*\*\*\*\*

A brief board meeting preceded the annual meeting on Oct. 27, 1979, at Standing Stone State Park. Two new amendments to the by-laws were approved, to be voted on at annual meeting. These amendments are listed in the report of the annual meeting. They concern increasing student membership to \$3 and designating people for an annual Tennessee Trails Award. Present at the meeting were Dot Lingerfelt, Joe Gaines, Evelyn Tretter, Evan Means, David Stidham, Russ Fryer and Grimes Slaughter. Absent, Bill Stutz and Don Todd.

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

Evelyn Tretter, Recording Secretary.



# TENNESSEE TRAILS ASSOCIATION

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## MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING October 27, 1979

The meeting was held at Standing Stone State Park on October 27, 1979, during the Fourth Annual Trails Symposium. About 30 members were present.

President Joe Gaines gave his annual report to the membership.

He said that communications between the president and the membership had improved, with messages from the president being included in the newsletter.

He listed several activities the association has engaged in this year.

1. The association had recommended to the Department of Conservation that camping in state parks be improved by providing more primitive camping areas without electric hookups and glaring lights, and by taking steps to keep noise and lights down in all camping areas. It was also recommended that some kind of hangers be provided for lanterns, to keep trees from being damaged by hanging lanterns thereon.
2. A telegram had been sent to President Carter asking him to veto the Energy and Water Bill, which contains an amendment exempting the Tellico Dam from federal law.
3. Letters had been sent to Congressmen, senators and the president asking support of the proposed Cumberland Plateau National Forest.
4. The association has supported a state bottle bill, helping to publicize the issue and urging support for such a bill when the legislature meets again.
5. The association had co-sponsored and coordinated a reception at Cheekwood in Nashville for Conservation Department officials.
6. A plaque and honorary membership will be presented to Gov. Lamar Alexander for his walk across the state during his election campaign last year.
7. The association has co-sponsored the Fourth Annual Trails Symposium with the Department of Conservation.

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*Sponsor for the Cumberland Trail*

9. Monthly hikes have been sponsored.  
\* 10.

Diane Davidson reported on a proposed program of hikes for 1980. A complete list will appear in the newsletter.

The president said that a push is being made for local chapters to be formed in various parts of the state.

A motion was passed to have promotional posters printed.

A motion was passed to look into the feasibility of life memberships.

The following amendments to the by-laws were passed.

No. 5 was changed to make yearly dues \$3.00 for students instead of \$1.00.

No. 8 was added, reading as follows: "The Board of Directors of the Association may designate one person or organization per year to receive an official award. Any voting member can make a nomination to the Board for the receipt of this award. The award is to be presented for outstanding contributions to the association, or for the furtherance of trails and natural resource programs and opportunities within Tennessee. Provided, however, the Board can designate three (3) recipients at the time of the adoption of this amendment. The award shall be titled the Tennessee Trails Award."

Tennessee Trails Awards were presented to Paul Adams, Evan Means and Bill Stutz (in absentia).

The president stated that an adopt-a-trail program has been suggested for the association. It would involve local groups being responsible for maintenance and clean-up of certain trails or sections of trails. Also it had been suggested that bumper decals and TTA T-shirts be sold. These matters will receive further consideration.

The following officers were elected for 1980:

President, Joe Gaines  
Vice President, Dave Stidham  
Corresponding Secretary-Treasurer, Dot Lingerfelt  
Recording Secretary, Evelyn Tretter  
Director (to replace Don Todd, whose term had expired),  
Bertha Chrietzberg, for three-year term

Evelyn Tretter, Recording Secretary



- \*10. The president said he is working with Commissioner Tuck on problems with back-country trails in Mee-man-Shelby State Forest.





# TENNESSEE TRAILS ASSOCIATION

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## MINUTES

### FIRST QUARTER BOARD MEETING

February 17, 1980

The meeting was held at Cumberland Mountain State Park, beginning at 11 a.m.

Present:	Joe Gaines	Dave Stidham	Absent:	Grimes Slaughter
	Dot Lingerfelt	Harry Williamson		
	Evan Means	Bertha Crietzberg		
	Virginia Means	Evelyn Tretter		
	Sam Powell	Terry Bonham		

The president, Joe Gaines, suggested that a membership list and workshop papers from the 1979 Tennessee Trails Symposium held at Standing Stone State Park be offered to members for 50¢ a copy, to be announced in the newsletter.

The president reported briefly on the Heritage Conservation and Recreation meeting on trails which he had attended in Atlanta.

The following resolution was adopted:

"Life memberships in the Tennessee Trails Association, Inc., will be available to individuals for a fee of \$125 until December 31, 1980; thereafter, life membership fees will be \$150. Life membership will entitle individuals to full benefits of the association for their lifetime."

The following motion was passed:

"Receipts from life membership payments shall be placed in a bank account, trust fund, investment certificate, or other financial arrangement. The principal shall not be utilized to fund Association operating expenses. The interest accrued from the investment of these funds may be used for these operating expenses; provided, however, life membership funds may be utilized to finance club projects which are set up to return the original amount plus interest to the investment fund. The approval of the Board of Directors must be obtained prior to the use of these funds for club projects. Funds from sources other than life memberships may be placed in the investment fund and shall be subject to the same restrictions on their use as are life membership payments."

Potential fund raising projects were suggested, including selling survival kits, art prints, notepaper, Christmas cards and T shirts. Bertha Chrietzberg will investigate having an artist do a suitable drawing for making prints, which might also be reproduced on notepaper. She will also get information on T shirts. Evelyn Tretter suggested that small, simple greeting cards with line drawings and holiday greeting at a low price would sell well.

These suggested projects will be discussed at the next board meeting.

Joe Gaines and Dave Stidham will serve as a committee to make recommendations on a dues increase at the next board meeting.

Plans for the 1980 annual meeting were discussed. It was suggested that a weekend meeting be held, combining business and recreation. tentative date Oct. 17-19; possible site, Ocoee area, Cherokee National Forest. Bertha Chrietzberg will report on available accommodations at the next board meeting.

It was announced that a Murfreesboro TTA chapter is being formed, to roughly include Rutherford, Wilson, Bedford, Cannon, Coffee and Warren Counties. It was suggested that members will have the privilege of affiliation with or attending meetings of whichever chapter they choose. It was also suggested that the Nashville and Murfreesboro Chapters coordinate their hikes, with each chapter furnishing some of the leaders.

Sam Powell, TTA member from Chattanooga, who has been the leader in building 12 miles of the Cumberland Trail beginning at Signal Point, the southern terminal, presented the problem that exists in obtaining easements for the next section, across the property of the Carter Patton family. Mr. Powell is actively engaged in trying to work this out. As the situation stands, the Pattons are in Chancery Court to challenge a denial of a permit from the State Water Quality Board to allow them to strip mine coal on a portion of their property. Mr. Powell was hopeful that something could be worked out to allow the trail to go forward.

Harry Williamson, state chief of natural resources area planning, said that the central and northern portions of the Cumberland Trail is now under the overall supervision of Mike Dahl, with Bob Richards being responsible for the project southward from Bledsoe County, Mr. Dahl to supervise the northern portion. Fourteen miles were recently built in three months on the north section.

Mr. Gaines suggested that an up-to-date map of the trail be made, showing status of the various sections.

Mr. Williamson said the securing of easements and trail work would be done by the means most suitable to particular areas. The state will let TTA know when to lend assistance.

The death of TTA director Bill Stutz in Chattanooga was announced. The president will appoint a successor to serve until the expiration of Mr. Stutz' term as director at the end of 1980.

Dave Stidham, who had attended a recent meeting of the Tennessee Environmental Council, said the council plans to co-sponsor with the state Department of Conservation a land use workshop to consider means of protecting land other than state ownership. A limited group of legislators and conservation department officials would be invited to participate. Experts in the field would lead the workshop, to be held May 12 and 13. The state would furnish food and lodging for the leader, and the TEC would underwrite part of the other costs but not all. Environmental groups had been asked to donate money. It was voted to give \$25 of TTA funds for this purpose.

Mr. Stidham said that an effort is being made to have a U.S. postage stamp issued to feature caves, in connection with next year's speleology congress. TTA members were asked to write to the postal service recommending a cave stamp.

Dave Stidham was appointed editor of "Tennessee Trails," newsletter, to replace Evan Means, who had requested the change. This change will take place in a few months.

The president said that the plaque which has been prepared by TTA to honor Gov. Lamar Alexander for his hike across the state during his election campaign in 1979 would be presented soon.

It was announced that TTA would help on costs and arrangements for a reception for legislators and other state officials to be held at the Cumberland Museum in Nashville on March 5, to be sponsored by environmental organizations.

Evelyn Tretter, Recording Secretary