



# TENNESSEE TRAILS ASSOCIATION

INC.

P.O. BOX 4913

CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE 37405

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