



TENNESSEE TRAILS ASSOCIATION

INC.

P.O. BOX 4913
CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE 37405

MINUTES - ANNUAL MEETING October 18, 1980

The meeting was held at Camp Ocoee on October 18, 1980. About 50 people attended. There were at least four out-of-state people present:

Dr. Chuck Mathews and wife of Colorado Springs, member of Colorado Mountain Club. He had seen notice of the weekend annual meeting and activities in publication of American Hiking Society. He was temporarily at Ft. Campbell teaching a graduate course in management.

Lauren Reese of Okemos, Mich. Reese had got in touch through the former Carrol Miller (now Mrs. Viera) while on a Sierra Service trip to Tennessee previously. This time he had come to hike at Slick Rock for several days and called the Vieras to greet them. They passed on the word about the TTA annual meeting to Reese, who hitchhiked from Indian Boundary Recreation Area, by way of Tellico Plains and Etowah, walking the last couple of miles. He is on state board of Common Cause in Michigan.

Herbert H. Wigginton from Sterling Heights, Mich., a civilian employee of the U. S. Army and TTA member.

Joe Gaines, president, opened the meeting with a welcoming address. Featured speaker was Marvin Lauritsen, superintendent of Cherokee National Forest, who spoke on the trails program in the forest. He said there was a 21 to 25 per cent increase in visitors to the forest projected for 1980 over 1979. These were mostly local and may reflect increasing transportation costs.

He pointed out the fact that government climate has changed and budget and staffing is tight. Funds for trails will be short. A new land management plan is under way, and will cater to needs of the people. New trails maps are being produced.

Terry Bonham, state trails administrator, reported on the program of building the Tennessee Scenic Trails.

Mike Dahl, Cumberland Trail manager, said input is needed from TTA on management of the trail, or it will be out of the people's hands and in government hands.

There was some discussion of reorganization of the Department of Conservation, removing trails, rivers and natural areas from the Planning Division to Parks Division. Joe Gaines said a better job will be done.

Gaines made a yearly report on TTA's activities.

He said we will need to push state government, and that chapters need to be established at least in Murfreesboro, Oak Ridge, Knoxville and Memphis. He said relations had been good with state government during the year. A TTA committee had met with Conservation commissioner Ann Tuck to discuss priorities. These were the Cumberland Trail/ surface mining. and

Gaines had presented the plaque awarded by TTA to Governor Lamar Alexander and had met with him and Tim McCall to discuss scenic trails.

Det Lingerfelt gave the financial report. There was \$823.93 in the checking account and \$500 in consumer savings at 11½ percent interest from sale of books and life memberships. \$6.00 was in regular savings.

Evan Means reported that 2415 copies of his book "Tennessee Trails" had been sold and \$375 in royalties turned over to TTA.

Diane Davidson, chairman of the Nashville Chapter, reported on the chapter's activities, litter pickup to support bottle bill, Earth Day, Friends in Government reception, educational programs at bi-monthly meetings, and outings. Trail building had been slow on the Long Hunter trail at Percy Priest Lake, but new efforts were being made to push it.

Diane reported that the chapter would again participate in litter pickup on November 15. New work for 1981 included more work at Long Hunter and more exposure with exhibits.

The following amendments to the by-laws was passed::

- "5. Dues--The dues of this Association shall be eight dollars (\$8.00) per year for individual members. Students in high school and at the undergraduate level in college may pay three dollars (\$3.00) per year with no voting privileges. Supporting members shall pay a minimum of fifteen dollars (\$15.00) per year and/or special services. The special services which qualify a group or individual for supporting membership shall be defined by the Board of Directors."

The following amendment to the constitution was passed:

"Purpose

"The purpose of this Association shall be to promote and develop a system of hiking trails for the Great State of Tennessee, to provide opportunities for the enjoyment of these trails, and to educate the membership and the general public as to wise stewardship of trails and the outdoor areas through which they pass. The Association will work with Federal, State and local agencies, and other organizations and landowners for such development and education, and will work for conservation of natural resources."

The following officers were elected:

President, Bertha Chrietberg (opposed by Bob Richards,
nominated from the floor)
Vice President, Dave Stidham
Corresponding Secretary-Treasurer, Dot Lingerfelt
Recording Secretary, Evelyn Tretter
* Director, Sharen Patterson (to take place of Bill Stutz, who
died in 1979, and whose term would end at end of 1980.
She was opposed by Terry Benham, nominated from the floor)
Director, Grimes Slaughter (to fill unexpired term of Bertha
Chrietberg)

It was announced that Sam Powell of Chattanooga had been selected for
the TTA Award. Dot Lingerfelt did the honors. Powell was not present.

Evelyn Tretter
Recording Secretary

* Shanon's ~~term~~ three-year term to begin
Jan. 1, 1981.