



TENNESSEE TRAILS ASSOCIATION

INC.

P.O. BOX 4913

CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE 37405

MINUTES

ANNUAL MEETING

October 10, 1987

The meeting was held at Bandy Creek campground, hosted by the Cumberland Mountain Chapter. About 50 members were present, plus visitors.

President Howard Ray Duncan welcomed the group and asked for chapter reports.

Cumberland Mountain: Howard Ray Duncan reported that the chapter has dwindled to only a few active members, but there are hopes to build the membership back up. Nashville: Charlie Hann reported that the chapter has good participation at hikes and meetings, plus many impromptu outings. The chapter has had booths at some fairs and has adopted the Long Hunter Volunteer Trail at Long Hunter State Park, has printed and is selling bumper stickers, and has developed the new brochure. Memphis: Jerri Bull said the chapter has had a great year. "Our name is everywhere," she said, citing public libraries and other places. She said the members will gladly put up any fellow TTA members who come to Memphis. The chapter had adopted the Meeman-Shelby Chickasaw Bluff Trail and has maintenance trips two or three times a year. She cited the efforts of the chapter to prevent an interstate highway from going through Shelby Farms Forest, pushing in every way to get a current legislative bill passed to make the site a state natural area. Murfreesboro: No report. Chattanooga: Dot Lingerfelt reported the chapter has no formal meetings but has 35 members, many of whom are active hikers.

Cumberland Trail

Bob Brown reported several activities: March, work day, south end Walden Ridge; April, 15 mile hike with Sierra Club; May, Audubon-TTA birding trip near Cove Lake State Park (2 days); July; Bob Brown worked one week on Walden Ridge (Section II). He cited the upcoming Oct. 31 work day and night hike, and said he would be scouting an 8-mile stretch on Sunday to define a new route, with all welcome to go. The Smoky Mountain Boy Scout Council plans a 50-miler on the CT, with some work on trail. Some Scouts have been putting in steps and a creek bridge on Black Mountain as part of their Eagle project. Brown said Sam Powell reported that the south end of the trail at Chattanooga had been extended up Suck Creek. Howard Ray Duncan reported that he had attended a meeting of landowners on a 10-mile stretch where some landowners are riding on the trail in ATV vehicles (these did not attend the meeting). Duncan said the majority of landowners are in favor of enforcing the no-ATV law. Bob Brown said at present the state is enforcing the law. It was suggested that the landowners using ATVs be contacted separately by TTA members.

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

Awards

The TTA Award was presented to Mike Dahl of the Department of Conservation. Bob Brown said Dahl has done outstanding work in developing the Trail of the Lonesome Pine, but had run into landowner problems, resulting in the state abandoning the trail. Dahl had "almost single-handedly" developed the Cumberland Trail from Cumberland Gap to Lone Mountain State Forest, 120 miles, had worked with the Overmountain Victory Trail Association in getting the trail (a state scenic trail) designated a national scenic trail, and had written a white paper on the problems of the northern portion of the CT and state trails in general, outlining his concerns.

The Bill Stutz Award was presented to Dot Fowler of the Nashville Chapter for her exceptional job as editor of the newsletter, Tennessee Trails.

Plaques were presented to the honorees. The original Stutz boot trophy, made by Stutz as a joke shortly before his death, will be given into Dot's possession for one year.

New Officers

The following officers for 1988 were elected: president, Bob Barnett; president-elect, Pat Anderson; vice president, J. T. Jones; corresponding secretary-treasurer, Dot Lingerfelt; recording secretary, Evelyn Tretter; director, Mavis (Jerri) Bull (to fill post of Sam Powell, whose term expires Dec. 31, 1987).

Miscellaneous

The group was informed of the action taken by the board on the Shelby Farms Forest and Rock Island State Park (see minutes of board meeting, Oct. 9, 1987). Howard Ray Duncan reported on meeting with officials of the Department of Conservation of Oct. 7, 1987 (see minutes of board meeting, Oct. 9, 1987). Charlie Hann, Adopt-a-Trail chairman, reported that he is reorganizing the project and developing a new report form for adopters. Ed Oliver reported on activities of the Savage Gulf Preservation League and invited members and public to meetings and to become members of the League. Hikers were urged to report any trail deficiencies to the proper agency.

Other activities of the annual meeting included potluck supper and board meeting on Friday evening, with campfire socializing for non-board members. The group camp was a lovely setting, with blazing fall colors and big blazing fire in meeting shelter fireplace. Great door prizes had been collected. Dave Stidham's traditional auction of old (and sometimes unique) treasures was great fun. Hikes and food were excellent.

Evelyn Tretter, Recording Secretary