

**Tennessee Trails Association
Fourth Quarter Board of Directors Meeting
Pickwick State Park – Pickwick Dam, Tennessee
November 14, 2010**

Attendees: Don Dresser, Bobby Hardeman, Ron Dunn, Carolyn Miller, Paul Schwab, Anne Wesley, Glen Rognstad, Cheryl Heckler, Nora Beck, Margaret Smith, Fount Bertram, Rosemary Marshall, Jim Poteet, Ray Garrett, Louise Minnard, Millette Jones, Barbie More

Meeting called to order by President, Don Dresser at 9:02 AM.

Secretary's Report – Carolyn Miller

- Motion to accept as distributed. Seconded and motion carried.

Financial Report – Don Dresser (financial report distributed)

- Annual meeting proceeds – money deposited for the annual meeting. Will balance out after meeting.
- Jan Agee expects to resume duties as treasurer in January 2010. Don reports that Jan is recovering from treatment and expects to be able to resume hiking soon.
- Facebook (CTC) listing – trial fundraiser. Money was donated to CTC and deposited in TTA account. Funds collected will be transferred to CTC account.

Membership Report – Ron Dunn

- Membership is flat.
 - 377 individual, 165 family, 36 supporting
 - 9 students – Martin
 - 51 Life members: 2 fewer (Fran Wallas and Bob Barnett – both deceased)
 - 4 Family life members
- Membership development.
 - Should we spend money to promote membership in TTA?
 - Target audience: people whose children have left home.
 - Request Board members to encourage their chapter members to join CTC.
 - This gives CTC more clout in order to show actual members when they apply for grants.
 - Add-on membership form – Need a line for donating to CTC.
 - Five dollar membership and option to make a donation.
 - Membership application: on-line, Soddy Daisy chapter has its own application.
 - TTA on-line membership: can we put a link to CTC's Paypal account?
 - Nora Beck has offered to create an application for CTC membership.

Annual Meeting report – Margaret Smith

- Good meeting, well organized, great location, good hikes.
- Total attendance: 159
- Memphis chapter will write a letter to thank the Pickwick State Park manager for the staff's support.
- Because we had filled 60 rooms in the inn: did not pay for the use of the conference room or the use of AV equipment.

- Joint effort from Memphis and Jackson chapters.
- Surplus on the registration.
- Annual meeting archive and suggestions are to be passed to the Murfreesboro chapter.
- TTA members must be allowed to attend the membership meeting for free.
- Register by early deadline: discount.
- Late registration: additional cost should be charged.
- List system does not allow for resolution of meal payment until end of meeting.
 - Tickets at registration – number of meals purchased can be resolved at registration.
- Fundraising total: \$6700.
 - Merchandise sales: TTA income.
 - Book sales: CTC income.
 - Beer & wine: Chapter income. \$500
 - Silent and Live auction: TTA board decides the dispensation. Voted board meeting to donate funds to CTC.
 - GPS raffle: chapter determined that any proceeds from the raffle would go to the chapter and then chapter would donate the net profit to CTC. \$275
 - White: TTA board decides the dispensation. \$661
 - Bake Sale: \$121

CTC Books – Cumberland Odyssey

- Selling books to chapter members: 12 boxes per book
TTA Tax holiday ends December 15. Do not sell any books after December 15.
- Cost to members: \$15, additional cost \$20 per book.
- If want member price, must join TTA.

Merchandise

- Comment: some merchandise is several years old and should be discounted.
- As long as the chapters purchase items during the tax free holiday periods, they can resell to their members throughout the year.
- October 15 – December 15, 2010 – is the 2010 selling period.
- Selling period (s) for 2011:
 - Amazon and other retailers can sell our products throughout the year because they charge tax.

SEFTC - Fount Bertram.

- TTA is a member and a certificate of membership was presented to the board.
- Currently have 36 organizations as members of SEFTC.
 - 9 Southeast States are represented.
 - Board meets monthly.
- Kentucky Pine Mountain Trail is now connected to the Cumberland Trail.
- Georgia Pinhoti Trail should connect to the Cumberland Trail in Chattanooga within the next year.
- July 1 – July 8, 2011: SEFTC board meeting scheduled in association with the Appalachian Trail Conservancy
- **Motion** to donate \$300 to SEFTC. Motion seconded and passed.

New Business:

- Forest Legacy Grant being applied for by Tennessee Parks and Greenways.
 - Purchase the 150 acre area around the Devil Racetrack.
 - Nora Beck will send Don Dresser information to allow him to send a TTA letter of support for the grant.
 - Tennessee Parks and Greenways requested a donation of \$300.
 - No action taken. Decided to hold for discussion until a future board meeting.
 - Friend of Tennessee State Parks Coalition.
 - 38 State parks have “Friends” groups.
 - New organization: coalition of the Friends groups.
 - East Tennessee Regional Representative nominee.
 - Levonn Hubbard, Plateau chapter member, has volunteered to serve in this position.
 - Focus on communities along the Cumberland Trail.
 - Need to revive the Cove Lake chapter.
 - Need to stabilize the Soddy Daisy chapter. Spring 2011 will be a critical time for renewal for the Soddy Daisy chapter.
 - Needs to be a multi-year commitment. (three-year term)
- ACTION:** Don Dresser to contact Levonn regarding his appointment to fill the remaining term of this office.
- Big South Fork Chapter – have 4 current members. If they get one more member, they would qualify as an active chapter. Benita Howell – contact person.
 - Evans Means Grants – applications due by December 31, 2010.
 - 2010 – fewer applications than in previous years.

President’s Report

- What can TTA do to increase awareness of the organization to the target audience?
 - Ability to have spontaneous hikes announced
 - Create chapter interest e-mail list.
 - Half of the TTA membership affiliates with TTA on Facebook.
 - Blog with calendar.
 - Have ability to build a chapter e-mail list on the TTA Website.
 - Memphis uses a Yahoo Group e-mail to send out info.
 - Several chapters – blog with e-mail reminders.
 - One chapter has its own Facebook page.
- Dates for Future TTA Board Meetings
 - February 5, 2011: TBA in Nashville area
 - May 7, 2011: TBA, possibly Shelby Bottoms in Nashville
 - August 6, 2011: TBA
 - October 28 – 30, 2011: Annual Meeting, Dubose Conference Center, Monteagle

Meeting adjourned at 11:07 AM.



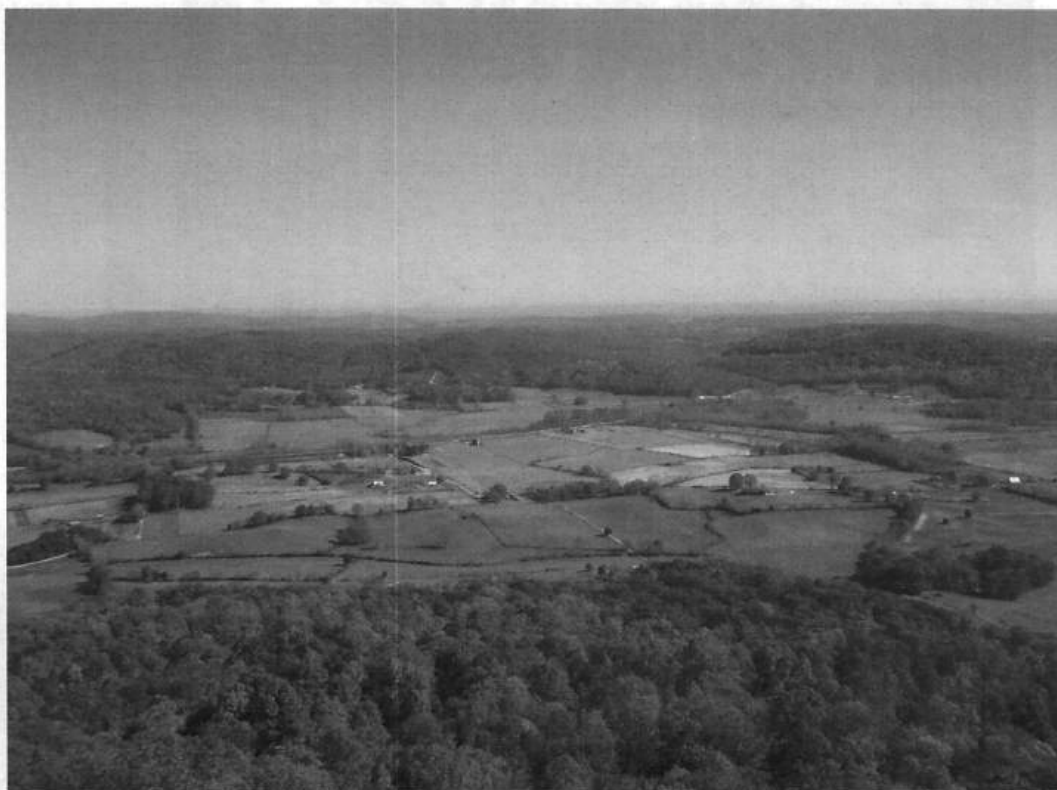
Carolyn Miller, TTA Secretary



"Creating the Cumberland Trail, a Lasting Legacy"

Cumberland Trail Conference 2010 Annual Membership Report

(January 1-December 31)



Introduction: The purpose of this report is to inform Cumberland Trail Conference members of CTC activities during the 2010 calendar year. The report is divided into three sections: trail construction and maintenance, marketing and recruiting, and fundraising. Your membership is part of the reason all of these activities were possible.

Trail Construction and Maintenance

Winter Alternative Break, January 3-8, 2010: Ten students from Grand Valley State University and six students from Kansas University travelled to Tennessee to help with trail maintenance in the North Chickamauga segment of the Cumberland Trail. Also lending a hand, several CTC/TTA volunteers worked with the students. Volunteers repaired areas of the trail tread, removed rotten wooden steps, constructed stone steps, and corrected trail erosion issues. A total of 480 hours were donated for this maintenance project.



Break-Away 2010, February 28-March 20: The Cumberland Trail Conference hosted its 14th annual *Alternative Spring Break* program. The CTC is a host organization for Break Away®: the Alternative Break Connection, Inc. a national 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that supports the development of quality alternative break programs by providing training and information primarily to colleges, universities, and nonprofit organizations interested in creating lifelong active citizens through these intensive service-learning programs. The focus for the 2010 event was to complete trail construction between Caine and Cooper Creeks in the North Chickamauga Gorge segment.

During the program, 196 college and university students representing 18 schools from across the nation journeyed to Tennessee to help construction sections of the Cumberland Trail. Students and numerous CTC volunteers donated 8,078 volunteer hours and constructed an additional 3.89 miles of trail.

CTC volunteers served as trail crew leaders, kitchen staff, and logistical support. Cumberland Trail State Park personnel also assisted with the 2010 *Break-Away*.

Unfortunately, the wet spring weather hampered the completion of the program's main goal, however, 66.6% of the goal was accomplished, and at an alternative worksite, the Audubon Acres connector trail was finished. From this connector trail, future trail will connect the Rock Creek segment with the newly acquired Graysville Recreational Management Area near Dayton, Tennessee. The CTC's *Break-Away 2010* was a very successful event and was only possible due to the support of so many students, volunteers, Cumberland Trail financial supporters, and CTSP personnel.

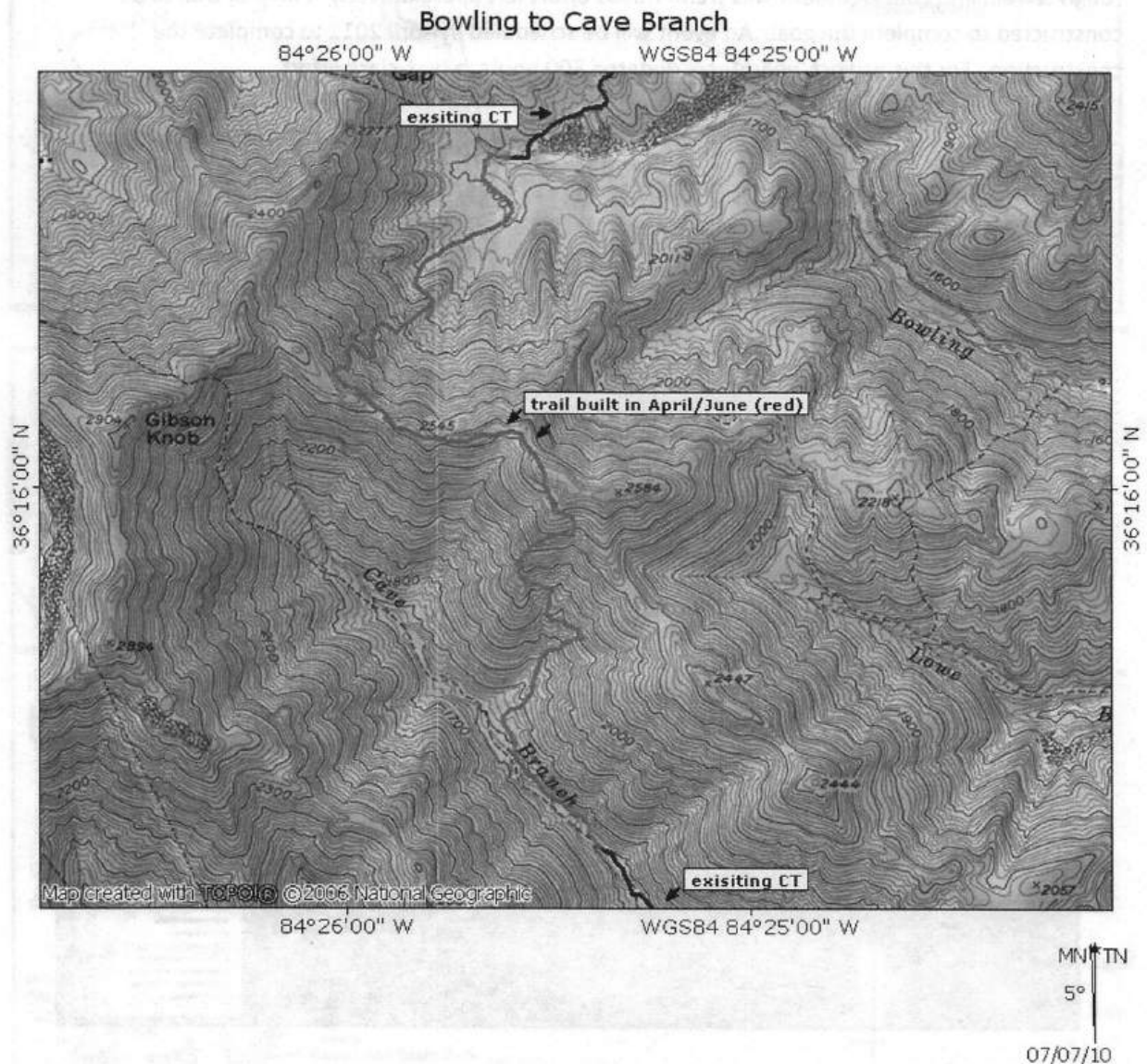
Break-Away 2010 Schools

Alma College	University of Central Florida
Eastern Michigan University	University of Florida
Grand Valley State University	University of Maine
Hamilton College	University of Miami
Indiana University Pennsylvania	University of Michigan
Indiana University Purdue Indianapolis University	University of Pittsburgh
Kansas State University	University of South Florida
Michigan State	Wartburg College
New York University	William & Mary College



New River section (RTP grant GR-10-29161-00), April/June 2010: In April and June, the CTC hosted two, backcountry trail building events. The goal of these two events was to complete trail construction between Bowling and Cave Branch in the CT's New River section. A RTP grant was awarded to complete the trail construction of this section. Once completed, this section will connect Cove Lake and Frozen Head State Parks. This will add 35 miles to the over-all project.

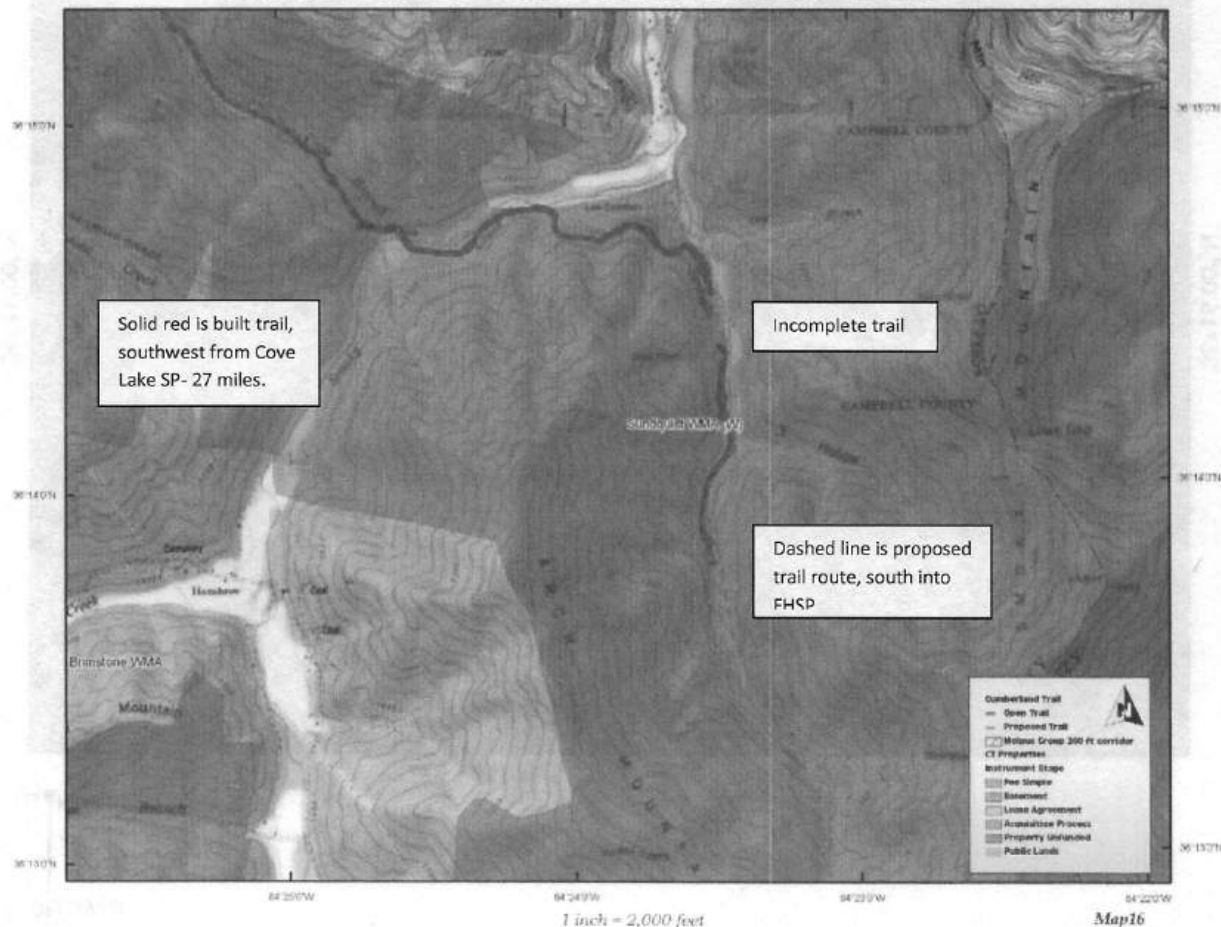
The goal of the two events was met. The trail between Bowling and Cave Branch was completed. During the two events, a CTC seasonal trail crew and volunteers constructed 3.1 miles of trail in 22 days, closing another gap. This construction took place in a steep, mountainous area of the Cumberland Plateau. Volunteers donated 776 hours for the project.



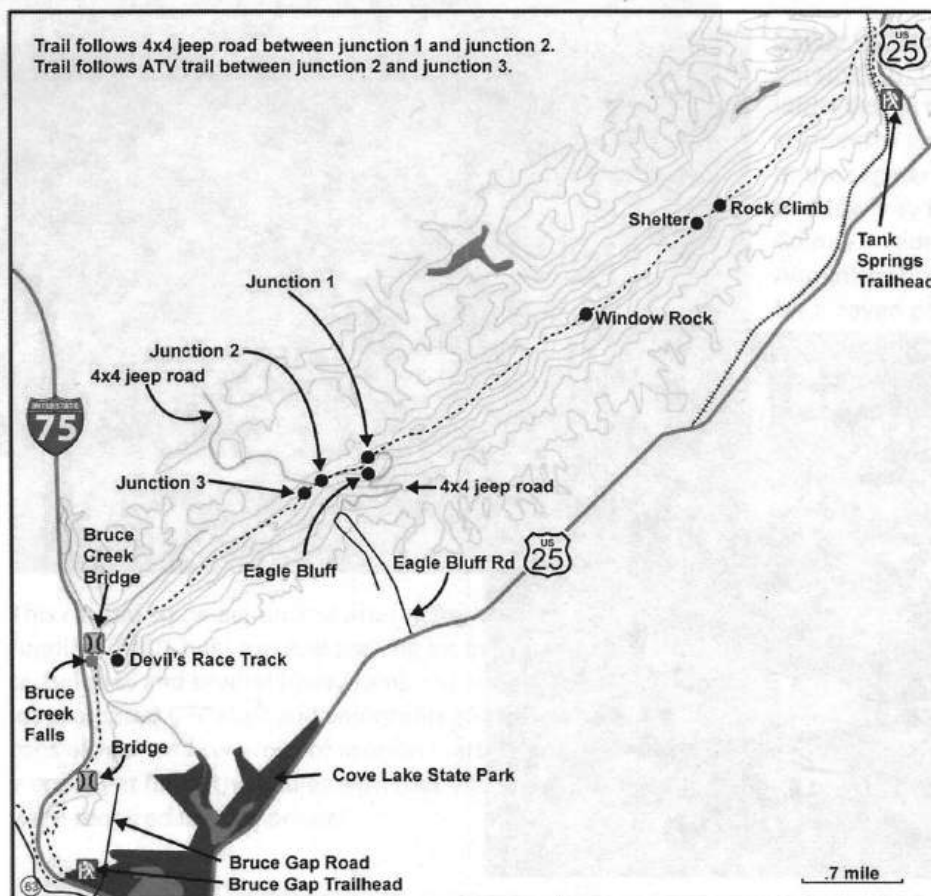
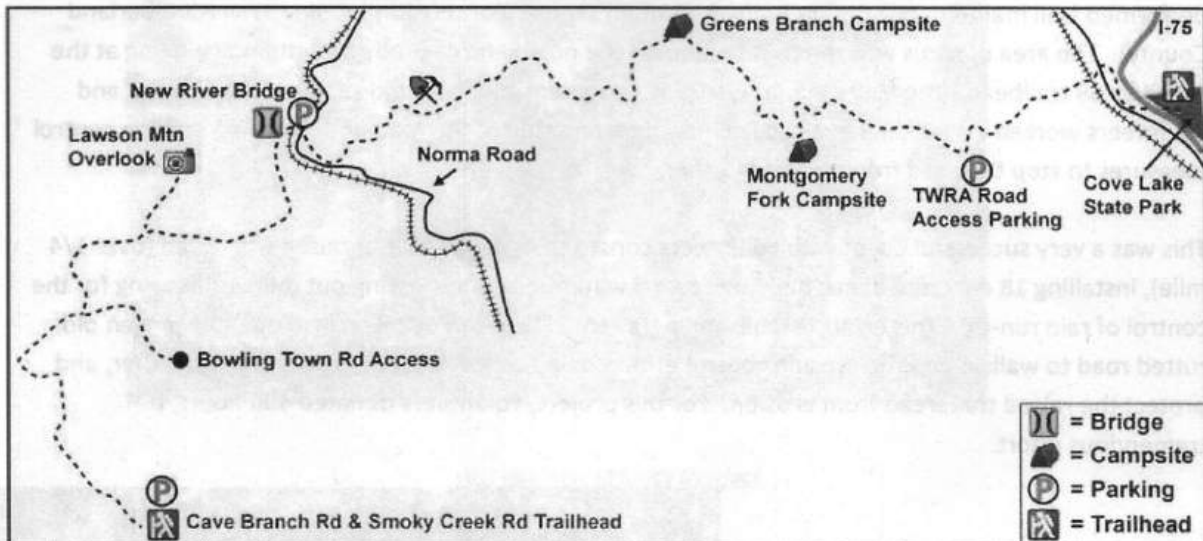
New River section (RTP grant GR-10-29161-00), November 2010: This event picked-up trail construction where it had stopped in June. During the week of November 2-9, the Cumberland Trail Conference hosted a volunteer trail construction/maintenance event. The volunteers represented several groups, Tennessee Trails Association, Team Green, Nashville Hiking Meet-Up, University of Tennessee, and CTC volunteers. For this event, the CTC had a base camp and several out-of-town volunteers camped out. The goal of this event was to complete trail construction from the stream crossing of Smoky Creek to the WMA road on the east side of Arch Mountain, Scott County.

Because of the weather, the steep terrain, and the over burden pile from past strip mining operations, the trail construction did not progress as desired and the goal was not obtained. However, this was still a very successful event. Volunteers and CTC staff worked very hard to construction 4,005 feet of trail in rough terrain and cold weather. This tremendous effort left approximately ¼ mile of trail to be constructed to complete the goal. An event will be scheduled in April 2011 to complete the construction. For this project, volunteers donated 800 hours, a first-class effort.

Cumberland Trail State Scenic Trail



Presently, 27 miles of the proposed 35-mile New River segment is constructed and open for hiking. This open section is from Cove Lake State Park heading southerly to the Cave Branch trailhead on Smoky Creek Road in Scott County. At Cove Lake SP, the New River and Cumberland Mountain segments join and the trail continues north for 11 miles to the Tank Springs trailhead in Lafollette. To date, this section from the Tank Springs trailhead to the Cave Branch trailhead is the longest continuous section of the Cumberland Trail project, totaling 38 miles.



American Hiking Society Volunteer Vacation #37, October 18-23: The Cumberland Trail Conference hosted an American Hiking Society (AHS) Volunteer Vacation. Eight members of AHS participated in the weeklong event. The director of Tennessee State Parks assisted with this event by arranging to house the volunteers at Cumberland Mountain State Park.

For this event, five CTC volunteers and two CTC staff personnel joined the AHS volunteers and performed trail maintenance on the Brady Mountain segment of the Cumberland Trail (Cumberland County). The area of focus was the trail section on the north end of Brady Mountain beginning at the Highway 68 trailhead. The trail corridor is a 25 ft. easement that is an old sunken, logging road and volunteers worked on building a raised trail tread on one side of the road and installing erosion control measures to stop the road from eroding further.

This was a very successful event with volunteers constructing 1,330 feet of raised trail tread (over 1/4 mile), installing 18 checking dams, building several water bars, and clearing out ditches allowing for the control of rain run-off. This effort established a trail tread that can be hiked instead of having an old, rutted road to walk in and the erosion control efforts help the old roadbed from eroding further, and protect the raised trail tread from erosion. For this project, volunteers donated 460 hours, a tremendous effort.

before



after



AHS volunteer at Brady Overlook



**Soddy Gorge Segment Trailhead
Parking Lot, December 8 & 9:**

In the initial design of the Soddy Gorge segment, a parking lot was proposed at the segment's southern terminus on Mowbray Road in Hamilton County. Federal Highway Administration funds were allocated for a paved parking lot at this location and two others in the area. However, irreconcilable differences between TDEC and TDOT would not allow parking lot construction to move forward on any of the parking lots. Many trail users got involved and wrote letters to state officials asking for the Mowbray Road parking lot.

This caused some action and after many years of requesting the parking lot to be built with the allocated funding, TDOT built a gravel parking lot in November 2010. Unfortunately, due to construction techniques and several heavy rains, the slope of the parking lot was eroding. Concern about the parking lot prompted CTC staff and volunteers to put forth an effort to abate the erosion. TDOT provided 16 tons of rock and two rolls of erosion matting, a donation purchased top soil and grass seed. Two days were spent filling the gullies with rock and soil, repairing ditches, and re-seeding the slope. 104 hours were required for this project.



Trail Maintenance: This is an ongoing process. CTSP personnel help to maintain trailheads and other sections of the trail south of Interstate 40. Along with CTC staff, CTC trail adoptees also help maintain these open segments of the Cumberland Trail. North of I-40, CTC staff, other non-profits, and trail adopters work to keep the CT segments open. In September, CTC volunteers performed maintenance in the Tennessee River Gorge segment for a National Public Lands Day event and in preparation of the annual Rock/Creek Stump Jump 50k trail race. In the New River segment, several days in October were



spent for trail maintenance preparing for the Knoxville Track Club's, 2nd annual, *Cumberland Trail 50K* trail race. For 2010, CTC trail maintenance totaled 1,068 hours. Keeping the built trail sections open and marked is an important goal of the CTC and periodic trail maintenance events will continue to be scheduled throughout the year. Efforts will also continue with retaining and recruiting trail adoptee volunteers.



Marketing and Recruiting

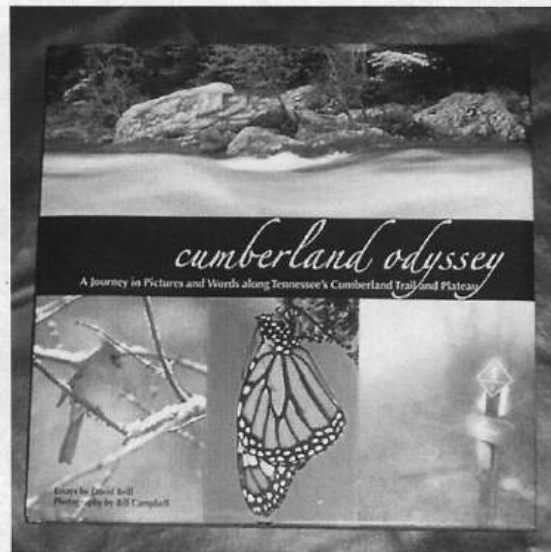
Throughout the year, CTC staff and volunteers attend many events to market the CTC and the Cumberland Trail project. At these events, an information booth was set-up to inform the public about the project and the need for volunteer support. At many of these events, CTC staff presented a power point presentation followed by a question and answer session. The CTC had representation at the following events in 2010.

January 13-17, Wilderness Wildlife Week, Pigeon Forge
January 23, CTC Volunteer Appreciation Day and dinner, Crossville
February 6, University of Scouting Chattanooga
February 11, Plateau TTA Chapter, Crossville
March 30, Fair Field Glade Rotary Club luncheon, Crossville
April 10, Chattanooga Outdoor Expo, Chattanooga
April 17, Discovery Fest, Wartburg
April 24, Oak Ridge Earth Day event, Oak Ridge
May 20-23, South Eastern Foot Trails Coalition Conference, Monteagle
June 5, National Trails Day event, Soddy Daisy
August 14, Heritage Day, Frozen Head State Park
September 11, Depot Days, Crossville
October 1, Rock/Creek Vendor Fair, Chattanooga
October 2-9, River Rock event, Chattanooga
October 10, Chickstock, Hixson
October 11, annual Tennessee Garden Club Conference, Fall Creek Falls State Park
November 12 & 13, annual statewide Tennessee Trails Association meeting, Pickwick Landing State Park
November 14-18, American Trails National Trails Symposium, Chattanooga
December 18, fundraiser at REI, Brentwood



Fundraising

Throughout 2010, fundraising has been a priority. Several grants were submitted and awarded. There is periodic research for other grants. The CTC was awarded a RTP grant for the 2010 grant cycle. Other income was generated from supporting Cumberland Trail fundraising events such as the 50K trail races. Efforts have been made to increase personal donations and CTC membership, along with CTC merchandise being marketed and sold. With the goal of retaining and meeting new financial supporters, networking efforts are continuous. The table on page 13 highlights the sources of 2010 income while the graph on page 14 displays the dollar amount for each source.



2010 Sources of Income

General Donations

Individuals

Memorial

Board Pledges

Organizations

Rock Creek - Stump Jump Proceeds

North face Event hosted by: Blue Ridge Mountain Sports

Wilderness Trail Running Association

Daisy Woman's Club

Wild Trails, LLC

Jennifer & Jay Mills

Knoxville Track Club

Anne Potter Wilson Foundation

Allison & Kincaid Mills

Cumberland's Hiking Club - Donation

Grants

Evan Means Grant - for BA 2010 - Tool

Lyndhurst Foundation grant - Barker Pounds parking Area

TNPG Foundation Grant for New River Segment

Lyndhurst Foundation Grant - General Support 2009-2010

Sierra Club - BA 2011

Lyndhurst Grant -BA 2011

Atticus Trust - BA Grant 2011

Explorer Fund - BA 2011

RTP - "New River" Grant (reimbursable)

ATT Pioneer Service Grant - BA 2010

Fundraisers

April 2010 Fundraiser

B.R.A.T. Proceeds

Face Book Cause

CTC Book--Book Distribution

CTC Membership--Dues

Merchandise

TTA Chapter Donations

Big South Fork Chapter Donation

Clarksville Chapter - Donation

Clarksville Donation

Columbia Franklin Chapter donation

Cove Lake Chapter Donation

Murfreesboro Chapter Donation

Nashville - REI Gift Wrapping Proceeds

TTA 2009 Auction proceeds for BA 2010

TTA 2010 Auction proceeds for BA 2011

Summary: It has been 18 months since the TDEC grant expired that was the primary source of CTC operational support. Nevertheless, the Conference has continued operations and developing the Cumberland Trail. The year 2010 has been successful. It yielded 7.5 miles of newly constructed trail and maintenance being carried-out in the open trail segments. A total of 11,866 hours were donated for the project. This total does not include work hours of the CTC staff, which would raise the total to approximately 17,030 hours. With continued support from CTC members, volunteers and the trail communities' financial backing the Cumberland Trail Conference will continue to strive ahead to complete the project. One day, with all project partners and supporters working together, a footpath will stretch from Signal Point north to Cumberland Gap.