

TENNESSEE TRAILS

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The annual meeting was held at Cumberland Mountain State Park on Dec. 11. Donald Todd, Jr., of Wartburg is the only new officer. He succeeds Susan McIntyre who asked to be relieved of the job of corresponding secretary-treasurer. Those re-elected were Donald Todd, Sr., president; Robert D. Brown, Nashville, vice-president; Robbie (Mrs. David) Hassler, Byrdstown, recording secretary, and Roy Hall, Crossville, director. Holdover directors are Richard Wooten, Nashville, and E. W. Means, Oak Ridge.

It was decided to re-schedule the Trails Progress Meeting from Jan. 8 to Feb. 19 and hold it at Cumberland Mountain State Park. An Associated Press release announced the meeting in the papers a few days before Christmas. Members who know persons who should be invited are asked to send the names to Pres. Donald Todd, Sr., Box 35, Wartburg, Tenn. 37887. We hope to have the program in the February issue of Tennessee Trails.

The State Trails System Act, which was signed by Gov. Dunn last April, was discussed at the annual meeting. Max Young, who has been following both the Scenic Rivers System and the Trails System for the Dept. of Conservation, became State Forester on Jan. 1. It was decided that a delegation from TTA would ask for an audience with Conservation Commissioner Bill Jenkins in the near future to discuss the Trails System.

Paul Adams, who established the first camp on Mt. LeConte before Great Smoky Mountains National Park was created, was voted a life membership. Paul's counsel has been valuable in locating the route for the Cumberland Trail. He is working on a new book, "Cumberland Jack", about his pack dog which was mentioned in an earlier book, "Mt. LeConte".

John McIntyre was designated a Supporting Member of TTA in appreciation of his work on the Cumberland Trail. John will lead the Smoky Mountains Hiking Club on its "hike of the month" on Walden's Ridge Feb. 6. The hikers will meet at Luallen's Supermarket, one-half block west of U.S. 25 on State Route 116 in Lake City at 9:00 a.m. EST. Most of the cars will be left there and the group will be ferried to the fire tower on Walden's Ridge above Dutch Valley for the walk back to 116.

Stan Murray, chairman of the Appalachian Trail Conference, was the luncheon speaker at the annual meeting. He praised TTA's work on the Tennessee Trails System, saying it would relieve pressure on the Appalachian Trail. He said that Tennessee has the only state-wide trails system act. Some other states have special laws for the Appalachian Trail. He suggested that TTA include maintenance of greenbelts along the trails in its program.

Stan invited TTA members to attend a general meeting of the Appalachian Trail Conference at Plymouth College in New Hampshire June 16 to 19, 1972. The agenda will include discussion of methods of conserving and preserving the environment along the AT, as well as the use and over-use of the Trail. Speakers on the program will include Assistant Secretary of the Interior Dr. Nathaniel Reed and Dr. Durward Allen, famous ecologist.

It's time to pay 1972 dues.