

TENNESSEE TRAILS

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Foul weather held down the attendance at the Annual Meeting and forced us to cancel the outdoor activity for the afternoon. We enclose a copy of Joe Gaines' report on Trails Program achievements for 1974 with this issue of TENNESSEE TRAILS. He will welcome your comments.

TTA officers for 1975 are E. W. Means, Oak Ridge, President; Bob Brown, Nashville, Vice-president; Evelyn Tretter, Goodlettsville; Recording Secretary; Dorothy R. Lingerfelt, Chattanooga, Corresponding Secretary-Treasurer; David Rhyne, Cleveland, director for three-year term, and Gordon Newland, Kingsport, director for one year unexpired term of E. W. Means. Holdover directors are Donald Todd, Sr., Wartburg, and Lily Rose Claiborne, Oak Ridge, past president.

President's Message

With a sense of humility and a feeling of great responsibility, I have accepted the office of President of Tennessee Trails Association. TTA faces great challenges in 1975, with the increasing competition for public funds and the stronger assertion of territorial rights by landowners. We shall not abandon our goal: the completion of the Tennessee State Trails System. Working together we shall attain that goal.

As one of the founders of TTA, I appreciate the loyal support of those officers whose terms expired with the 1974 annual meeting. Special recognition is due Robbie Hassler who served as Recording Secretary since the Constitution was adopted in 1969. We salute Lily Rose Claiborne for her enthusiastic leadership as president during the past year.

Ed Casey, retiring Vice-president, helped chart the course of TTA in its formative years. Roy Hall, whose term as director ended, was a leader in establishing the Cumberland Trail in his area.

We have a fine team on the Board for 1975. Program Chairman Bob Brown has the calendar pretty well organized for the whole year (see below). TTA is your organization and we hope that you will participate in its activities.

Evan Means, President.

Two amendments to the By-laws were adopted at the annual meeting. Individual membership dues were raised from \$3.00 to \$5.00 per year, to meet increased costs of operation. Student dues are still \$1.00 and supporting membership remains at a minimum of \$10.00. We won't object if generous supporters want to pay more. Send checks to Dorothy R. Lingerfelt, Treasurer, Box 4913, Chattanooga, TN 37405.

Calendar:

January 19, Piney River, Dot Lingerfelt leader.
February 15, Cumberland Trail, Cove Lake, Grimes Slaughter.
March 22, John Muir Trail, Bob Brandt.
April 19, Wildflower hike, Frozen Head Park, Donald Todd.
April 26, Virgin Falls, David Rhyne.
May 17, Chickasaw Bluffs, Memphis, Henry Hall and Gene Hyde.
June 14, Mount Rogers, Virginia, Don Shields.
July 13, 50th anniversary, Mt. LeConte, Paul Adams.
August 16, Little River Gorge, Bill Stutz.
September, Foster Falls-Fiery Gizzard, Herman Baggenstoss.
October 18, Laurel Snow Pocket Wilderness.
October 25, Fall Color hike.
November, Annual Meeting
Henry Hall.

at Oak Ridge on the Land Between the Lakes. TTA will have a big part at either location.

The agenda for the Annual Meeting will include reports of officers; reports of trail project chairmen; a report by State Trails Administrator Joe Gaines and his trail supervisors, and election of officers. The Nominating Committee, Evan Means, David Rhyne and Bob Brown, welcomes suggestions from the membership.

Following a luncheon at noon, Bob Brown will lead a work party or a hike, depending on arrangements. He may ask us to help re-route a section of the Cumberland Trail around a tract of land the owner has posted. Bob met with this person and they have agreed on an alternate route.

We regret to report that John and Susan McIntyre have moved to Freeport, Texas, where John has a new job. John and David Irving did most of the mapping and preliminary work on the north section of the Cumberland Trail. David still maintains his membership in TTA but lives in LaJolla, California. Susan was our first corresponding secretary-treasurer. We'll miss them.

We have a glowing report from each of three people who followed Herman Baggenstoss and Bill Stutz into the Fiery Gizzard Gulf Nov. 16. The others report 26 hikers but Bill writes: "Tenn. Trails Ass'n under leadership of Guest Leader

Herman Baggenstoss, M. Simmons and Bill Stutz led 31 TTA members and visitors, and representatives of Tri-State Trail Club, Cumberland Hiking Club and Smoky Mountains Hiking Club down beautiful cascading Rattlesnake Creek to the confluence of Big Fiery Gizzard Creek. Here is where some folks fell in icy creek.

"David Fulmer (TTA) went back to Tracy City and dried out, returned to Sycamore Falls to receive much applause for his sportsmanship. Over a quickly-built fire, gloves and socks toasted for others receiving wet bottoms...also feet, while one group was climbing through rock formations of the Chimneys.

"Violets were in bloom under melting snow. Cloudbursts of recent years had caused landslides and great piles of logs, driftwood and debris, which made hiking interesting and difficult at times. The creek would disappear, leaving dry bed, then a half mile downstream would gush out of the base of the mountain.

"After winding in and out around pools, boulders, rock-hopping we climb steep sides of Raven's Roost (quoth the raven, Never More!), a tired but happy group rested. We enjoyed many young hikers. Come again. Thanks to Elizabeth Cade for her orange cake. Hats off to Frau Bradford, also a great hostess. Our officers Caliborne, Lingerfelt and Brown were with us.

"Bill Stutz."

Before he left, John McIntyre informed us that trail workers and hikers are being turned back at the boundary of land where strip mines are in operation. They say that the Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) requires that the operators furnish hard hats and safety glasses for people on mine property.

John also left a marked topo map showing a new section of the Cumberland Trail which has not been used, from Lake City to Cove Lake. Bob Brown hopes to include a hike on this section in the activity schedule for 1975.

The Bob's Creek Trail in McDowell County, North Carolina was dedicated as a National Recreation Trail on Nov. 2. This is the fourth Bowaters trail to be designated to the National System.