

TENNESSEE TRAILS

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Calendar:

February 21, Cumberland Caverns, Stan Gorin, trip leader.
March 4, Special meeting on Cumberland Trail, Signal Mountain.
March 27, Honey Creek, Bob Brown, leader.
April, Virgin Falls, David Dhyne.

The February membership activity will be a cave tour in Cumberland Caverns, 7 miles southeast of McMinnville. Follow the signs off State Highway No. 8. We enter the cave at 10:00 a.m. Central Standard Time. Stan Gorin writes, "Bring lunch to eat in cave dining room. There will be two routes before lunch, one requiring crawling and climbing. The second follows the commercial tour. The two meet at lunch, then a moderately strenuous trip to the monument pillar and the waterfall room area.

"You need a good light, a hard hat, gloves; a change of clothing may be desirable. There is no mud. A release is required of all entering the cave. It can be signed on arrival, but those under legal age will need written parental approval."

We had ten people working on the Cumberland Trail at Lake City Saturday, January 3. The rain, which fell most of the previous night, stopped around 8 a.m. and the temperature dropped sharply. This section has been laid out by Alan Wintenberg of Oak Ridge as an Eagle Scout project. Alan and his father, R. E. Wintenberg, were working on the trail when our group passed them on the Jan. 24 hike.

Thirteen people started the hike at Lake City on the 24th. Evan Means was detained at the Y-12 plant in Oak Ridge and broke the jinx by meeting the group at the north end of the trip, bringing the number to 14.

President Grimes Slaughter also led a work party in Frozen Head State Park January 17.

Sam Powell, chairman of the South Cumberland Trail Committee, has received a letter from Conservation Commissioner B. R. Allison which said in part: "I would like to offer my sincere thanks to your group for your assistance in our trail development efforts. Please notify all of the individual members of your group of my appreciation for the hard work and dedication to the development of our state trails system."

State Trails Administrator Joe Gainos has set up a meeting to be held at Signal Point, starting at noon Thursday, March 4. There will be a short hike on the Cumberland Trail, following a picnic lunch. Joe's memo to Commissioner Allison rolling of the plans says, "We intend to invite officials of the volunteer trail group, the Divisions of Forestry and Planning, Bowaters Southern Paper Corporation, and the Town of Signal Mountain. An official of the National Park Service will also be invited, since they have given us permission to use a portion of their Chattanooga-Chickamauga Battlefield for the trail."

We are sorry to hear of the death of Evelyn Trotter's husband, who was burned January 12. He had been in ill health for some time.

Bob Brown and Harry and Sylvia Hubbell are the leaders of a Smoky Mountains Hiking Club trip on the old Walton Road and a section of the Cumberland Trail between Ozene and Crab Orchard Sunday, Feb. 1. The hike will start at Camo Ozene at 9:30 a.m. EST.

Ray Carpenter, 105 Windham Road, Oak Ridge, Phone 483-5583, has a pair of Vasque hiking shoes, size 9½ narrow, for sale. The price is subject to negotiation.

The Tennessee Sportsman carried a report of TTA, gleaned from our December issue of TENNESSEE TRAILS, in the January issue. The Publicity Committee has provided another story, including a picture of the Middle Crook Bridge, for a later issue. Editor Doyle V. Carman writes: "The Tennessee Sportsman has gone all the way in supporting TTA. Why don't its members support this magazine?" Perhaps the reason, Doyle, is that we have neglected to tell our members how to subscribe for the magazine. It is published monthly by the Davis Printing Company, 6073 Highway 51, Millington, TN 38053. The subscription price is \$4.50 per year. Advertising rates will be furnished on request.

We have been exploring the possibility of a Fourth Tennessee Trails Seminar, with regional participation, to be held next fall. So far, we haven't heard from the Land Between the Lakes, but Dr. Philip Lavelly of the Park and Recreation Administration of the University of Tennessee at Martin writes: "We would be definitely interested in working with you on the Southeastern Trails Symposium next fall. Count us in if nothing unexpected happens between now and then. When do you plan to start organizing it? Based on past experience, I have decided that you can't start too soon. Please continue to send me a copy of the newsletters. Am looking forward to working with you in the future."

On Dec. 22, Commissioner Allison announced the opening of a 20-mile backpacking trail in the Nathan Bedford Forrest State Historical Area, 9 miles east of Camden on Kentucky Lake. Permits should be obtained at the office for overnight use of the trail and campsites. For information, write to the superintendent of the area at Eva, TN 38333.

The Tennessee Department of Conservation has drawn up a bill which will be presented to the General Assembly during the current session, which would enable the Department to enter into agreements with TTA and similar non-profit corporations for the development and management of trails, recreation facilities, natural areas, etc., for the use of the public. The bill would also include the power to provide park rangers for the enforcement of state laws and regulations on such recreation areas.

John Crutcher, former lieutenant governor of Kansas, was sworn in Dec. 8 as Director of the U. S. Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, to succeed James Watt who was appointed to the Federal Power Commission. Crutcher is the fourth director of BOR in the 13 years of its existence.

Treasurer Dot Lingerfelt has asked us to repeat the membership blank which was published in last month's TENNESSEE TRAILS. Quite a few members used the form last month to submit their dues. If you have already paid, use it to recruit a new member. The mimeograph has been reconditioned and we hope you can read it better this time.

MEMBERSHIP FORM, TENNESSEE TRAILS ASSOCIATION

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Type of membership: Individual, \$5.00 ☐ Student, \$1.00 ☐

Supporting, \$10 minimum ☐