

TENNESSEE TRAILS

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Calendar:

Nov. 5, dedication, Rutherford Co. Hiking and Backpacking Trail.

Nov. 19, Annual meeting, 10 a.m. CST, Cumberland Mtn State Park.

Dec. 10, Hike, Tandem Arches, Pickett State Forest, Grimes Slaughter.

The annual meeting at Cumberland Mountain State Park Saturday, Nov. 19, may be the most important meeting since TTA was organized Dec. 7, 1968. Much progress has been made in 1977 and we hope all members will be there to hear the reports. David Stidham is chairman of the nominating committee.

The Fourth Quarter Board Meeting will follow the annual meeting. The new officers and director are invited to attend, to prepare for taking office Jan. 1. Board meetings are open to the membership.

Pres. Grimes Slaughter, Ruth Slusher and Dave Stidham hiked the Cumberland River Trail from Cumberland Falls State Park, Kentucky, to the headwaters of Lake Cumberland Sept. 24. They didn't mention the moonbow, which was probably obscured by clouds. It was a 12-mile hike along a Class II or III River, for you canoeists. The last two miles of trail was not too well defined.

Those who took the 8½-mile hike on Bowater's Piney River Trail Nov. 15 said it was one of the best ever sponsored by TTA. The sights were interesting, including an abandoned mine, a chilled young rattlesnake which held still for photographs, and several waterfalls on Duskin Creek. There was a side trip to a proposed backpackers' campsite on Rockhouse Branch and a crossing of Piney River on an improvised breeches buoy.

Those who made the trip were Julian Hamilton and Herb Wiggins of Decatur, Alabama; David Fulmer, Elizabeth Cade and Dot Ventress, all from Chattanooga; Bob Fiori of the BOR, Atlanta; David and Pat Rhyne, trip leaders; Grimes Slaughter, Ruth Slusher, Helen Kapral, Ruth Lassiter, Mary Williams, and Evan Means, all from Oak Ridge; and Mary Florence McIntyre, Mildred Lassiter, Florence Williams and Burnis Hicks, all from Cookeville.

Bertha Chrietberg called to say that we are all invited to attend the dedication of the new Rutherford County Hiking and Backpacking Trail Saturday, Nov. 5 at about 10:30 a.m. It is a 12-mile trail on Corps of Engineers land (Percy Priest Reservoir), with a horseback trail a few feet away and parallel to the hiking footpath. Lunch will be served at a picnic area two miles from the starting point and weaker walkers can turn back there. The hike will continue for a total of six miles.

To get to the start at Nice's Mill, take the U. S. 231 exit off I-24 at Murfreesboro. Go north through town about 5 miles to the VA Hospital and turn left on the next paved road (Swamp Road). Turn right at the next intersection and follow Central Valley Road to the East Fork Landing on Stones River. Someone there will give directions for the rest of the way. From the east, leave I-40 on the 231 exit at Lebanon and retrace the route from the VA Hospital.

Bertha says that MTSU has three courses in hiking and backpacking this year.

Evelyn Tretter sent us a notice of a public meeting to be held at the Jackson County Courthouse in Gainesboro Saturday, Oct. 29 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss public sentiment on the Corps of Engineers lakeshore management policy on Gordell Hull Reservoir. Adjacent landowners would like to clear the 300-foot government-owned reservation in front of their property. This could lead to real estate development which might hamper public enjoyment of the Corps land. Written comment may be sent to the Nashville District, P. O. Box 1070, Nashville, TN 37202.

We hope to see all our members at the annual meeting Nov. 19.