

## TENNESSEE TRAILS

Official publication of Tennessee Trails Association, Inc.

Volume X

February 1979

Number 3

### Calendar:

- February 10, Overnight hike, Savage Gulf, Bob Brown, leader.
- Feb. 22, Nashville Chapter Meeting, Cumberland Museum, 7:30 p.m.
- Feb. 24, Trip to Dunbar Cave, Nashville Chapter, Dave Stidham.
- March 24, Hike, Big Ridge State Park, Evan Means.
- Sept. 4-7, National Trails Symposium, Duluth, Minnesota.

Bob Brown is hoping for snow Feb. 10 for the Savage Gulf backpack trip. If there is no snow, he would like to postpone the trip until the 17th. Call him at 352-7474 (home) or 748-4816 for confirmation. Meet at the Ranger house at 9 a.m. Central Standard Time. To get there, take State Route 56 from Monteagle through Tracy City and turn right on SR108. Turn left on the road to Savage Gulf State Natural Area, cross Savage Creek and turn at the sign for the Ranger Station. From U.S. 127, take SR8 north of Dunlap, turn left at Cagle and watch for sign 9 miles south. From Chattanooga, SR27 connects with SR108 near Whitwell.

Again, as last year, there is an option of a day hike or the overnight trip. The overnight stop will be at the hunter's cabin which was shared with a friendly skunk last year. (Nobody got sprayed.) Overnighters should be properly equipped for winter camping. Wear warm clothing and sturdy boots big enough to accommodate two pairs of socks.

The Nashville Chapter will hold its regular meeting Thursday, Feb. 22 at 7:30 p.m. at the Cumberland Museum. A representative of the Tennessee State Museum will present a program, with artifacts, on "the State Museum-- Past, Present and Future." Chairman Dave Stidham urges all to attend this important meeting, when new officers are to be elected. Nominations will be made from the floor.

The Nashville Chapter has scheduled a trip to Dunbar Cave, a State Natural Area, on Saturday, Feb. 24. This is a wild cave with no development. Bring sturdy shoes or boots and rugged clothing and be prepared for some crawling and scrambling. Wear a hard hat and bring three sources of light, such as a headlamp or hand lantern, flashlight or candle, and spare parts and batteries for each. This will be a moderately easy caving trip. Bring a change of clothing in case you get wet or muddy (You will!). Meet at Cumberland Museum at 8:30 a.m. to form car pools. Larry Matthews will be guest leader. Call Dave Stidham at 859-3621 for information.

The Nashville Chapter hike on the Twin Forks Trail along Stones River in Rutherford County Jan. 13 was attended by seven people on a mild, damp day. The 6.5-mile hike was partly along the river and they say the water was beautiful, as were the bluffs. Bortha Christzberg was unable to lead the hike and was replaced by her son Jim, from Bell Buckle. Others on the trip were Russell Fryer, Nashville; Gene Gulp, Hendersonville; Bruce Davis and Patrick Zumbo, Murfreesboro; Kathy Rautt, Sevierville, and Louise Zopp of Bell Buckle.

President Joe Gaines and State Trails Administrator Harry Williamson have been discussing the possibility of holding a state trails seminar in 1979, either in late spring or early fall. The Editor suggests that it be as early as possible in the spring, since we need to maintain the momentum gained during the previous administration.

The National Trails Symposium (the fifth) will be held in Duluth the week of Labor Day. The first advance flyer from the committee is expected

to be out this month. Don Ledin, State Trails Coordinator for the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, is chairman of the Symposium. Duluth is an interesting city, located at the western tip of Lake Superior, with good highway and airline connections. Points of interest include the Port of Duluth with its ore docks, ocean-going freighters, the National Water Quality Lab, and the vertical lift bridge over the ship canal. As you hike along the lakeshore you may find some of the famous Lake Superior agates. The well-known Boundary Waters Canoe Area is 120 miles north of Duluth.

We hear that David Shupe's crew got in only a few days of work on the north end of the Cumberland Trail before foul weather caught up with it. Mike Dahl had good news the second week in December. He visited a landowner on Clinch Mountain to talk about permission for the Trail of the Lonesome Pine and received a gift to the Trails System of 18,000 feet of right-of-way. The TTA Board of Directors has discussed presenting certificates of appreciation to persons who make contributions to the Trail System.

We have known Joe Gaines since 1972 and never learned much about his background. As our new president, he has presented the following brief biographical sketch:

I am a native of Nashville and have a Bachelor's degree in Forest Recreation from the University of Tennessee. I have a Master's in Public Administration from U.T. Nashville. My work experience includes two years as a district interpretive naturalist with Tennessee State Parks. During this period I was involved in general interpretive planning for nine State Parks in West Tennessee. Part of this work included developing hiking and interpretive trails as well as associated interpretive programs and materials.

"In 1972 I became the State's first Trails Administrator. During the six years in that position (in the Division of Planning and Development) I was involved with the planning and development of hiking, horse and bicycle trails. I was also involved in the planning of natural areas, scenic rivers, and other state outdoor recreation areas. In March 1978, I joined the firm of Miller, Wihry & Lee, Inc. My main working activities have involved natural resource planning (including trail development) for the Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area. In addition, I have been involved in the planning of bicycle trails for the City of Murfreesboro and in interpretive planning on a variety of projects in which the firm is involved.

"In addition to TTA, I am a member of the National Trail Council, the Appalachian Trail Conference, the Society of American Foresters, the American Society of Public Administrators, Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy, and Tennessee Historical Society. I reside at 117 West Marthanne Avenue, Madison, TN 37115. Other interests include hiking, Tennessee history, and water sports.

Next month we hope to have a biographical sketch of Vice-president Russell Fryer.

The latest word on the trail guide is that it is scheduled to go to the typesetters Feb. 1. We still need additional lists of potential outlets for the book. We thank the Nashville Chapter for a long list for their area.

Edition No. 15, 1978-79, Hiking Trails of America, reached our desk last month. It is published by Shiloh Military Trail, Inc. and Historical Hiking Trails, Inc., P. O. Box 17707, Memphis, TN 38117, headed by Ken Humphreys. The book is published for Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and other youth groups. It is available at the above address for \$1.00.