

## TENNESSEE TRAILS

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### Calendar:

- June 7, Nashville Chapter, Window Cliffs to Burgess Falls.
- June 21, Rhododendron Hike, Roan Mountain, Mike Dahl, leader.
- June 26, Meeting, Nashville Chapter, Old Hickory Lake.
- June 28-29, Field Trip, Tenn. Native Plants Society, Roan Mountain.
- July 19, Hike, Stones River National Battlegield Trail.
- July 26, Native Plants Society, field trip, Burgess Falls.
- August 23-24, Fiery Gizzard hike, Bob Richards.
- October 17-19, Annual meeting, Camp Ocoee.

The membership activity for June has become a tradition. It is the annual hike on Roan Mountain when the purple rhododendrons (*R. Catawbiense*) are in bloom. This has been a good year for plant growth and the flowers should be spectacular in late June.

Mike Dahl will meet those who wish to go in a group at Shoney's Restaurant, to the right off the Rutledge Pike (U.S. 11W) exit of I-40 in east Knoxville, at 7:30 a.m. Eastern Time. Anyone camping overnight at Roan Mountain State Park should meet the group at park headquarters at 10 a.m. Carry a lunch and canteen. The altitude is above 5000 feet so you may want a jacket.

The Nashville Chapter meeting June 26 will be in the picnic shelter at the Rockland Recreation Area on Old Hickory Lake near Hendersonville at 7:30 p.m. There will be no group meal but members may take their own food. Chapter Vice-president Gene Curp has arranged a series of speakers for Chapter meetings for the next year. This time Frank Erlinger of Sports and Trails Company will speak and show the latest in backpacking equipment, R. D. Coleman, a teacher at Volunteer State Community College will talk about footwear for the trail.

We're behind on reports from recent hikes. David Rhyne writes. "We had a good turnout for the April 19 Piney River hike - 22 people and my dog, Shannon. The weather was beautiful; lots of water. The flowers were beautiful, but some early species were not quite in full bloom."

We haven't heard from Charlotte Zerfoss about the Big Hill Pond trip and we forgot to ask Donald Todd about the Frozen Head Wildflower Hike when we saw him at another meeting May 14.

Gene Curp writes: "In case you've received no other report, the trip to the Stone Door was a great success. Margaret and I were there, together with Terry Benham, Mike Dahl and Bob Richards from the State Trail System; Regina of Murfreesboro, a mother-daughter act from parts unknown, and Hank from Soddy-Daisy, (9 total). We saw great vistas from the rim of Big Creek Gulf; had a lovely lunch where Big Creek sinks below ground, and the knowledgeable plant people had more than one debate along the way. The sky brought forth searing turkey buzzards and a redtailed hawk. The sky was one of those burning blues you associate with October - a really fine trip."

David Stidham sends the following description of the Nashville Chapter trip to Window Cliffs and Burgess Falls for June 7: "Window Cliffs is a narrow ridge with several natural arches, or 'windows' separating Cane Creek. The waterfalls at Burgess Falls Natural Area are some of the most spectacular in Tennessee. The hike will be about four miles of cross country walking along the banks and bluffs of Cane Creek, Center Hill Lake and Falling Water River. Since very little of the hike will be on a trail, it should be considered strenuous. If you are not into cross country, come anyway and enjoy the scenes from the short trails at each end of the hikes. A car shuttle will be necessary.

Preliminary plans are under way for the annual meeting, to be held at

Camp Ocoee, on the south side of Parksville Lake in the Ocoee Ranger District of Cherokee National Forest. Tentativ plans call for a weekend package with Friday and Saturday night lodging and five meals. Bertha Chrietzberg will have a cost figure in a month or so. Meal costs will be prorated for those who can't spend the whole weekend. We would arrive Friday afternoon, with a social evening, then the business meeting Saturday morning. Saturday afternoon activities will include hikes on the many trails in the Ocoee District and a possible raft trip on the Ocoee with Sunburst Adventures, Inc. Bertha will inquire into the possibility of an optional box lunch for those who want to make a day of it on Sunday. It look~~s~~ like a winner.

#### NOMINATIONS WANTED

The Board of Directors would like to have nominations for the second Tennessee Trails Award by August 1. Three persons were honored at the first presentation, in 1979, but only one a year will be presented from then on. The Board will select the recipient at its third quarter meeting and will have the plaque ready for presentation at the annual meeting.

Ballots were slow coming in for the mail referendum on the amendment to the By-laws to create a life membership, which was proposed at the 1979 annual meeting. Only one "No" vote had been received as of the May 9 Board meeting. Since the price of \$100 had been mentioned at the annual meeting, several thought that figure should remain through 1980. The Board went along with this and decided that the life membership would be \$100 through Dec. 31. Anyone who has paid \$5 dues for this year can add \$95 and get a life membership before the price goes up.

Because of the increased costs of paper and a possible postage increase in the near future, the cost of our newsletter may go up even more than it has since we began publication in 1969. As a result, the annual dues may be increased for next year, pending action at the annual meeting. The proposal will be published in the newsletter prior to the meeting, as required by the By-laws.

#### LITTER LAW AMENDED

While the "Bottle Bill" failed to pass the 91st General Assembly, the first paragraph of the existing litter law was amended as follows:

"A person who violates a provision of Sections 39-4536 through 39-4542 shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine of fifty dollars (\$50.00) and suspension of such person's motor vehicle license for ten (10) days for the first offense; and by a fine of fifty dollars (\$50.00) and suspension of such person's motor vehicle license for thirty (30) days for the second offense; and by a fine of fifty dollars (\$50.00) and suspension of such person's motor vehicle license for one year for the third and subsequent offenses. However, the judge in his discretion may allow an individual, convicted of a violation of Sections 39-4536 through 39-4542, to remove litter from a section of the State Highway System in lieu of the penalty provided in this section. Provided, however, any suspension issued under the provision of this section shall not be considered a moving violation for the purposes of the Tennessee Financial Responsibility Law of 1977, Tennessee Code Annotated, Sections 55-1251--55-1287, as amended.

Now the only problem is in getting enforcement of the above amendment.

We are happy to report that TENNESSEE TRAILS" paid the Author's expenses by the end of 1979 and the first check for royalties was presented to the Treasurer at the May Board meeting. Total sales through March 31 wvre 2,001 copies. Proceeds from the book and from the Life Membership Fund will be placed in a trust fund, which will be adminsistered by Bob Brown, to finance future TTA activities.