



TENNESSEE TRAILS

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Tennessee Trails Association, Inc.

Volume XVII, No. 2

February 1986

Chapter News

Nashville

The guest speaker for our February meeting will be Jeff Sinks, Manager at Radnor Lake State Natural Area. See you at Cumberland Museum on February 27 at 7:30 P.M. Bring a friend!

The copy for this February newsletter was mailed to the Editor January 15, which is the deadline for submitting news, thus the 1986 Chapter officers were not known in time to appear in print. If you attended the January meeting, you already know the outcome of the election, and if you did not, stay tuned for next month's newsletter.

Last October, the Nashville Chapter voted to adopt the Volunteer Trail at Longhunter State Park when it was completed. It is completed and it is great! Thanks to all the volunteers who labored so hard to make this overnight trail available for backpackers and day hikers alike.

Adopt A Trail

ADOPT-A-TRAIL - CHAPTER COORDINATORS

Nashville - Pat Anderson
Cumberland Mt. - Howard Duncan
Memphis - Bob Barnett
Murfreesboro - ?
Chattanooga - ?

Boy Scout Troop 374 in Crossville completed maintenance on the Brady Mountain section of the Cumberland Trail on Nov. 9, 1985. These scouts have taken a great interest in their adopted trail

Our Chapter goal is to hike and inspect "our" trail six times a year. We have volunteers for February, April, June, October and December, and still need someone for August. Swimming in and camping by Percy Priest Lake will be great, we guarantee it!

Welcome to all our new members. We hope to hike many miles with all of you this year.

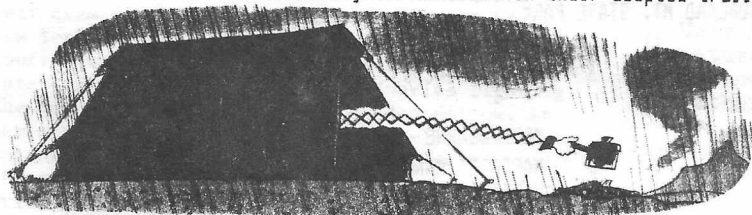
Memphis

MEMPHIS CHAPTER - Feb. Meeting - 20th
Join us at Kingsway Christian Church,
6310 Poplar Ave. for a planning session.
We need to plan program for the year and
to discuss elections of officers for the
chapter for the year ahead. Visitors wel-
come also.

NEWS FROM OUR SUPPORTERS

As soon as the message came over the radio that the temperature on Saturday, Jan/ 11th would reach 50°, the yen began to build in the bones of any hiker worth his salt. Nine members of the Big South Fork Hiking Club gave way to the lure of the great outdoors and gathered on that beautiful crisp morning at the Yahoo Falls trail head for a winter respite. The woods were still dormant and clumps of frozen leaves crunched underfoot. Rhododendren leaflets were beginning to unfurl from a cool night's rest. The first overlook provided a wide panoramic view of the gorge. Evergreens were enjoying their prominence in the midst of leafless trees of every variety. Lack of rain had left the creek nearly dry. Its edges were rimmed with swirling white ice.

In a short time, we were descending the three long metal flights of stairs leading to the canyon bottom. Awaiting us there on the floor of the falls was an ice sculptor incredible to see. A small amount of water continued its 113 foot drop but the weeks of sub-freezing temperatures had resulted in a build-up of scalloped ice some 20 feet at the base and about 25 feet high. It looked like a decapitated pyramid. At the top of the falls, huge jagged icicles clung precariously to the rim. We took our time drinking in this spectacle of nature. (cont'd page 3)



Send material for Tennessee Trails to: David Stidham, Editor
1015 Hitt Lane
Goodlettsville, TN 37072

The deadline is the 15th of each month. If possible, submit material camera ready, typed in a full 4 1/2 inch column. Artwork is welcomed.

HIKES

February 9 - Marrowbone Lake

The Nashville Chapter will sponsor a hike on Sunday afternoon, February 9, at Marrowbone Lake, off the Clarksville Highway. Meet at Jim Dandy Market and Texaco station at I-24 North and Old Hickory Boulevard. Going north from Nashville on I-24, get off at Old Hickory Boulevard exit, turn right (east). Market is first building on your right.

If snow or ice on ground, call leader to verify plans, between 11:30 and 12 noon February 9. Leader will host chili supper for the hikers at her home in Goodlettsville after the hike.

Leader: Evelyn Tretter - 615-859-0566.
Class II - two to three miles.

Northrup Falls Icicle Hike (Colditz Cove State Natural Area - Fentress County) February 9, 1986

On February 9 the Cumberland Mountain Chapter will visit Colditz Cove State Natural Area. The short but scenic hike around the 1.5 mile loop trail will take us through a mature hemlock forest with thick growths of mountain laurel and rhododendron. Among the sights will be high cliffs and the majestic Northrup Falls; a water fall that plunges over sixty-five feet into

the cove. We will meet at the trail head at 1:00 p.m. CST. The trail is not difficult, however, it is wet in certain places. If the weather cooperates, there should be ice formations hanging from the surrounding cliffs. To get to Colditz Cove, take highway 52E out of Allardt and turn right on the Crooked Creek Hunting Lodge road. You will find Colditz Cove parking area approximately one mile down this road.

Leader: Steven Burke 879-9381 from 7:00a.m. - 5:00p.m. Jamestown

CROWLEY'S RIDGE STATE PARK, Arkansas-Memphis Chapter. February 22nd.

This park is not as large as Village Creek on the opposite end of the ridge, but it is a pleasant place to walk. It was built in the 1930's by the CCC. If Crowley's Ridge State Park does not offer enough hiking to satisfy the group then there is another hiking trail at Lake Frierson State Park right next door.

Crowley's Ridge State Park is slightly less than two hours from Memphis. The park is 15 miles north of Jonesboro on Highway 141 at Walcott.

Those wishing to car pool should meet at the Kingsway Christian Church at 7:00 A.M. The trip will be discussed in more detail at February's chapter meeting on the 20th.

Leader: Bob Barnett
767-9347

There are additional TTA hikes scheduled for this month, but information was not recieved in time for the newsletter. For details, call the leader (see Calendar of Events).

1986 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DATE	SPONSOR	EVENT	CLASS	MILES	LEADER	PHONE (HOME/WORK)
FEB 9	CM	NORTHROP FALLS	III	1.5	STEVEN BURKE	(615)879-9381
FEB 9	N	MARROWBONE LAKE	II	3	EVELYN TRETTER	(615)859-0566
FEB 15	MU	VOLUNTEER TRAIL, LONGER HUNTER STATE PARK	I	6	REGINA MCDOWELL	(615)895-3317
FEB 15-16	MU	WINTER BACKPACK	II	10	GLENN HANLEY	(615)898-2104

FEB 20	ME	CHAPTER MEETING, KINGSWAY CHURCH				
FEB 22	ME	CROWLEY'S RIDGE STATE PARK, ARKANSAS			BOB BARNETT	(901)767-9347
FEB 22-23	MU	SAVAGE GULF BACKPACK			RANDY HEDGEPAATH	(615)924-2980
FEB 27	N	CHAPTER MEETING, CUMBERLAND MUSEUM				
MAR 8		CUMBERLAND TRAIL COMMITTEE MEETING, CUMBERLAND MT. STATE PARK				
MAR 8-9	MU	EARLY SPRING BACKPACK	II	10	GLENN HANLEY	(615)898-2104
MAR 15	CM	ROCK CASTLE BUSHWACKERS TRIP	V	6	HOWARD DUNCAN	(615)879-8245
MAR 20	ME	CHAPTER MEETING				
MAR 22	ME	CHICKASAW STATE PARK			MARY WEARNE	(901)377-1744
MAR 22	N	HISTORIC DOWNTOWN NASHVILLE	I	3	MARGARET MANN	(615)883-6212
MAR 22-23	CM	WORKTRIP - MIDDLE CREEK TRAIL			HOWARD DUNCAN	(615)879-8245
MAR 27	N	CHAPTER MEETING				
MAR 29-30		CUMBERLAND TRAIL WORK WEEKEND				
MAR 29-30	MU	SAVAGE GULF BACKPACK			RANDY HEDGEPAATH	(615)924-2980

TRIP REPORTS

FISHERVILLE NATURE TRAIL - Memphis Chapter, Dec. 8. The eight mile trail around Herb Parsons Lake provided an easy Sunday morning hike. A cold breeze off the lake made it invigorating - a bit too invigorating when we stopped for lunch. Hot coffee was a welcome commodity among the 14 people who made the hike.

On the way out to the lake, the carpool stopped briefly to watch a flock of about 30 black vultures perched along the roadside. There was the resident duck population splashing about the boatdock and some of their wilder cousins paddling around the middle of the lake. We also spotted a hawk swooping over the shallows in search of a fish dinner.

For those still wondering about the "AK" monogram on one of the birdhouses, it probably indicated a fraternity house for the American Kestrel.

- John Parish

Christmas Party and Hike, December 14 and 15 (Cumberland Mountain) - On Saturday evening, December 14, Tennessee Trail Association members from the Cumberland Mountain and Nashville Chapters met at the rustic cabin of Ken and Dean Pittman. After a truly delightful meal everyone exchanged "gag" gifts, which caused much laughter and amusement. Once gifts were exchanged a special Christmas story was read - "A Hillbilly Night Afore Christmas". Eight hearty persons stayed the night at the cabin and with outside temperatures falling to 12° we got a taste of what our pioneer ancestors dealt with every winter. After reaching a group consensus we decided to change the location of our hike. Originally we had planned to explore the bluffs near the cabin, but most of the group had done that during Thanksgiving. Ultimately we chose a new trail in the Big South Fork NRR. This trail runs from the Bandy Creek Trailhead on Leatherwood Ford Road to the nearly completed Bandy Creek Campground. The weather was cold but sunshine helped make a very enjoyable day for hiking. After completing the hike we took a brief tour of the campground. Thanks to all who came to the party and hike, with a special thanks to all those who supplied food.

Howard Ray Duncan

New Years Party and Hike, January 1 (Cumberland Mountain and Nashville Chapters) - New Years Eve found members of the Cumberland Mountain and Nashville Chapters at the rustic cabin of the Pittmans. Ken and Ella Dean Pittman were hosts to 25 friends for a most unique New Years Eve celebration at their cabin, newly restored by the couple, near their home in Jamestown. The cabin has seen much use recently during Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years.

For those not in attendance here is a sample of what was missed. Guests were treated to a variety of foods highlighted by "old-fashioned" pintos cooked over the fireplace. As the new year drew closer the group decided to celebrate New Year in both Eastern and Central time. A bonfire was ablaze outside while some took a late night stroll aided by alluminaries lighting the way to the overlook above Holden Hollow. At the stroke of midnight (Central Time) fireworks welcomed in the new year while everyone toasted the event with Champagne punch. What a combination - pintos and champagne!

Several guests spent the night at the cabin and were awakened early for a hike in the Big

South Fork National River and Recreation Area to Angel Falls Overlook. TTA members were joined by members of the Big South Fork Hiking Club from Kentucky, for a total of 23 hikers. It was surely a first when Ella Dean and Howard Ray prepared the traditional hogs jowl and black-eyed peas at the overlook. All agreed this was a fine way to start the new year.

For those of the party that were able (17 to be exact) dinner at the Jordan Restaurant of steak and all the "fixins" was enjoyed before settling down to watch Tennessee put Miami in its place.

After getting their daughters, Regena off to Baton Rouge, LA and Kendall to UT at Knoxville, Ken and Ella Dean decided to take an extended vacation in Florida. They may be reached at The Harbor Campground, 10511 Monroe Court, Lake Wales, FL 33853. Their phone number is 813-696-1194. P.S. The Pittmans would like to wish everyone "Happy Trails in the new year and that they found Pat's flashlight on the couch.

Ken Pittman

WAPANOCCA WILDLIFE HIKE & BIRDWATCH -ARK.

Memphis Chapter - Jan. 5th - It was hard to get going on a cold winter morning, but those who made the trip found their efforts rewarded. Our knowledgeable leader, Martha Waldron from the Audubon Society, helped identify the ducks we saw on the lake plus birds found in the marsh and woods nearby. We saw many Canadian Geese; Mallards, Canvasbacks, Scaup, Widgeon, Pintails, Coots, Gadwalls, were among the ducks spotted. As if this weren't enough, two immature bald eagles and a red-tailed hawk joined the group. Some of the songbirds seen and sometimes heard, were white-throated sparrow, fox sparrow, marsh sparrow, meadowlark, jay, cardinals, horned larks, finch and downy, hairy, and yellow-bellied woodpeckers were there also. Part of the group had to leave early, but those remaining walked all the way back to the dam, enjoyed lunch and the walk back.

CUMBERLAND TRAIL WORK TRIP, NOV. 23, 1985 - David Rhyne and Bob Brown scouted possible route for the Cumberland Trail between Bee Creek and Piney River.

...SUPPORTERS (cont'd)

The trail was full of switchbacks, breaking the incline considerably. Soon we had reached our destination, Yahoo Arch. It's a rather small arch, clean cut, attached to a massive gaping rock wall. Climbing to the top was made easy by sturdy tree roots for stepping and holding. A soft grassy cover provided a good spot to stop and rest. The sun felt warm and it was lunchtime. No place on earth does food taste better than in the midst of the forest.

Our return trip led us up over the falls. Here we relished another dimension of this natural phenomenon. At the end of the trail we concluded that anyone could make this rather easy hike. Our ages ranged from 4 to 74.

Please register me as a member for the calendar year 1986 (Jan. through Dec.) with the type of membership checked:

_____ Student (fulltime undergraduate and high school) \$ 3.00
_____ Individual \$ 8.00
_____ Family dependent (one who resides with an individual member) \$ 3.00
_____ Supporting \$ 15.00
_____ Life \$150.00

Student members do not have voting privileges. Supporting members may be organizations or individuals. Each organization should designate a representative to cast its vote and up to three addresses to receive the newsletter. Family dependent members do not receive a separate newsletter.

*It's dues time again! Mail this
with your 1986 dues -- today. Mail to
address below.*

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
PHONE NO. _____ (home) _____ (work)

TTA — The Tennessee Trails Association

OBJECTIVES: To promote, construct, and maintain a statewide system of hiking trails, and to work for the conservation of natural resources inherent to this objective. Sponsor for the Cumberland Trail. Regular dues are \$8.00 per year; \$3.00 for students and family dependents.

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