



# TENNESSEE TRAILS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE TENNESSEE TRAILS ASSOCIATION, INC.

VOLUME XVII, No. 8

AUGUST 1986

## MOUSE TAIL LANDING STATE PARK

Mouse Tail Landing State Park is located on the east side of Kentucky Lake with two and one half miles of shore line.

The rustic park lies between Spring Creek and Lick Creek approximately four miles north of Perryville (Decatur County) and two miles north of Alvin C. York Memorial Bridge which crosses the Tennessee River at Perryville. Mouse Tail Landing is geographically located in Perry County, thirteen miles west of Linden, Tennessee and consists of 1,197 acres of field and forest, wildflower, creeks and river frontage.

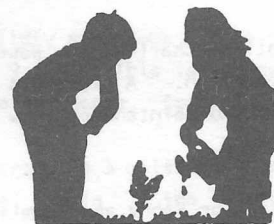
Perry County was once known for its tanyards (tanneries). The first yard established in this county was at a place on the Tennessee River, known as Rat Tail, in 1843. Rat Tail derived its name from the rat infestation which occurred when rats came ashore from the barges bringing hides to the tanneries. During the ten years following the establishment of the Rat Tail Tanyard, ten others were established in the area. It is estimated that at the height of these tanneries' business, the annual produce for all was approximately \$50,000.

When the Civil War swept through Tennessee, all but two of the tanneries in Perry County went out of business. All signs of these old tanyards has long since disappeared. The two remaining tanyards are still in business today, processing green hides received primarily from the north.

Mouse Tail, named in contradistinction of the old Rat Tail Landing, is now in disuse and was the principal place of shipment for the tanning products produced. The state park, named for this area, offers the following facilities: a visitor's center, two basic trails, overnight shelters, three picnic areas, a recreation area, and a campground.

The two trails consist of a three mile day trail and an eight mile overnight trail. Two overnight shelters are found on the latter trail, each of which can sleep eight

people. Each of the three picnic areas has tables and grills. The recreation area has volleyball, tether ball, and horse shoes. The campground consists of 28 campsites. There are no hookups to the camping sites.



### Adopt-a-Trail CHAPTER COORDINATORS

CHATTANOOGA -- Jeri Shuttters  
CUMBERLAND MOUNTAIN -- Howard  
Ray Duncan (615-879-8245)  
MEMPHIS -- Bob Barnett  
(901-767-9347)  
MURFREESBORO -- ??  
NASHVILLE -- Pat Anderson  
(615-383-2355)



### CARPOOL COORDINATORS

CHATTANOOGA -- Dot Lingerfelt  
(615-842-8043 or 751-3292, wk.)  
CUMBERLAND MTN. -- ??  
MEMPHIS -- Gene Jacobson (901-755-9073)  
MURFREESBORO -- Maryedith McFarlin  
(615-896-1344)  
NASHVILLE -- Evelyn Trotter (615-859-0566)



## CUMBERLAND TRAIL NEWS

### CUMBERLAND TRAIL RECEIVES BUDGET BLESSINGS

Senator Doug Henry, Jr. (Senate sponsor of the Tennessee Trails Act) has once again "gone to bat" for the Cumberland Trail. At his request, TTA recently sent a letter to Doug requesting a second ranger for the C.T., a full time 2-man maintenance crew, and a second 4WD vehicle.

Doug spoke in our behalf to Charlie E. Howell, Tennessee Commissioner of Conservation. A truck has already been acquired and the ranger and maintenance crew positions have been budgeted for 1986-1987.

A special thanks to Senator Henry and Commissioner Howell from all of TTA!

### CUMBERLAND TRAIL BACKPACK & WORK WEEKEND August 16-17

This trip will involve hiking south from Walden Ridge Road access (mile 19.7), and working with swingblades, weed eaters, and lopping shears south from the firetower to campsite #4 (mile 23.3). Camping gear will be driven by Bobby Harbin in a 4WD vehicle to the campsite. Work will continue on Sunday, south to the Poplar Creek Gap access (mile 28). Tools and shuttles to and from Cove Lake State Park will be provided. Bring food and camping gear.

Meet at the Cumberland Trail Office, Cove Lake State Park at 8:00 a.m., EDT, on Saturday, August 16. For more information, call Bob Brown, 615-748-4816 (wk).

### TRIP REPORT: EAGLE BLUFF HIKE July 4, 1986

Eight hikers joined Cumberland Trail manager, Bobby Harbin on a July 4th jaunt up the old Kentucky Road to Eagle Bluff. Lunch on the overlook was accompanied by fine views of Cove Lake, the Powell Valley, Cross Mountain, and Powell Mountain. No eagles showed up, but a couple of Red-Tailed Hawks screamed continually from the treetops far below and

finally soared away up the valley.

Fringed Loosestrife was blooming on the trail along with Large Coreopsis and some Butterfly Weed. There were good sightings of Scarlet Tanager and an Indigo Bunting, both single males in full color. At the Devil's Racetrack overlooking Bruce Gap, a Solitary Vireo sang and hopped around close by in a gnarled pine.

Park Seasonal Naturalist, Carol Hardy, took Bob Day and myself on a bird hike early Sunday morning on the C.T. in a marshy area upstream from Cove Lake campground. Besides evidence of Wood Ducks nesting in a hollow tree, we saw and/or heard may Wood Thrushes, a Carolina Wren, Catbird, Towhees, Phoebe, Great Crested Flycatchers, a Yellow-throated Vireo, Pileated Woodpeckers, and saw blooming Black Cohosh and Tall Anemone (Thimbleweed).

Bob and I spent the rest of Sunday trimming about 3/4 mile of C.T. Section 2, south of the firetower.

-- Bob Brown

## TTA SUPPORTER NEWS

### REPORT ON THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE TENNESSEE ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL - Supplied by Bertha Crietzborg -

The Tennessee Environmental Council held their annual meeting on June 9, at the Percy Warner Park Nature Center. The annual report, given by the Executive Secretary, Mayo Taylor, portrayed a year of hard work in tackling environmental issues and in raising funds to keep this organization viable and at the same time serving the environmental community.

Some successes were reported, but as their report states, that during 15 years of existence, "environmental problems change in emphasis with time, but are rarely solved." The year ended in the black financially for the Council and the drive to increase membership and support has been successful. The TEC now has about 1000 members and will hopefully double this number in 1987. TEC produces an excellent newsletter that is posted several times a year and keeps you abreast of environmental problems. If you would like to become a member, please submit your membership dues of \$20.00 to the Tennessee Environmental Council, 1719 West End Avenue, Suite 227, Nashville, TN 37203.

Highlights of the Council year included analyzing and making presentations to many organizations concerning the proposal

of the U.S. Department of Energy to locate a Monitored Retrievable Storage (MRS) at Oak Ridge. This issue has been temporarily halted, but may rise again in the coming year.

Efforts initiated early in 1985 to serve a second year's appropriation of \$2 million for acquisition of Natural and Cultural Areas succeeded in the spring as the General Assembly approved the full amount. The Council was helpful in alerting member groups and distributing well-documented data on the public demand for and benefits from state purchase of special wild areas.

Other important topics that were addressed during the Council year included the following issues: Waste Reduction, Groundwater Issues, Underground Injection, Solid Waste, and Billboards.

Highlights of the annual meeting at Percy Warner Park included an excellent meal prepared by Marge McCormick and her committee, an amusing and fun Conservation Trivia Game, and the auctioning of a Blue Hole Canoe donated by Bob Lantz of the Blue Hole Canoe Company in Sunbright. An announcement by Mayo Taylor, the current Director, that she is submitting her resignation as of September 30, saddened many of us who know the excellent work she has accomplished for the Council. That job is open to anyone in the field with a desire to monitor and keep abreast of environmental issues in Tennessee.

## CHAPTER NEWS

### CUMBERLAND MOUNTAIN CHAPTER

MAMMOTH CAVE NATIONAL PARK  
August 17

Dean Pittman of the Cumberland Mountain Chapter of TTA is sponsoring a day in Mammoth Cave National Park. Sturdy walking shoes and a light jacket are recommended as inside temperature is about 56 degrees.

There are a number of scheduled tours. This is an excellent way to spend a hot day in August. Come on out and join us. Select the tour which best suits you. From Jamestown, Mammoth Cave is 115 miles which is a 2 1/2 hour drive by way of N 127, 90 W, and I-65 N.

The tours include:

Historic -- strenuous 2 mile/2 hour tour given 12 times

daily, beginning at 9 a.m. Cost: \$3.50/adults, \$1.75/under 16.

Frozen Niagra -- strenuous 3/4 mile for 1 1/2 hour tour given 9 times daily, beginning at 8:45 a.m. Cost: \$3.50/adults, \$1.75/under 16.

Presidential -- easy walking 1/4 mile (1 1/4 hours) given twice daily at 9:00 a.m. and 12:45 p.m. Cost same as above.

Half Day -- very strenuous 4 miles (4 1/2 hours) given 5 times daily (8:30, 9:30, 10:30, 11:40, 12:45). Cost: \$5.50 and \$2.75.

Lantern -- strenuous 3 miles (3 hours) given four times daily (8:45, 10:10, 12:45, 2:40). Cost: \$4.50 & \$2.25. Lanterns will be provided.

Great Onyx -- mildly strenuous 1 mile (2 1/2 hours) given one time only, 9 a.m. This is another lantern light tour and is limited to 40 people. Cost: \$3.50 and \$1.75.

Echo River -- strenuous 3 miles (3 hours) which includes a short boat ride. This is the Historic Tour plus one additional mile. It is limited to 40 people and is given 4 times daily (8:30, 9:30, 12:10, and 1:55). Cost: \$4.50 and \$2.25.

Wild Cave -- extremely strenuous 5 miles (5 1/2 to 6 hours). This tour is given by reservation only (Sorry, Aug. 17 already booked). Call 502-758-2328.

Children from 8 to 12 may register for a special free TROG 2 1/2 hour trip to White Cave. Wear old clothes, sturdy shoes, and a belt. Time: 2 p.m. Limit: 12.

If you wish to spend the night, Mammoth Cave has a hotel, lodge, and cottages available with medium to low prices. For reservations, call 502-758-2225. There are also 130 rustic campsites available for \$6.00 per site (limit 8 people per site). No reservations. In addition, there are 700+ commercial campsites within a 16-mile radius.

For those hikers who are immune to heat, there are several miles of hiking trails within the park, as well as boat trips on Green River.

### JULY CHAPTER MEETING REPORT

The Cumberland Mountain July chapter meeting at Pickett State Park was a big success. Twenty-four people attended the cookout and ice cream party. There was plenty of good food and the homemade ice cream was simply delicious. As promised, we had a short hike on Island Trail around Pickett



Lake. Somehow, the business meeting failed to materialize. We would like to recognize new TTA members, Tom and Rita Sturdivant of Ozone. Thanks to everyone who attended.

-- Howard Ray Duncan

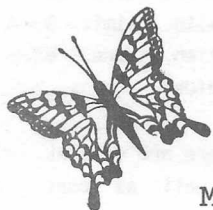


### MEMPHIS CHAPTER

AUGUST MEETING & SWIM PARTY  
Saturday, August 23

We will not have our regularly scheduled meeting this month. Instead, we will meet at the home of Gene Jacobson, 2063 Restington Lane, for a potluck dinner and swimming. Those of you planning to swim can arrive around 5:00 p.m. The Jacobsons will serve appetizers and dessert. We provide the rest. Bring beverages and your favorite dish.

We will discuss next year's activity schedule so bring your ideas and any information you may have about trips and outings. If you need any further information, call Gene at 755-9073. Plan to come and bring a friend!



### MURFREESBORO CHAPTER

SUMMER WILDFLOWER AND CAVE HIKE  
August 16

Join Bertha Chrietzberg and Ranger Naturalist Randy Hedgepath at the Visitor Center in the morning and for a trip to Buggytop Cave in the afternoon. Seldom do we take advantage of Nature's display of late summer flowers. Some

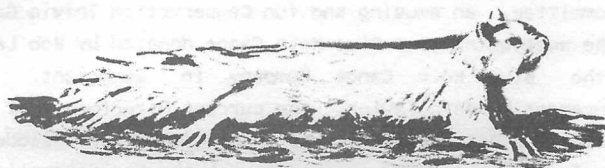


of the beauties that we will be seeing are Cardinal Flower, Orange-fringed Orchid, Gayfeather, Polygala, Joe Pye weed, and many others. We may also see the rare Cumberland Rosinweed.

Bring lunch and water for a noon break in the picnic area. In the afternoon, Randy will take us on a trip to Buggytop Cave. A two mile hike brings you to the large opening of Buggytop Cave. Bring flashlights for a "cool" trip into the cave's 57 degree atmosphere.

Directions: From I-24, take the Monteagle exit. Proceed east through Monteagle toward Tracy City. The Cumberland Recreation Area Visitor Center is about halfway between Monteagle and Tracy City on the left. Enjoy the displays at the Visitor Center while you wait. We will meet at 9:00 a.m., CDT. For more information, contact either

Bertha Chrietzberg, (615) 896-1146, or  
Randy Hedgepath, (615) 924-2980.



### NASHVILLE CHAPTER

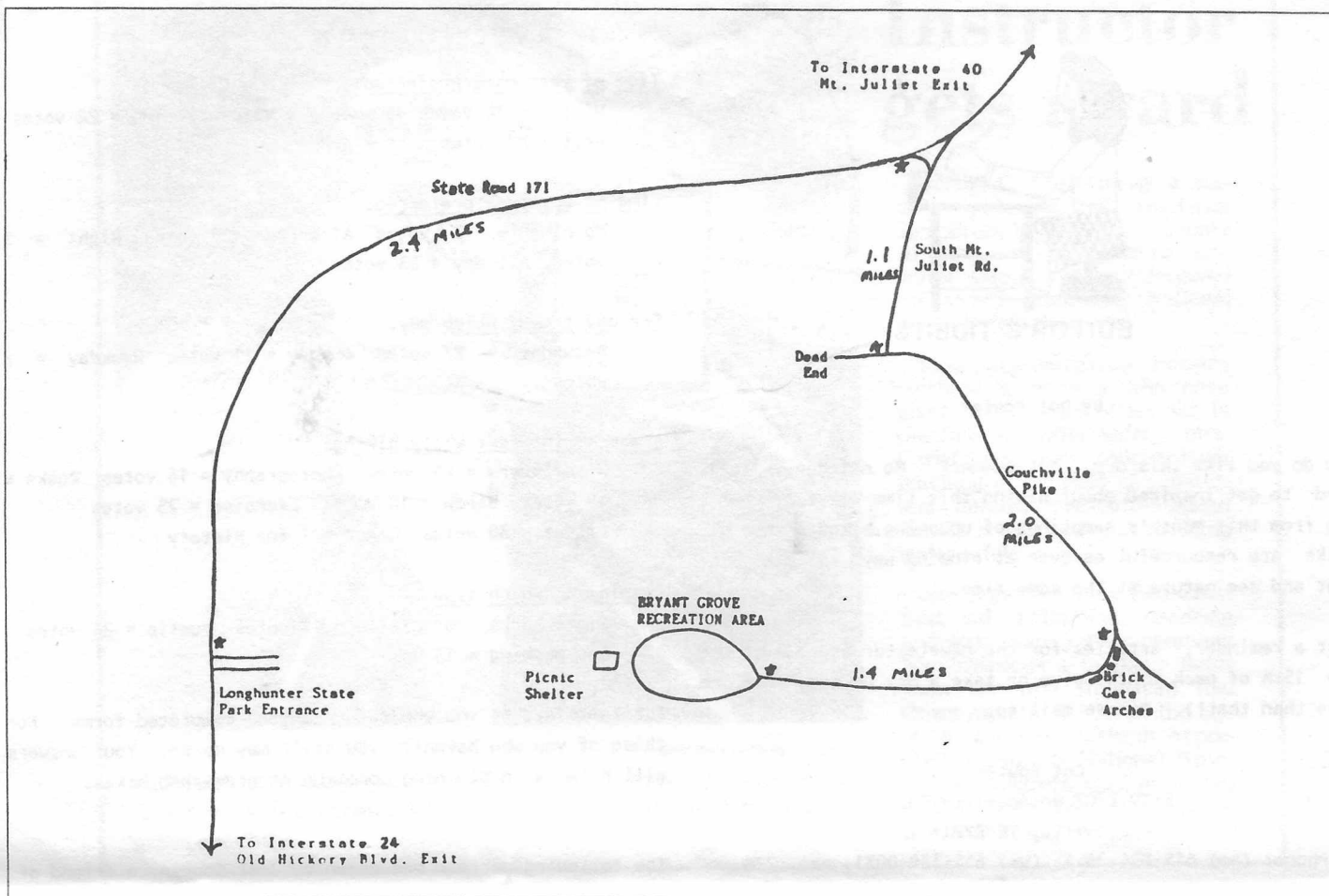
WADE HIKE & PICNIC ON LITTLE HARPETH  
August 9

The Nashville Chapter will sponsor a wading hike and picnic supper on Saturday, August 9, at the Little Harpeth River, west of Nashville off Highway 100. Bring a picnic dish to share for supper and your own drink. Utensils will be furnished. Meet in the parking lot of Edwin Warner Park Nature Center at 1 p.m. From downtown Nashville, on Highway 100, the entrance to the Nature Center is on the left just past Old Hickory Blvd.

AUGUST CHAPTER MEETING  
August 28, 6 p.m. til ?

Join us at Bryant Grove Recreation Area on Percy Priest Lake for a combination swim party and picnic. Don't let the distance dissuade you -- the extra miles are worth driving to the inviting roped-off swimming area and the large shelter cooled by lake breezes.

Bring a swimsuit, camera (optional), your own picnic supper and drink, and a friend. Dessert will be served along with accounts of everyone's summer excursions. For additional information or compliments on the accompanying map, call Pat Anderson, 383-2355.



#### REPORT ON JUNE CHAPTER MEETING

From what I hear, the June meeting was the wrong meeting to miss! Drat it! Ms. Lib Roller, our speaker for that month, arrived in full Indian squaw costume with loads of Indian artifacts to show us. I'm told that her discussion of Middle Tennessee Indian life was fascinating and that there were lots of questions asked throughout her presentation. It sounds like Lib's speech was lots more fun than the one I was hearing at that time in Troy, New York! I suppose we'll just have to request a repeat performance next year!

-- Dot Fowler

the proud owner of a new home so she is busy getting settled. We are happy to have Glenda as an active participant in our chapter. Welcome!

Carol Rubin visited the Nashville Chapter monthly meeting in July. Carol has recently moved to Nashville from California where she was an active member of the Sierra Club. She saw a copy of TTA's newsletter in Cumberland Transit store and gave us a call. Hope you liked us, Carol!

### HIKER'S NEWS

The Memphis Chapter of TTA welcomes Glenda Graff as their newest member. Glenda was born in Memphis but has lived in New Orleans and other Louisiana cities prior to returning to Memphis. She is employed in the Medical Records Division of Baptist Central Hospital. Glenda has two sons who are now grown and out on their own, and recently, Glenda became





## EDITOR'S TIDBITS

- By Dot Fowler -

How do you like this dry, hot summer? Me neither. It is hard to get inspired about hiking this time of year, but I see from this month's samplings of upcoming hikes, that you folks are resourceful as ever at finding ways to beat the heat and see nature at the same time.

Just a reminder, articles for the newsletter are due around the 15th of each month (give or take a day or two, but no more than that!). Please mail to:

Dot Fowler  
5319 E207 Nolensville Rd.  
Nashville, TN 37211

Phone: (Hm) 615-834-2654, (Wk) 615-329-0031, ext. 228

Inserted in this month's edition is your reservation form for the October Annual TTA Meeting. This promises to be a lively and fun event for all. Please make plans to join us and send in your reservation promptly to Dot Lingerfelt. More details will be given in the next issue of Tennessee Trails.

## RESULTS OF SURVEY

The questionnaire sent out in last month's issue has been tallied and the results are as follows:

### Type of hike you like best:

Day = 29 votes City = 5 votes Historical = 7 votes  
Backpacking = 10 votes Parks = 24 votes

### Number of miles per day:

1 to 5 = 15 votes 5 to 10 = 25 votes 10 to 15 = 5 votes  
More = 2 votes

### Level of difficulty:

Easy = 4 votes Moderate = 28 votes Challenging = 12 votes

### Time of year most preferred:

Winter = 14 votes Summer = 3 votes Spring = 28 votes  
Fall = 27 votes

### Time of day most preferred:

Morning = 13 votes Afternoon = 5 votes Night = 3 votes  
All day = 23 votes

### For day trips, which day:

Saturday = 27 votes Sunday = 11 votes Weekday = 2 votes

### Areas of interest while hiking:

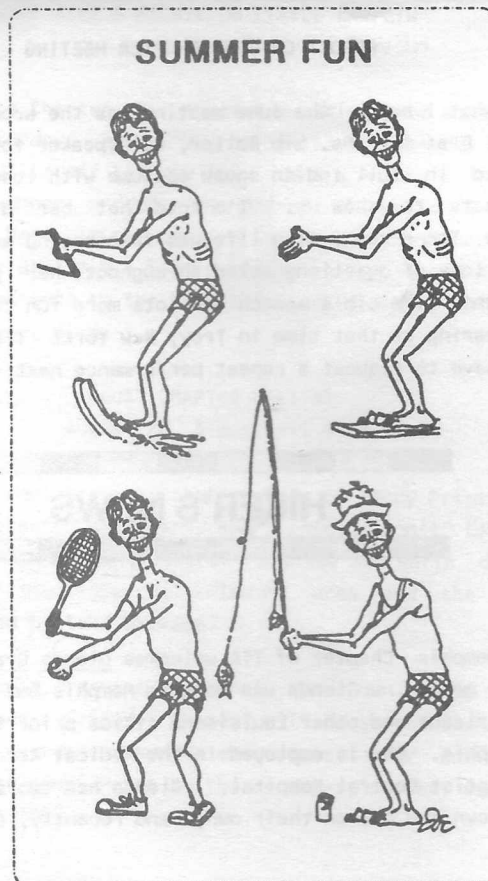
Wildflowers = 25 votes Photography = 14 votes Rocks = 10 votes  
Birds = 10 votes Exercise = 25 votes  
Vistas = 30 votes Other = 1 for History

### Camping -- which type:

State Parks - primitive = 17 votes rustic = 24 votes  
Backpacking = 13 votes

Thanks to all of you who returned your completed forms. For those of you who haven't, you still may do so. Your answers will help us in planning upcoming programs and hikes.

The following cartoon was drawn by Joel Cooper, a friend of the editor.







DNJ photo by Greg Campbell

**RECEIVES AWARD** — Bertha Chrietzburg shows the appreciation award she received from the National Water Safety Congress recently.

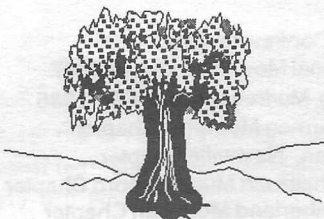
## Instructor gets award

Bertha C. Chrietzberg, a volunteer serving the American Red Cross in Rutherford county in the area of canoeing and water safety, recently received an award from the National Water Safety Congress.

This organization honors outstanding persons who have given many years of service in the field of water safety. Mrs. Chrietzberg, now retired from teaching in the field of aquatics and outdoor recreation from MTSU, is still active in teaching water safety.

She began teaching Red Cross first aid, swimming, canoeing and water safety after receiving her Instructor's in those fields from her first American Red Cross Aquatic School at the age of 19. The Certificate of Appreciation from the National Water Safety Congress was presented to Mrs. Chrietzberg at a banquet in Nashville on April 24.

### NEWS FROM OUR PARKS



### BIG SOUTH FORK TRAIL UPDATE

#### OSCAR BLEVINS FARM LOOP TRAIL

- By Howard Ray Duncan -

This easy 3.6 mile loop trail gives the hiker a variety of scenery. The trail begins at the Bandy Creek Campground trailhead. It meanders through a variety of old fields in various stages of regrowth before entering a mature white pine forest. The focal point of the trail is the historic Oscar Blevins Farm. Three generations of the Blevins family lived and worked this farmstead. Buildings from all three generations still stand on the original sites.

The trail continues past the partially overgrown fields of the old "King Place." Very little is known (by myself,

anyway) about this homestead. Eventually this trail intersects with the trail from Bandy Creek Ranger Station trailhead. An additional one mile leads you back to the campground. This latter section has some interesting sandstone bluffs and "rockhouses" (overhanging rock shelters) once occupied by Native Americans. It also passes through a beautiful Hemlock grove. Happy Hiking!

Hello RANGERS! If you have scheduled activities you'd like to have passed along to our members, please send them to us.



## SCHEDULED AUGUST HIKES

### CUMBERLAND MOUNTAIN CHAPTER:

August 17 Mammoth Cave National Park -- Details this issue

### MEMPHIS CHAPTER:

August 23 Potluck & Swimming Party -- Details this issue

### MURFREESBORO CHAPTER:

August 16 Wildflowers & Cave Trip -- Details this issue

### NASHVILLE CHAPTER:

August 9 Wading Hike, Little Harpeth -- Details this issue

### CUMBERLAND TRAIL:

August 16-17 C.T. Backpack & Work Weekend -- Details this issue

## TRAIL COOKING

### HOME DEHYDRATED GROUND BEEF

Brown one pound of ground beef and drain fat from meat. Spread the meat on a cookie rack and place in a 150 degree oven overnight. The meat will shrink in volume. It can then be stored indefinitely in a tightly closed plastic bag.

TENNESSEE TRAILS is printed by David Lepley, Budget Rapid Printers, 1700 Hayes, Nashville, TN, 327 - 1068

**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.

### TTA OFFICERS -- 1986

**PRESIDENT:** David Stidham, Goodlettsville  
**VICE - PRESIDENT:** Bob Barnett, Memphis  
**PRESIDENT - ELECT:** Howard Ray Duncan, Jamestown  
**CORR. SECRETARY/TREASURER:** Dot Lingerfelt, Chattanooga  
**RECORDING SECRETARY:** Evelyn Tretter, Goodlettsville  
**IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT:** Evan Means, Oak Ridge  
**EDITOR:** Dot Fowler, Nashville

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Sam Powell, Signal Mountain 1985 - 1987  
Bertha Chrietberg, Murfreesboro 1985 - 1986  
Jerri Bull, Chairman Memphis Chapter  
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Bertha Chrietberg, Chairman Murfreesboro Chapter  
Ken Pittman, Cumberland Mountain Chapter  
Everett Kidder, Chairman Chattanooga Chapter

**P.O. Box 4913  
Chattanooga, TN 37405**



Evan Means  
200 Butler Road  
Oak Ridge, TN 37830





PRE-REGISTRATION FOR THE  
TENNESSEE TRAILS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING  
OCTOBER 10, 11, & 12, 1986  
CAMP LOOKOUT  
CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

	# OF PERSONS -----	TOTAL COST -----
Registration Fee: \$2.00 per person (Age 18 and over)	_____	_____
Ground Fees: \$4.00 per night Includes medical & accidental insurance	_____	_____
Meals:     Saturday Breakfast     \$3.25	_____	_____
Saturday Dinner         3.75	_____	_____
Sunday Breakfast        3.25	_____	_____

There will be a potluck dinner on Friday night at 7 p.m. You will be responsible for lunch on Saturday and Sunday.

Lodging: Cabins & A-frames are available at no charge on a first-come, first-served basis. No cooking facilities in either cabins or A-frames. There is plenty of camping area -- no hookups for campers. There is a central shower room for cabin occupants and campers. Please indicate how many spaces you will need in a cabin or A-frame (six beds in each).

\_\_\_\_\_

Total enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Deadline for reservations is October 1, 1986.

Mail to: Dot Lingerfelt,  
P.O. Box 4913  
Chattanooga, TN 37405