



Tennessee rails

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Long Hunter State Park

Long Hunter State Recreation Park is located on the southeast shore of J. Percy Priest Lake. J. Percy Priest Lake was formed in 1968 by the impoundment of the historical Stones River. The river was impounded by the U. S. Corps of Engineers for flood control and hydroelectric power.

Stones River and its surrounding Stones river Basin has a rich history. The area was a favored hunting ground for Creek, Chickasaw, Shawnee, and Cherokee Indians. It was explored and settled by early pioneers and long hunters and was the site of the historic Battle of Stones River during the Civil War.

With its rich bottomlands and hardwood forest, Stones River fostered the growth and settlement of the area. Today, with the development of J. Percy Priest Lake, Stones River continues to be a positive influence on the growth and development of Middle Tennessee. As the area grows, the demand for quality outdoor recreational experiences grows. Long Hunter State Recreation Park has been established to help satisfy those needs.

Long Hunter State Recreation Park has nearly 20 miles of hiking trails offering a quality outdoor experience for everyone. Nearly all of the trails have been built through volunteer work. The Nashville chapter of TTA, in fact, has adopted the Volunteer Trail and regularly schedules work trips on it. In addition to our contributions, scout troops, school groups, clubs, other organizations, and interested individuals are investing thousands of man-hours

in developing these trails and continuing to assist in their maintenance.

There are eight trails in Long Hunter as described in the following paragraphs.

- **LAKE TRAIL** -- The most popular trail, this self-guided, two-mile lakeshore trail is hard-surfaced, eight-feet wide, and fairly level so that all people may enjoy it. The trail winds along the shore of the 110-acre Couchville Lake, passing by sinkholes, through hardwood forest, and crossing the lake on a 300-foot bridge. Spring flowers, fall colors, wading birds, and waterfowl may be seen.
- **NATURE LOOP** -- This one-quarter mile trail starts near the Couchville Lake parking lot and takes the hiker through interesting cedar glade areas. This is an excellent trail for spring and summer cedar glade flowers, many of which are rare and endangered.
- **INLAND TRAIL** -- Beginning at the Overlook parking lot at Couchville, this three-quarter mile trail passes through a dense, rich, hardwood forest and climbs to a wooded hilltop for an interesting change in elevation. This is excellent for spring wildflowers and small karst formations.
- **BLUFF TRAIL** -- This short gravel trail connects our overlook and lakeside parking areas at Couchville. The trail passes through and accesses our Couchville picnic area. It provides an impressive scenic

overlook of J. Percy Priest Lake. An impressive karst formation can be seen near the overlook picnic area.

- **BRYANT GROVE TRAIL** -- Connecting Couchville Lake and Bryant Grove parking areas, this fairly level four-mile trail follows the shore of J. Percy Priest Lake while wandering through hardwood forest, cedar thickets, and cedar glades. This is an excellent trail for cedar glade flowers and lakeshore hiking.
- **POINT TRAIL** -- A pleasant, short walk, this trail originates and ends at the Bryant Grove picnic area near the shelter. It follows the lakeshore of the lake and crosses interesting rock outcrops. This is excellent for viewing sunsets and birds.
- **DAY LOOP** -- This four-mile trail starts and ends at the Bakers Grove parking area. It winds through hardwood forest and along the shore of J. Percy Priest Lake. The return trail follows a high bluff overlooking the lake and takes you through a cove abundant with spring flowers when in season.
- **VOLUNTEER TRAIL** -- Named in honor of all the people who have volunteered their time to build the trails in the park, this six-mile trail is the overnight trail for backpackers and campers. It begins at the Bakers Grove parking area and covers a variety of elevations, terrains, and forest types. Overnight camp sites are situated near the end



of the trail. A free overnight use permit is required for camping.

Cumberland Trail News

OOPS! I GOOFED!

While entering Bob's article last month, I blinked and managed to lose an entire sentence in the process. As a result, Bobby Harbin didn't get some well deserved recognition. My apologies. The sentence was, "About the same time, Great Smoky Mountain Council BSA Team 53 at Cove Lake State Park, Bobby Harbin, scoutmaster, started working along parts of Sections 1 and 2." Bob went on to talk about the work of BSA Troop 384 with Jim Purcell in 1984. -- DF

SCOUTS PAST & PRESENT ON THE CUMBERLAND TRAIL PART III

- By Bob Brown -

As related in Part II, the Cumberland Trail was from the start, very much a Boy Scout trail and, not surprisingly, has benefitted from a number of Eagle Scout projects. The first was that of Steve Goodpasture of Great Smoky Mountain Council Troop 220 in Oak Ridge. In 1970 and 1971, Steve secured rights-of-way for the Trail from all the landowners along the Waldens Ridge crest between Lake City and Oliver Springs (a trail distance of almost 17 miles) contacting absentee

owners as far away as Illinois and Texas. Steve led his Troop on some of the earliest clearing-and-blazing worktrips on C.T. Section 2.

Steve's younger brother Jim also did his Eagle project on this C.T. section. It involved building a fiberglass trough and collection system at a spring below Campsite 2 near Shults Road. Jim also led Troop 220 on clearing-and-blazing worktrips on the C.T.

The brothers later graduated from David Lipscomb College, Steve with a degree in Chemistry, and Jim, in Biology. Both now pursue environmentally related careers -- Steve in the Environmental Management Department at the Gaseous Diffusion Plant K2 in Oak Ridge, and Jim, in industrial hygiene with Laws Engineering in Knoxville.

Several bridges have been built as Eagle projects on C.T. Section 9 since the early 1970s. Hugging the steep north side of the Tennessee River Gorge from Signal Point into Prentice Cooper State Forest, this section is plagued with flash floods in the many creek valleys and gullies it crosses. To wit, the carefully engineered Suck Creek suspension bridge built and dedicated in 1979 (as related in Part II of this series) was dislodged and swept away by a record flood about three years ago.

In 1982, Richard Scott Ruth of Cherokee Council Troop 176 undertook as his Eagle project the replacement of a washed out bridge over one of the many ravines crossed by Section 9. He and his Troop built a 20-foot span out of used electric power poles and planks. Richard is now a Biology major doing graduate work and teaching part-time at the University of North Carolina.

Last summer, Eagle candidate William Webb Newsome of Cherokee Council Troop 60 replaced another such washout on Section 9 by building a 25-foot swinging bridge from recycled materials. Bill, now a senior at Notre Dame High School in Chattanooga, plans to work at an outdoors-related job in Jackson Hole, Wyoming next summer while formulating his longer-term career goals.

In 1986, Mike Blevins of Great Smoky Mountain Council BSA Team 53 at Cove Lake State Park designed and built a large steel flagpole to fly the National and State flags before the Cumberland Scenic Trail Office at Cove Lake. He led his fellow team members in erecting the flagpole and laying around it a concrete base with an inlaid metal BSA trefoil emblem. Mike was also active in leading Team 53 trail-working parties on Sections 1 and 2. He is now a student at East Tennessee State University.

After surveying C.T. Section 5 problem spots with a TTA representative in late 1986, Jeff Anderson of Great Smoky Mountain Council Troop 170 at Pleasant Hill chose as his Eagle project an extensive upgrading of the 4-mile segment from the top of Black Mountain to State Highway 68. Last spring he organized and led Troop working parties to one such problem spot, a steep quarter mile descent on a southwest spur off Black where the trail badly needed tread leveling. Two days of sidehill digging and rearranging rocks remedied the situation.

At another problem spot where the trail drops sharply through a cleft in the bluffs at the top of Black, Jeff decided to install steps cut from used railroad trestle timbers. Late in August, Troop 170 went to Norris Dam

State Park to pick up and transport to Black Mountain some timbers that C.T. manager Bobby Harbin had located for them. On a Saturday in September and another in October, Jeff and his buddies of Troop 170 individually cut and fitted into the cleft more than a dozen of the 75-pound timber steps, backfilling each with handbroken native sandstone. At the same time they recleared and reblazed the entire four mile segment.

Jeff is also active in Future Farmers of America and has been a leading statewide contender in contests such as soil type identification. Now a senior at Cumberland County High School, he plans to attend Roan State Community

College next year to prepare for studies in either Forestry or Wildlife Management, probably at Tennessee Technological University.

Trailwork on the C.T. is not easy. Besides the obvious logistical problems and the physical demands of hiking in and out to do the work, it involves coping with weather and possible injury, heat exhaustion or hypothermia in remote locales. It demands the best Scouts have to offer and tests the quality of their training in Scouting skills and their commitment to "be prepared".

The Cumberland Trail offers opportunity for useful and satisfying projects

to Eagle Scout candidates with a pioneering spirit and an interest in solving engineering and environmental problems. Also, there are lots of 4 to 8 mile segments of the C.T. available for adoption by Troops wishing to qualify individual Scouts for the C. T. Trailworkers patch and their Troop for the Cumberland Trail Stewardship Award. For information call:

*Bobby Harbin, Caryville -- (615)
566-0902*

*Bob Brown, Nashville -- (615)
748-4816*

*Sam Powell, Signal Mountain --
(615) 886-2689*

Guest Editorial Nashville Zoo Report

- By Bob Barnett -

The Zoological Society of Middle Tennessee seems determined to put a zoo in the immediate vicinity of the Volunteer Trail at Long Hunter State Park. Connie Cloak, representing the society, has invited input from user groups and environmentalists, but it is not clear if the Zoological Society's leaders will pay heed to this input or fully intend to incorporate the existing trails into their zoo regardless.

I feel their plans are a mistake. These trails are already a reality and are in use by local hikers. Recently I obtained twelve signatures while walking just a brief portion of the day loop. Some of these people saw no need for a zoo at all, though I encouraged them to support a zoo as long as it will not take away from such a beautiful and needed hiking park.

These are tough times to build a major project like a zoo which will require major funding. Comparatively speaking, trails are inexpensive. Trails intrude gently on the natural surroundings and the habitats of the plants and animals. Trails teach us how we can coexist with that which is natural and wild.

It appears that those of us who want Long Hunter to remain as it is now are thought to be a minority. If that is so, then let us be a vocal and active minority. Contact can be made with the news media, the Department of Conservation, the Corps of Engineers, and the Middle Tennessee Zoological Society. This cause is important and I am not ready to give up. If, however, the zoo does indeed become a reality at Long Hunter, TTA needs to have input on how the trails are preserved and how the zoo impacts upon them.

Statistics and other means of comparison are given by the Zoological Society to support their choice of sites. I suggest that their search may have been short-sighted and should

continue. Perhaps more input would provide more feasible alternatives than have been considered so far. Paul Somers, a botanist with the Department of Conservation, walked the proposed site and wrote the following in his report:

"Personally, I would prefer to see the zoo built somewhere other than on public land already committed to meeting other needs (in this case, outdoor recreation and protection of natural ecosystems)."

The letter goes into detail about the forest area of Long Hunter and says that the only comparable tract protected in a state park is at Cedars of Lebanon State Park.

Enough people believed in the Volunteer Trail and the day loop to make them live. They can continue to flourish as they do now, or they can be changed to the point that they are barely recognizable. A trail with a turnstiles would still be a trail, but it would not teach the same lessons. Central Basin Woodlands are rapidly disappearing. If you have walked or worked on these trails, you are an expert of sorts and should offer your educated opinions to the powers that be.

The zoo's fate will not be determined by their success or failure at procuring the Long Hunter State Park site. It can flourish elsewhere. Please let your voice be heard. To contact the Zoological Society, write:

Zoological Society
Middle Tennessee
P.O. Box 25187
Nashville, TN 37202

Join us at the Nashville Chapter's meeting in February for a discussion with the society's representative, Connie Cloak.

State News

TTA's Adopt-a-Trail Program

The following is a reprint from the June 1986 issue of Tennessee Trails. If you are new to TTA, this article will be enlightening. Ninez Giles has just agreed to take over the Adopt-a-Trail program for TTA. Ninez can be reached at 615-297-2281.

Trails are a key part of many outdoor recreation experiences, but many trail travelers take them for granted. Most trails are built and maintained by land management agencies who are short on dollars and people.

The purpose of the TTA Adopt-a-Trail program is to encourage lay hikers to assist in the maintenance of the hiking trail system in Tennessee. By periodically hiking these trails, performing minor maintenance tasks (such as picking up limbs and litter), and reporting to park rangers on the trails' condition, volunteers will help agencies whose reduced natural resource budgets preclude comprehensive trail maintenance programs. Above all, the purpose of the program is to involve people in caring for their recreational environment and to accept a degree of responsibility in maintaining the quality of that environment.

When looking to participate in the Adopt-a-Trail program, select a trail you feel you will be able to hike and inspect at least twice a year. The trail may be on local, state, federal, or private property. TTA, however, encourages the adoption of Tennessee and National Recreation trails, and/or segments of the longer Tennessee Scenic Trails.

If your chapter has already adopted a trail and you wish to be a part of that effort, you may do so by contacting your chapter's coordinator to specify which months you can take responsibility for the trail. If, on the other hand, you prefer to adopt another trail, let your chapter's coordinator or the state coordinator (Ninez Giles) know

your intentions so that the appropriate management agency can be notified.

Once you have expressed your commitment, you will be sent the Trail & Maintenance Manual which explains in detail how to maintain a trail, including blazing, trimming, plus much more. Do not try to do any of these tasks which are beyond your skill level. Many land management agencies will provide you with garbage bags, tools, etc., if you talk to them ahead of time.

Also provided in your maintenance manual are Trail Inspection forms. Please fill one of these out after each work trip on your trail. Mail to your chapter's coordinator who will in turn send a copy to the trail's management agency and one to Ninez Giles. These forms inform authorities of the general state of the trail and call attention to areas in need of additional work.

If you have ideas, want to help, or need information, contact:

Ninez Giles
2001 20th Ave. S.
Nashville, TN 37212
615-297-2281

This is a big job and Ninez will need your help. Our Trail Maintenance Manual needs revamping. If you have access to a word processor or good typewriter and are willing to help with this task, contact Ninez. If you have good material to add to the manual, send it to her. If you can do some reproductions or printing of the finished manual, thank you and once again, contact Ninez.

Chapter Chairpersons! I need the name and phone number of your Adopt-a-Trail coordinator. My list is outdated. -- Dot Fowler



TTA TV SHOW

TTA's television premier has been scheduled for Wednesday, February 17 at 4:00 p.m. and Saturday, February 20th at 6:00 p.m. I'm told this is "pretty definite" which I assume is the same as a definite maybe. We'll update you in the next issue.

TRIP REPORT Land Between the Lakes November 13-15

Despite it being Friday the 13th, I camped by the water at the overly lit Piney Campground. No bad luck befell me though I was late arriving the next morning at my own hike. Fortunately, all but two hikers were late as well. We were happy to welcome Larry and Natalie Lerner to TTA and enjoyed their company on our hike.

The North/South section of the trail from Colson Overlook to Golden Pond Visitors' Center was supposed to be about five miles but the way it meandered, wandered, and changed blazes, it seemed farther. In fact, J.T. Jones' pedometer registered 6 1/2 miles. My thanks to Anne, Betty, Diane, Gene, J.T., Jerri, Larry, Natalie, and Ninez for allowing me to explore a new trail plus for their excellent company. It wasn't as well-marked as I had hoped and presented some unexpected difficulties as a result.

Waiting for us at Piney Campground were Evelyn, Marilyn (with her faithful pal, Honey), Pat, and Sally. They had started a campfire and fixed a delicious supper consisting mainly of Marilyn's wonderful spaghetti and meatballs.

Sunday morning we once again headed to Kentucky to avoid the deer hunting in the Tennessee portion of the Land Between the Lakes. We met at the wonderful Woodlands Nature Center whose staff was pleasant and helpful, other than failing to see the human side of Honey (they only saw her canine side). From there we hiked the Honker Bay Trail, where we did in-



1988 Tennessee Trails Association Hiking Schedule

The following is a list of *scheduled* TTA hikes during 1988. This by no means reflects all TTA hikes. Check each issue of your newsletter for details on these and other hikes. If you would like to lead a hike, contact the chairperson of your chapter (listed on the back of the newsletter).

CH = Chattanooga Chapter
CM = Cumberland Mountain Chapter

ME = Memphis Chapter
MU = Murfreesboro Chapter

N = Nashville Chapter
ST = State (All chapters)

January

1	N	New Year's Day Hike, Big South Fork Leader: Marilyn Wolven 615-226-4663
2	ME	Wapanocca Wildlife Refuge (Ark.) Leader: Jerri Bull 901-363-4408
16	ME	Herb Parsons Lake (Fisherville) Leader: Anne Lindholm 901-388-4123
16	MU	Hidden Springs Trail, Cedars of Lebanon Leader: Melissa Tucker 615-893-2747
17	N	Honey Creek Pocket Wilderness Leader: Paul Smith 615-388-0215
23-24	N	Roan Mountain Ski Trip - TBA

February

7	ME	Esperanza Trail (Ark.) Leader: Gene Jacobson 901-755-9073 Alternate Hike: Village Creek (Ark.)
7	N	Virgin Falls Leader: Paul Smith 615-388-0215
21	N	Radnor Lake Hike Leader: Ninez Giles 615-297-2281 or Anne Thurman 615-297-6680
27	ME	Meeman Shelby Forest State Park Leader: Jerri Bull 901-363-4408
28	N	Cedars of Lebanon Leader: Bob Barnett 615-449-4012

March

5-6	N	South Cumberland Rec. Area, Hobbs Cabin Backpack, TBA
12	ME	Workday at Shelby Forrest State Park Leader: Jerri Bull 901-363-4408
12	N	Warner Park Trails Leader: Marci Hamilton 615-383-7626
19	N	Work trip on Volunteer Trail Longhunter State Park
26-27	ME	Chickasaw State Park Leader: Julianne Barham 901-452-0085

April

2	MU	Wildflower Hikes, Long Hunter State Park Leader: Reggie Reeves 615-885-2422
2-3	N	Cumberland Falls State Park, KY -- Moonbow Watch Leader: Pat Anderson 615-383-2355
9	ME	Mt. LeConte (Smoky Mountains), \$48.49 per person Leader: Betty Porter 901-363-0213 Make reservations early.
10	MU	Short Springs Wildflower Hike, Tullahoma Leader: Dennis Horne 615-455-4742
10	N	Hidden Passage Trail Leader: Sam McQueen 615-385-9637
16	ME	Natchez Trace State Park Leader: Ray Burkett 901-386-8613
16-17	N	Long Hunter State Park Backpack Leader: Mike England 615-366-6213
23	ME	Spring in the Forest (Sponsored by Meeman Shelby St. Pk) Contact Gary McEntire, 901-876-5215

May

14-15	N	Big South Fork Wildflower Weekend Leader: Pat Anderson 615-383-2355
21	MU	Bike Hike, Historic Murfreesboro Leader: Maryedith McFarlin 615-896-1344
21-22	ME	Petit Jean State Park (Ark.) Leader: Betty Porter 901-363-0213
28-30	N	Waterfall Hike Leader: Dave Stidham 615-736-5115 (wk)
29	ME	Wolf River Float Trip Leader: Jill Norvell, 901-873-2149

June

5	N	Burnt Mill Bridge Leader: Vic Canada 615-868-1072
11-12	N	Neversink Leader: Evelyn Tretter 615-859-0566
18	ME	Swimming Party at Gene Jacobson's home 901-755-9073
18	MU	Stones River Battlefield Evening Hike/Picnic Leader: Donald Magee 615-893-9501
25-26	N	Smoky Mtn. Backpack -- TBA

July

2-4	N	Willow Grove Campout/Boatout Leader: Marilyn Wolven 615-226-4663
16-17	N	Duck River Canoe Trip Leader: Todd Yann 615-736-5115 (wk)
17	ME	Spring River Float Trip Leader: John Parrish, 901-795-7510
24	N	Lost Creek Cave -- TBA

August

6-7	N	Tims Ford Lake Campout Leader: Bob Barnett 615-449-4012
8-17	MU	Appalachian Trail Backpack Trip Leader: Glen Hanley 615-898-2501
20	MU	Summer Wildflowers/Lost Cove Cave, SCRA Leader: Bertha Chrietzberg 615-896-1146 or Randy Hedgepath 615-924-2980
20-21	N	Rock Island Splash & Campout Leader: Pat Anderson 615-383-2355
21	ME	Kamp Kiwani Picnic (Middleton, TN); 1:00 -- 6:00 p.m. Contact Jerri Bull, 901-363-4408

September

3-4	N	Defeated Creek Campout/Boatout Leader: Marilyn Wolven 615-226-4663
11	ME	Wolf River Hike, 1:00 p.m. Leader: Larry Smith, 901-458-2757
24	ME	Big Hill Pond (Pocohantas, TN) Leader: John Parrish, 901-795-7510
24-25	N	Smoky Mtn. Trip Leader: Bob Barnett 615-449-4012

October

7-9	ST	Annual Meeting (hosted by Memphis Chapter), Shelby Forest State Park
22	ME	Ft. Pillow State Park Leader: Betty Porter, 901-363-0213
22-23	MU	Overnight Backpack/Volunteer Trail, Long Hunter Leader: Reggie Reeves 615-885-2422
22-23	N	Indian Town Bluff -- TBA
29-30	N	Standing Stone & Cummings Falls Leader: Mary Atkinson 615-885-0230 (wk)

November

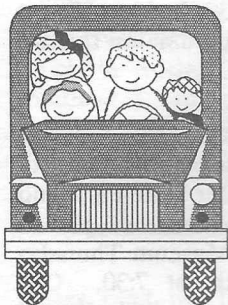
5-6	ME	Ouachita Trail (Ark.) Leader: Jo Dewitt, 901-452-0911
6	N	Laurel Snow Water Falls Leader: Kevin Kimbro 615-333-0629
20	N	Frozen Head -- TBA
27	ME	Annual Shelby Forest Thanksgiving Hike Leader: Charlie Norvell or Gary McEntire, Contact park office 901-876-5215

December

1	N	TTA/Audubon Christmas Party 6:30 p.m., Cumberland Museum, pot luck dinner
3	MU	Percy Priest Lake Canoe Float Leader: Reggie Reeves 615-885-2422
TBA	N	2nd Annual Christmas Party
10	ME	Village Creek State Park (Ark.) or Alternate hike -- Esperanza Trail; leader TBA
15	ME	Christmas Party

deed see some honkers but never heard them.

Unlike Saturday's hike, all five miles of this trail were well-marked and scenic. The weather was ideal. I hope my companions enjoyed the trail as much as I did. Kudos to Betty for the brownies she shared during both days of hiking. Happy trails... Bob Barnett



**Carpool
Coordinators**

CHATTANOOGA: Dot Lingerfelt,
615-842-8023

MEMPHIS: Gene Jacobson,
901-755-9073

MURFREESBORO: Maryedith
McFarlin, 615-896-1344

NASHVILLE: Evelyn Tretter,
615-859-0566

News From Our Parks

WARNER PARK NATURE CENTER Nashville, 352-6299

1-6 & 8 Winter Woods Hike - 9:00-noon, registration opens December 23; 2.5 miles

1-12 & 13 Astronomy Class - 7:00-9:00 p.m., registration opens December 29; slides and outdoor viewing

1-27 & 30 Trees in Winter - 1:00-3:00 p.m., registration opens January 13th and 19th

Memphis Chapter

JANUARY MEETING 1-21-88

Meet with us on January 21st for our regular meeting at the Kingsway Church at 6310 Poplar. The program will be about ferns with a few

wildflowers thrown in. As always, good food and fellowship await you so come and bring a friend.

TRIP CANCELLATION

The Petit Jean trip scheduled on December 4th was canceled due to the busy holiday season. We have rescheduled it for May of 1988.



Editor's Tidbits

- By Dot Fowler -

Welcome to 1988, Tennessee Trails' greatest year! I realize it is a bit early to be making such predictions, but such is the nature of New Year's Resolutions. I hope, however, that you will join me in striving to make this resolution a reality.

The first step is to fill out the enclosed membership form and mail it with your check to Dot Lingerfelt. This is the last month the membership form will be included in the newsletter until next November. If you have already mailed your dues, sign up a new member. See, I'm never satisfied.

The second step involves calling Ninez Giles, our new statewide coordinator of the Adopt-a-Trail program and volunteering to take care of your favorite trail. This means you promise to walk the trail at regular intervals, pick up litter, move blow downs, and report to trail authorities any other problems with the trail. Don't be like me; my favorite trail is the one from my couch to the refrigerator. I'm sure you can do better.

Step number three -- Spread the word about TTA and the glories of hiking. There are lots of lost souls out there wandering around in search of a good hike. Lead them into our fold. Get some of our new, snazzy brochures from your chapter's chairperson and take them to the office, the spa, wherever you think potential hikers are hiding. Talk about us. The best publicity is still "word of mouth".

Step Four -- Attend chapter meetings on a regular (or at least semi-regular) basis. Get to know us! The meetings are scheduled to inform, enlighten, and entertain you. They also give you the opportunity to network with a wide variety of people. If your chapter does not schedule monthly meetings, get on the phone and invite fellow chapter members into your own home. Yes, I know, I'm being unreasonable again.

Participation by the most number of members most of the time is the key to our success in 1988 and beyond. Not only will your participation help TTA, but it will also help you and your descendants. You will be healthier and Tennessee's parks will have better trails which can be enjoyed long after you are gone. Had John F. Kennedy known us, I'm sure he would have said, "Ask not what TTA can do for you; ask what you can do for TTA." The End and Amen.

WAPANOCCA WILDLIFE REFUGE HIKE Saturday, January 2nd

Join us for a hike and bird watch trip to Wapanocca, near Marion, Arkansas. The carpool will leave Kingsway at 7:00 a.m. or you can meet us at the office at the refuge at 8:00 a.m. Bring binoculars (optional), food and water, and of course, dress for the weather.

It can be rather cold at the refuge, but seeing all the ducks and geese will make it worthwhile. The hike could be shorter or longer, but will probably be around eight miles on level terrain. For more information, call Jerri Bull at 901-363-4408.

FISHERVILLE HIKE (HERB PARSONS LAKE) Saturday, January 16th

The carpool will leave Kingsway at 8:00 a.m. or you can meet us at 9:00 a.m. at the store at Herb Parsons Lake for this 8-mile hike. Bring food and water. This is an easy hike around the lake. If you need more information, call hike leader Anne Lindholm at 901-388-4123.

Murfreesboro Chapter

CEDARS OF LEBANON HIKE January 16

View nature's beauty in winter! A hidden spring, sinkholes, cedar glades, and deciduous forests are just a few of the many attractions offered in Cedars of Lebanon State Park. Join us for a 4.5-mile hike on Saturday, January 16th. Meet in the Nature Center parking lot at 10:00 a.m. Please bring a sack lunch and some water.

For more information, contact Melissa Tucker, a graduate teaching assistant at MTSU and a former naturalist at Cedars of Lebanon. Melissa's address is Box 8281, MTSU, Murfreesboro, TN

37132. Her phone number is 615-893-2747.



Nashville Chapter

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY/HIKE WEEKEND Dec. 31 - Jan. 2

Get away from all the drunk drivers of the city and join us at Standing Stone State Park on New Year's Eve as we bring in 1988. A cabin has been rented which sleeps eight but there will be plenty of space for additional bed rolls. Bring a covered dish for the New Year's Eve supper which will begin at 7:30 p.m. CST in cabin 1-A.

At 10:00 a.m. January 1st, we will drive to the Big South Fork to hike the Angel Falls Overlook Trail. Those of you not coming on 12/31 can meet us at the Leatherwood Ford trailhead at 10. On January 2nd, all interested hikers will walk the trails at Standing Stone.

For more information or to reserve a bed, call Marilyn Wolven at 226-4663.

NEW NASHVILLE CHAPTER OFFICERS

Mike England has graciously accepted the post of Chairperson for 1988. Mike is fairly new to TTA and, I'm told is into backpacking. Vice-Chairperson is Marilyn Wolven. Marilyn has already lined up two humdinger meetings. Micky Sutton is our Secretary/Treasurer -- have all of you bought your TTA bumper sticker yet? Thanks to our outgoing 1987 officers for their hard work this past year.

**** JANUARY MEETING ** January 28, 7:30**

Our first speaker in 1988 will be Deb Beasley of the Warner Park Nature Center. Deb will teach us how to identify trees in the winter by their bark, twigs, etc. We've heard about the Nature Center's good programs. Now is your chance to check one out. Join us Thursday night at 7:30, January 28th at the Cumberland Museum for this informative discussion.

If you've read Bob Barnett's views in this issue on the possible placement of the zoo at Long Hunter State Park, and you want to hear the other side, join us at the Cumberland Museum Thursday night, February 25th, at 7:30. Our speaker will be Connie Cloak, Executive Director of the Zoological Society of Tennessee who will discuss the society's reasons for wanting a zoo in our area and why Long Hunter State Park is their preferred site. Naturally, there will be a question/answer session afterwards.

PARTY REPORT 1st Annual Christmas Party

Having had a previous engagement, I was after ten arriving at the 1st Annual Christmas bash at Marilyn Wolven's. I was afraid I had missed all the fun but there was plenty of fun yet to be had. Marilyn's dining room table was literally covered with tempting food and TTA members were spread throughout her house. I never counted but there were lots of folks in attendance. We all had fun handing out gag gifts. Mike England, I forget -- what did your sticker say? Marilyn, I dare you to wear that T-shirt on the next outing!

Twenty or so of us hung around for a lively Trivia Pursuit game, finally heading for home around 2:00 a.m.! Just for the record, Team Three won the game but only because they got lucky. Thanks Marilyn for opening up your home to us. We all enjoyed ourselves. Thanks also to those of you who brought pet food for the Humane Society. -- Dot Fowler

TRIP REPORT Bearwaller Gap

was one of those cold and dreary winter days when we shuttled from the Defeated Creek trailhead to the Tater Knob Overlook area to begin our hike on the Bearwaller Gap trail.

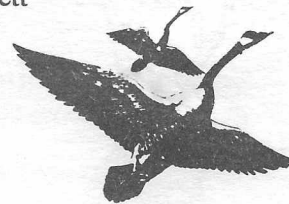
From the overlook, Bill Hager pointed out Short Mountain far in the distance and as we hiked, he showed us spots which in Spring will be covered in wildflowers. In addition, Bill pointed

out a commercial fishing camp, an unusual fruit tree, and of course, the bear wallerin' spot.

Tagging along from a distance was a dog we named Pathfinder. Once, much to our pleasure, he flushed out a doe. Joining Bill, Pathfinder, and myself were Ruth Ann Henry, Lawrence and Natalie Lerner, and Micky Sutton.

The trail was in better shape than on previous trips and thanks must be sent

to whomever has taken care of it. Rain threatened but never materialized and lunch was eaten at a spot with a nice view of the lake. Two even nicer bluffs were found after lunch. Although this is a roller coaster of a trail, it was enjoyed by all. Happy trails again... Bob Barnett



Hike Leaders

Please read the following if you are submitting material to the newsletter and if you are leading a hike.

When scheduling a hike:

A. Submit a detailed but concise description of your upcoming hike in time for its inclusion in the preceding newsletter (deadline - 15th of month).

Please include the following:

1. Chapter hosting the hike

2. Date of hike
3. Time and place to assemble
4. Number of miles to be traveled and/or length of time involved in reaching the trailhead
5. Length of the hike itself in miles and/or hours
6. Difficulty rating (1-5, where 5 is most difficult)
7. Suggested clothing & footwear (e.g., walking shoes or hiking boots, rain-gear, etc.)
8. Suggested provisions &/or equipment (e.g., lunch, water, flashlight, etc.)
9. Person and phone number to contact

(include area code)

B. Submit a brief trip report for the newsletter following the hike. Due to limited newsletter space, try to limit this to one page typed, or two pages written.

C. Mail a list of all participating hikers' names to:

Pat Anderson
4904 Colorado Avenue
Nashville, TN 37209

Please register me as a member for the calendar year 1988 (Jan. through Dec.) with the type of membership checked:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Student (fulltime undergraduate & high school)	\$ 3.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Individual	\$ 8.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Family dependent (resides with an individual member)	\$ 3.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Supporting	\$ 15.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Life	\$ 150.00

MAIL DUES TO:
TENNESSEE TRAILS ASSN.
P.O. BOX 4913
CHATTANOOGA, TN
37405

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.

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

HOME PHONE: _____ WORK PHONE: _____



Upcoming Hikes

MEMPHIS CHAPTER

- 1-2 Wapanocca Wildlife Refuge -- details this issue
- 1-16 Herb Parsons Lake -- details this issue
- 2-7 Esperanza Trail -- details next month
- 2-27 Meeman Shelby Forest State Park -- details next month

MURFREESBORO CHAPTER

- 1-16 Hidden Springs Trail -- details this issue

NASHVILLE CHAPTER

- 1-1 New Year's Day Hike -- details this issue
- 1-17 Honey Creek Pocket Wilderness -- No details received. Contact Paul Smith for details, 1-388-0215
- 1-23/24 Roan Mountain Ski Trip -- no details received, assume postponed
- 2-7 Virgin Falls -- details next month
- 2-21 Radnor Lake Hike -- details next month
- 2-28 Cedars of Lebanon -- details next month

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Come Hike With Us!
Tennessee Trails Association
P.O. Box 4913
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37405



Evan Means
200 Butler Road
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