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## The Tennessee Conservation League

The Tennessee Conservation League held its 42nd Annual Meeting in Gatlinburg on March 4th and 5th. TCL is the state affiliate of the National Wildlife Federation. The League, along with the Tennessee Environmental Council, lead the way in Tennessee in protecting and preserving the environment.

Many of the most active TCL members are fishermen and/or hunters. It should come as no surprise that hunters and fishermen are interested in clean air and water and in preserving wildlife habitat, but TCL's membership is by no means restricted to them. The organization has over eighty affiliate clubs and they are varied in both intentions and purposes.

The League is perhaps at the forefront of conservation education efforts in the state. One of their programs is Project C.E.N.T.S., a conservation program for Tennessee students. Other programs include both youth and teacher conservation summits and being the state sponsor for National Wildlife Week.

One unrealized dream of the Tennessee Conservation League is to set up a Conservation Resource Center. Much of the organization's fundraising efforts are centered around establishing this as a one-stop source of conservation education resources. It is hoped that it could serve as a distribution point for all manner of private,

state, and federal agencies and the educational materials they produce. A suitable site is being sought, as well as \$350,000 to set up and staff this center. Of special interest to TTA members is the plan to construct demonstration interpretive trails at the Center's site.

The Tennessee Conservation League is also involved in bald eagle restoration and in a Corporate Conservation Council. As trail users, we know of the dedication that the Hiwassee Land Company has provided to Tennessee's pocket wilderness areas, such as Virgin Falls and Honey Creek. Many of us are also aware of the support Tennessee Eastman gives the Appalachian Trail. These two companies are members of TCL's Corporate Conservation Council.

The organization prides itself on being a watchdog over local, state, and federal natural resource management programs. TCL has provided much input into the state's legislative process and has been instrumental in the passage of the state's air and water quality laws, the creation of the Wildlife Resources Agency, Scenic Rivers Act, Hunters Education Law, and the Tennessee Endangered Species Act. Another active battleground for TCL is the fight to preserve as much of the rapidly disappearing wetlands in the state as possible. Fortunately, the wetlands cause has gained the support of the Nature Conservancy, too.

It is the League's opinion that water quality is the most pressing conservation issue facing Tennesseans today and that theme was a dominant one at the Gatlinburg conference. One water quality expert expressed the idea that the water issue no longer centers around such recreational concerns as is the water safe for fishing and swimming but whether or not the water is safe to drink.

It comes as no surprise that the person named Conservationist of the Year has been involved in the water pollution issue. Nelson Ross of Jefferson City lead the fight for the Dead Pigeon River Council to stop Champion Paper Company from polluting the Pigeon River which flows out of North Carolina into Tennessee. Marge McCormick of Nashville was named winner of the Communicator of the Year award for her work with the Tennessee Environmental Council.

Another award which should be of considerable interest to TTA members was given to Roy Ashley of the State Forestry Division. This award was given for setting up an education program and for the upgrading of the fire prevention program. Ashley said that last year's fires burned the largest number of acres since 1952. Ashley's leadership resulted in the prosecution of some of 1987's arsonists. Those arsonists who did not receive a prison term paid their debt by planting trees.

TCL presents numerous annual conservation achievement awards in cooperation with Sears, Roebuck and Company and the National Wildlife Federation in addition to those listed above. The theme of the Tennessee Conservation League is "That the fu-

ture may know the bounties of the past." That seems to be a goal worth preserving.

TCL is recruiting members. Many of their services are provided free of charge to members and although their

Center is not a reality as yet, many resources can still be provided. For more information, write or visit TCL's office at 1720 West End Avenue, Suite 300, Nashville, TN, 615-329-4230.

## State News

### Carson Brewer's *Just Over the Next Ridge* — Information

Several months ago, Bob Barnett wrote a review of Carson Brewer's latest book. Since that time, numerous folks have written for more information. The book is published by the Knoxville News-Sentinel, Knoxville, TN 37916, and costs \$6.95. Please contact them for ordering copies.

### News From Evan Means

Evan Means, a founder of TTA, is in the process of updating his book, *Tennessee Trails*. He writes that TTA members across the state have been giving him lots of assistance along with the Department of Conservation. He hopes to get the revisions to the publisher by the end of March.

The Ninth National Trails Symposium will be held at the Unicoi State Park Lodge and Conference Center near Helen, Georgia, September 11-13. TTA should be one of the sponsors. Co-sponsors confirmed in January included U.S. Forest Service, Georgia State Parks and Department of Natural Resources, Society of American Foresters, Southeastern Recreation Research Conference, Southern Appalachian Research/Resource Management Consortium, National Park Service, and several local and regional trail organizations.

Helen, Georgia is in one of those "you can't get there from here" situations, nestled in a beautiful part of the southern mountains, near the famous Chatooga ("Deliverance") River. Helen has become widely known for its Swiss Village facade and the annual Oktoberfest, as well as being the jumping off place for the Chatooga.

TVA's trails manager, Terry Chilcoat is a member of the NTC Board of Directors. Donald Todd, TTA past president, appeared on the program of the first National Trails Symposium in Washington, DC in 1972. David Rhyne and Evan have served on the NTC Board. TTA was the principal sponsor of Southeast Regional Trails Conferences in 1974, '76, and '82 and we were co-sponsors for the 1978 SE Conference at Cumberland Falls, KY in 1978.

### Adopt-a-Trail Update

Inserted in this issue is a copy of the Adopt-a-Trail Inspection Form. If you have adopted a trail or plan to adopt a trail, use this form for your reports.

More trails have been adopted in the past month! They include: the seven trails at Edwin Warner Park, one of the Radnor Lake trails, two trails in the Cherokee National Forest, the Hidden Passage Trail in Pickett State Park, and the Hobbs Cabin Trail at Savage Gulf.

If I don't have word of your adoption, please let me know by calling 615-297-2281 or writing, 2001 20th Avenue South, Nashville, TN 37212. — Ninez Giles

### March 7th Trails Council Meeting Report

"Trail users unite!" is the cry of the new State Trails Council of Tennessee following their second meeting, March 7th. All trail users are invited to become involved with this trail advocacy group.

The second meeting can best be described as an assessment of trails within the state in terms of the past, the present, and the future. The group is on top of what is happening with some

of the latest trail users — the mountain bike riders.

The group recognizes that Dept. of Conservation officials need to be made aware of the vast number of trail users within the state so that trails can receive the resources needed to maintain and preserve them. Discussion also revolved around trails being promoted among our friends within the state legislature.

The point was made that publicizing trails can be a boon to the tourist industry for the Dept. of Conservation and for the state as a whole. One idea presented was the suggested promotion of the Cumberland Trail as an in-state alternative to the often overcrowded Appalachian Trail. The State Trails Council is strongly advocating the re-instatement of the Trails Administrator position. Trail work presently goes on, but the supervision could be improved upon.

Groups actively represented on the Council include: TTA, the Audubon Society, the Harpeth River Coalition, the Sierra Club, Tennessee Environmental Council, Tennessee Environmental Education Assn., Tennessee Ornithological Society, Tennessee Recreation and Parks Assn., Tennessee Scenic Rivers Assn., Warner Park Nature Center, plus horse trail users and mountain bike users. In addition, representatives of the Corps of Engineers and the Dept. of Conservation attend. Other groups, including private trail promoters like Cumberland Gardens are kept abreast of developments.

Future issues to be discussed include the feasibility of developing West Tennessee's Chickasaw Bluffs Trail into a long distance trail, a discussion of motorized trail vehicles, etc. The

next meeting will be held on Monday, March 28th, 7:00 p.m., at the Customs House, 701 Broadway in Nashville. For more information, contact the chairperson, Bob Brown at 615- 748-4816 (wk). — Bob Barnett

## Smoky Mountain Field School

The Great Smoky Mountains National Park, in cooperation with the University of Tennessee Division of Continuing Education, invites you to participate in its Smoky Mountain Field School. The School consists of intensive weekend and five-day field courses emphasizing outdoor exploration of the Smoky Mountains, complemented by classroom activities. All courses are limited to small numbers to assure individual attention.

Courses include Winter Field Botany, a hike and overnight stay at Mt. LeConte, Botanical Photography, Animal Life in Smoky Mountain Streams, Geologic Evolution of the Great Smokies, and many more. Most classes are 1-2 days, costing \$25-45.00.

For more information, contact Dr. Gayle D. Cooper, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, 2016 Lake Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37996-3515, 615-974-6688.

## APPALACHIAN TRAIL VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Join an Appalachian Trail crew! AT volunteer crews offer you life in the outdoors, the satisfaction of hard work, and a job well done, plus the camaraderie of crew life.

Help build and preserve the world-famous Appalachian Trail and learn outdoor life skills under the leadership of experts from the ATC (Appalachian Trail Conference), the Green Mountain Club, and natural resource specialists in national forests and parks.

Appalachian Trail crews will be working in three areas: Southern, Mid-Atlantic, and Vermont. The Southern crew, popularly known as the Konnarock crew, is based in southern Virginia, and serves the Trail primarily in

Virginia, North Carolina, and Tennessee. From a centrally-located base camp, the Mid-Atlantic crew will be working in Pennsylvania, New York, and New Jersey. The Vermont crew will be working in Vermont.

Concentrating on heavy construction and resources management problems, the crews work on projects which might not otherwise be tackled by local clubs and public agencies with limited trails budgets. Project sites include national forests, national parks, and National Park Service lands purchased to permanently protect the Trail.

The work may include new trail design and construction, rock work, log work, shelter construction, rebuilding eroded trail, vista clearing, and a variety of other resource management projects along the AT. The work is often physically demanding, requiring patience and perseverance while living with limited comforts in the outdoors. Trail crews of 4-6 volunteers with a skilled leader will work on projects from Thursday through Monday, and return to base camp for Tuesday/Wednesday "weekends". Crew members can work for one week or as long as the whole season.

For more information, contact:

**Appalachian Trail Volunteer Crew**  
c/o ATC Southern Virginia Field  
Office  
P.O. Box 738  
Blacksburg, Virginia 24060  
703-552-1784

## CHARIT CREEK HOSTEL Begins New Season

Charit Creek Hostel, a lodge in the wilderness of the Big South Fork National Recreation Area, opened for the 1988 season March 18th. Charit Creek is operated by American Youth Hostels, Inc., a non-profit organization. Charit Creek offers a lodge with bunkhouses, camp store, and a commons area for dining. Two rustic cabins, each with bunks for 12, a fully-furnished kitchen building, and an 8-stall horse barn are also available.

For groups, a planning service is available as are river/lodging packages. For

more information, call 615-879-4289 or write Charit Creek Hostel, P.O. Box 20, Pall Mall, TN 38577.

## Cumberland Trail News

### SUMMER WORK TRIPS PLANNED

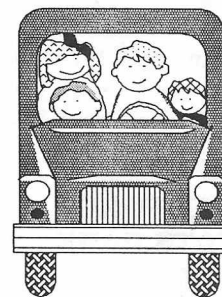
Summer work trips on Cumberland Trail Section 2 are scheduled for two weekends: June 4-5 and June 18-19. Details will be printed in June's *Tennessee Trails*.

### CUMBERLAND TRAIL BACKPACK

**Carr Gap to Woodson Gap**  
April 16-17, April 30-May 1

The April 16-17 backpack will be a joint venture with the Smoky Mountains Hiking Club and the April 30 to May 1 trip will be with the Sierra Club. Hiking distance: 15 miles, with a maximum climb of 800 feet, rated moderate.

Mike Dahl, who supervised the building of the Cumberland Trail from Cumberland Gap to Lone Mountain State Forest, says this is the most spectacular part of Sections 1, 2, and 3.



**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



Many good overlooks of Powell Valley (and Clinch and Bays Mountains and the Smokies beyond), several rock-houses and a natural bridge will keep this ridge-top hike interesting.

The first day we cross Rogers Gap and Wilson Gap, covering a little over eight miles, and stop for the night at a camping area just south of McLain Rock. A quarter mile down the mountain from the campsite is Alum Cave, a huge rockhouse with a hundred foot waterfall. Continuing about six miles south along the crest on Sunday, we drop off the mountain at Woodson Gap. A car shuttle will be arranged by CT manager, Bobby Harbin, and our cars will be parked at the CT office during the hike.

Meet Saturday morning at 8:00 a.m. Eastern time at the CT office in Cove Lake State Park. For more information, contact Mike Dahl, 933-0883 or Bob Brown, 748-4816.

## Memphis Chapter

### CHAPTER MEETING April 21st, 7:30 p.m. Kingsway Church

Mr. Knox Martin, of the Memphis zoo's raptor rehabilitation program, will bring some of his birds of prey and talk about how they were rescued. He may also discuss the zoo's multimillion-dollar expansion plan, and the new tropical birdhouse which has just reopened. Bird lovers, don't miss this one!

### NATHAN BEDFORD FOREST STATE PARK April 8-9

If you want to go up on the 8th and camp, call Betty Porter at 363-0213 or Jerri Bull at 363-4408. The day hike will begin at 10:00 a.m., Saturday at the Park office. The carpool leaves Kingsway Church at 6:45 a.m. We will hike 8-10 miles over fairly difficult terrain, but the wildflowers should be wonderful. Bring water, lunch, and snacks.

### NATCHEZ TRACE STATE PARK April 16th

The carpool will leave Kingsway Church at 7:30 a.m., or you can meet us at the park office at 10:00 a.m. The hike will be about 8 miles over easy terrain. Bring lunch and plenty of water, and be prepared for warm weather. For more information, call Ray Burkett at 386-8613.

### SPRING IN THE FOREST Meeman-Shelby Forest State Park April 23rd

The annual park-sponsored festival features events beginning at 8:00 a.m., including bird walks, pontoon boat rides, an edible plant walk, raptor demonstrations, etc. For a complete schedule, call the park office at 876-5215. TTA will lead a 3-mile hike on the Woodland Trail beginning at 9:30 a.m. This is the same trail we hiked on February 27th, and it is quite steep. Boots are advised and mosquito protection is a necessity.

### CATHEDRAL

- By Debbie Gilbert -

Mountain laurel -  
Pink tiffany lamps

Flame azalea -  
Cool burning bush

Congregations of bluets -  
Royal carpet at trailside

Smell the green,  
Taste the earth,  
Climb the Smokies -  
God's springtime residence.

### TRIP REPORT Wapanocca National Wildlife Refuge

It was a bitterly cold Sunday when fifteen stalwart hikers started down the road to Wapanocca in Arkansas. This once private hunting and fishing lake is a "must see" trip that we try to make every February to see the migrating

water fowl as they spend part of the winter here on their journey south.

About an hour's drive from Memphis, this spot on the Mississippi River Flyway usually provides a thrilling view of Canadian geese, ducks, hawks, and sometimes eagles as they feed on the plentiful supply of fish and small rodents found here. The hike consists of about a six and a half mile walk in on a gravel road. This makes for less than ideal walking conditions, but the wildlife to be seen often more than compensates for the sore joints that result from the hard, uneven walking surface.

On February 7th, however, the good fellowship and fun of being outdoors had to suffice, since sightings of animals were limited to a few woodpeckers, a hawk or two, a few ducks in flight, and a weasel climbing over a log out in the lake. Much of the lake surface was frozen which provided an austere kind of beauty when contrasted with the dramatic black silhouettes of cypress trees and other leafless trunks rising out of the interestingly patterned lake surface.

On this hike we had several new folks with us including two newsmen - Paul Turner, a columnist for the *Memphis Commercial Appeal* and Steve Jones, a photographer for the same. We realized that we would bet a nice write-up from their participation, but none of us



TRAIL INSPECTION FORM  
ADOPT-A-TRAIL PROGRAM



NAME OF TRAIL \_\_\_\_\_  
LOCATION OF TRAIL \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE OF TRAIL INSPECTION \_\_\_\_\_  
INSPECTOR'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_

Be as detailed as possible in regard to location and explanation of condition.  
Summarize any maintenance tasks that you performed. In addition, list any recommendations you might have for the management agency in charge of the particular trail.

I. TRAIL ENVIRONS . . . . .

Condition:

Maintenance Performed:

Recommendations for Additional Maintenance:

II. TREAD. . . . .

Condition:

Maintenance Performed:

Recommendations for Additional Maintenance:

III. FOOT BRIDGES AND STILES. . . . .

Condition:

Maintenance Performed:

Recommendations for Additional Maintenance:

IV. SIGNS AND BLAZES. . . . .

Condition:

Maintenance Performed:

Recommendations for Additional Maintenance:

V. CAMPSITES. . . . .

Condition:

Maintenance Performed:

Recommendations for Additional Maintenance:

expected the kind of coverage that we actually got. About two weeks after the hike, the article was the feature story in the Friday edition of the entertainment magazine section. We were on the cover and had several nice pictures, all nearly unrecognizable because of the angle and the huge amounts of clothing we were swathed in. The story was a good one, however, and may inspire new hikers to join us on future hikes.

Thirteen miles in the cold, blustery weather on that ungiving surface was tiring, of course, but after a long week of indoor confinement, most of us felt that it was a treat just to be outside, walking and talking with the interesting, friendly people that hiking attracts. — Gene Jacobson

NOTE: If you would like a copy of the article in the *Memphis Commercial Appeal*, contact Jerri Bull or Debbie Gilbert.

### TRIP REPORT Meeman Shelby Forest

The calendar said February, but temperatures were more like an April day, with balmy breezes and lots of sunshine when we hike the 3-mile Woodland Trail at Shelby Forest.

Five of us had gone out in the morning and hiked nine miles on the Chickasaw Bluff Trail before arriving at the park office for the official 1:00 p.m. hike, which was sponsored by the park. On arriving, we found approximately 65 people waiting to begin the hike, and about half of the group were Cub Scouts (as in Boy Scouts) who were full of energy and ready to be off and running.

Due to circumstances beyond the control of the park, there was no one to lead the hike, so naturally, TTA came to the rescue. Fortunately, Ray Burkett was there with some of his older boys from his Scout troop, and they began the hike with the younger Cub Scouts. The rest of us hiked with the adults who had shown up for the hike.

Most everyone enjoyed the hike, which is rugged in spots, but the great weather helped. We saw a few early

spring flowers, spring beauties and harbingers of spring, pushing up through the dead leaves and heard a hawk in the distance. With all the noise from the people, though, all wildlife probably fled for their lives. TTA members helping with the hike in addition to Ray, were Anne Lindholm, Gene Jacobson, Betty Porter, Jerri Bull, and Edith Caywood. — Jerri Bull

## Murfreesboro Chapter

### SHORT SPRINGS NATURE AREA

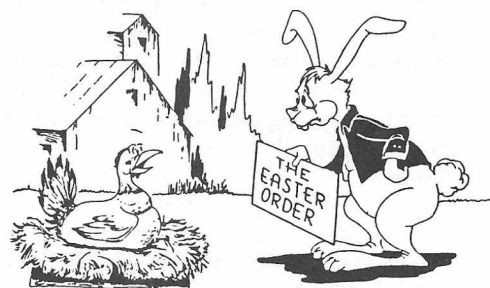
Sunday, April 10th  
1:00 p.m. (CST)

Meet at the Dairy Queen in Tullahoma, TN. If coming from the direction of Manchester, take Exit 111 from I24. Travel along state highway 55 to Tullahoma. The Dairy Queen is on the left, one block past the first traffic light. Leading the hike is Dennis Horn (615-455-5742 Hm, or 615-454-7447 wk.).

The annual spring wildflower hike to the Short Springs Nature Area has become a tradition among Tullahoma area residents. Come join TTA, the Association of Amateur Field Botanists, the Tennessee Native Plant Society, and the Tullahoma Historical Society for a short afternoon hike to an extremely rich site for spring wildflowers.

Short Springs is a 550-acre tract owned by Tullahoma and was previously the source of the city's water. Recently, a proposal has been made to make it a State Natural area and a city day-use park. The tract contains numerous ravines, bluffs, and waterfalls. There are moss-covered seepage slopes and dripping springs. Wildflowers are abundant below the waterfalls and along the creeks. Short Springs contains the only known site for *Nestronia umbellula* in the state. Last summer, *Melanthium latifolium*, a rare plant in Tennessee, was verified as occurring. This plant is known only from the Unaka Mountain Range.

Be prepared for a round trip hike of less than one mile into a moderately steep ravine, to the base of beautiful Machine Falls. From there we will rock hop across BoBo Creek to Busby Falls. A short (but steep) climb above the falls leads to an unusual parquet floor, a creek bottom composed of Chattanooga shale. Expect ankle-deep wading at a couple of creek crossings for those hiking the entire loop.



## Nashville Chapter

### APRIL MEETING

April 28, 7:30 p.m.  
Cumberland Museum

Join us Thursday, April 28, for our monthly gathering. At press time, details of April's program were not yet complete, but it promises to be a good one as usual.

### MOONBOW WATCH

Cumberland Falls State Park, KY  
April 1-2-3

Cumberland Falls boasts having one of only two moonbows in this world, the other being at Victoria Falls, South Africa, on the Zambia River.

A moonbow may be seen on a clear, full moonlit night if the correct wind direction and wind velocity are present. It is an arch of white light beginning at the base of the falls and continuing downstream.

A two bedroom cottage has been reserved for Friday and Saturday night, and there is a campground nearby. It is a 4 1/2-hour drive from Nashville, but there will be a crackling fire and a pot of bubbling stew waiting for those arriving anytime after 3:00 p.m. CST.

Bring food for all meals beginning with Saturday's breakfast and a little money for the cost of the stew. Bedding, towels, and cooking utensils are furnished.

On Saturday, we'll hike the moderate five mile Buffalo Canyon Loop Trail outside the park to see one of Kentucky's most beautiful natural arches. There should be time on Sunday morning for hiking one of the shorter trails within the park before starting home.

This Easter weekend trip is open to all chapter members. Come join us for a fun weekend. Any questions, call Pat Anderson at 383-2355.

### **LONGHUNTER STATE PARK VOLUNTEER TRAIL**

#### **Overnighter**

**April 16-17**

After the excellent backpacking program presented at our March chapter meeting, now is the time to pack up and experience, first hand, two days and one night on a trail. The Volunteer Trail at Longhunter is an easy, Class I, 6-mile path, mostly hugging the shoreline of Percy Priest Lake. Take with you all necessary gear, food, water, or water treatment tablets and a good sense of humor.

Meet either at the K-Mart parking lot on Donelson Pike adjacent to I-40 at 9:00 a.m. or at the trailhead at 9:45 a.m. If you have any questions, call Mike England at 366-6213.

### **HIDDEN PASSAGE TRAIL**

**April 17**  
**(Changed from April 10)**

This trail is in Pickett State Park near Jamestown. It is a 10-15 mile look, depending on enthusiasm for side trails and how far we have to park from the trailhead (only room for 2 cars at trailhead). It is a Class II with some III

sections. Lots of good food, as is TTA tradition, is required.

Meet at Drother's Restaurant in Jamestown at 7:00 a.m. on Sunday, April 10th for a convoy for the 15 miles to the park. Drothers is on the main drag (Hwy. 127) on the east side of the street.

Overnight camping can be found close to the trailhead in Pickett Park. I will probably go up the night before the hike if anyone is interested in joining me. For camping information, call the park headquarters (615-879-5821). There also is a good, cheap motel in Jamestown called Cargills. For more information, call Sam McQueen at 385-9637.

### **BIG SOUTH FORK WILDFLOWER WEEKEND**

**April 23-24**  
**(Changed from May 14-15)**

Join the Nashville Chapter for two days of wildflower watching on the Cumberland Plateau. All hikes will begin at Leatherwood Ford, where the bridge on Highway 297 crosses the Big South Fork River.

Saturday morning, we'll hike to O & W Bridge, a walking distance of 4.6 miles. Meet at 9:00 a.m. CST. This is a Class II hike and you should bring water and lunch.

Saturday afternoon, we will hike to Angel Falls, a distance of 4 miles. Meet us at 2:00 p.m. CST for a Class I hike. Bring water.

On Sunday morning, hike with us to Grandview Overlook (Angel Falls Overlook) which is 4.5 miles. This is a Class II hike. Meet us at 10:00 a.m. and bring lunch and water.

Saturday night accommodations include a large cabin reserved at Pickett State Park which sleeps 8 people and costs \$58.00 (cost to be divided among those sleeping there). There also is a campground at Pickett State Park with a modern bathhouse at a cost of \$6.50 per site for two adults. In addition, Bandy Creek has a campground with modern bathhouse which costs \$8.00 per site per two adults.

Pickett State Park is approximately 18 miles from Leatherwood Ford and Bandy Creek Campground is approximately 2 miles. Advance reservations are not necessary for camp sites. Any questions? Call Pat Anderson at 383-2355.

### **TRIP REPORT**

#### **Bledsoe Creek State Park**

**February 28th**

Pat Maes (Marci Hamilton's son) led the Bledsoe Creek State Park hike for much of the afternoon. This just goes to show that I am still a sucker for compliments on my hiking patch coat of many colors and that I cultivate hike leaders early.

The throng that shared the experience with me were: Jane Holladay, Marci Hamilton, Pat Maes, Jim Melton, Carroll and David Viera, Sally Garrard, Bonnie and Horace Chappell, Betty Forehand, Marilynne Turner, Dorothy Sills, Elizabeth Gerlock, Bill Hager, Evelyn Tretter, Judy Minger, Lavonne Cunningham, Carolyn Reese-Dukes, Van McCarver, Phil Matthews, Michelle Douglas, Susie Burke-Alverado, Dian Cash, Ninez Giles, and Jacki ?.

Thanks to Bledsoe staffer Mike Robertson who opened up the office so that hikers could get a copy of a lovely pamphlet called *Wildlife at Bledsoe Creek — Birdsong, Wood Duck Cove Interpretive Trails*.

Bledsoe Creek has some great short trails which are kept in good shape by the park staff and occasional work outings by some juveniles trying to learn from past mistakes. The trails could still benefit from some additional care if you are interested in adopting one or more of them. Contact Ninez Giles if interested.

Special thanks to Dian (yes, that's how she spells it), Ninez, Dorothy, and Jacki for letting me hike with them at Long Hunter after the Bledsoe hike. Yes, ladies, I did finish the Inland Trail before dark. Happy trails to all who participated. — Bob Barnett





## News From Our Parks

### **WARNER PARK NATURE CENTER**

Nashville, 615-352-6299

#### **Spring Wildflower Hikes:**

April 2 9:00 a.m. to noon (registration opens 3/21)

April 2 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

April 5 9:00 a.m. to noon (registration opens 3/22)

April 13 9:00 a.m. to noon (registration opens 3/30)

4/27 **Night Hike** — 6:30-9:00 p.m.  
Registration opens April 13. No flashlights, please.

### **FALL CREEK FALLS STATE PARK**

Pikeville, 615-881-3241

4/9,10 **Backpacking at Fall Creek** — Join us on this thirteen mile trek through some of the more remote portions of the park. Rental equipment is available from local outfitters. This is for both beginning and experienced backpackers.

### **MEEMAN SHELBY STATE PARK**

901-876-5215

4/2 **Bird Walk** — Spring migration allows for viewing many species not normally found in the park. Bring your binoculars and wear walking shoes for an interesting morning of birding. Meet at the Visitor Center by 8:30 a.m. We'll be back by 10:30 a.m.

4/23 **Spring in the Forest** — see Memphis Chapter section for TTA plans

### **FROZEN HEAD STATE NATURAL AREA**

Wartburg, 615-346-3318

4/9 **20th Annual Spring Wildflower Pilgrimage** — Meet at Picnic Shelter C.

4/15 **Slideshow** — Meet at park amphitheater.

4/16 **Bird Walk & Hike** — Hike will begin at Picnic Shelter C. Bird walk begins at Park office.

4/17 **Hike** — Begins at Picnic Shelter C.

4/22 **Slide Show** — Meet at park amphitheater.

4/23 **Hike** — Meet at Picnic Shelter C.

4/24 **Hike** — Meet at Picnic Shelter C.

4/30 **Hike** — Meet at Picnic Shelter C.

### **REELFOOT LAKE STATE PARK**

901-253-7756

4/29-5/1 **Spring Festival** — All activities are centered at the Airpark Inn. Campground also available. Please bring field glasses, cameras, and appropriate clothing. Field trips may include driving your vehicle or carpooling.

### **CEDARS OF LEBANON STATE PARK**

Lebanon, 615-444-9394

4/22,23 **Wildflower Pilgrimage** — Activities will include bird walks, wildflower excursions, etc.

### **HIWASSEE STATE SCENIC RIVER**

615-338-4133

4/15-17 **Outdoor Skills Workshop** — Whitewater canoeing, introductory course. River safety, terminology, equipment, basic paddle strokes, river reading, and basic whitewater techniques.

### **SOUTH CUMBERLAND RECREATION AREA**

615-924-2980

4/2 **Bluebell Island Wildflower Excursion** — Meet at 10:00 a.m. at Tyson Foods Plant on Hwy. 50 at the Elk River; 1 mile, strenuous.

4/3 **Pound Gulf Wildflower Excursion** — Meet at 1:00 p.m. at the Savage Gulf Ranger Station; 4 miles, strenuous.

4/9 **Shake Rag Hollow** — Meet at 1:00 p.m. at Green's View in Sewanee; 3 miles, moderate.



TTA Hikers On a Recent Outing (Picture by Charlie Hann)



4/9 Greeter Falls Excursion — Meet at 1:00 p.m. at the Stone Door Ranger Station; 2 miles, moderate.

4/10 Abbo's Alley Guided Tour — Meet at 1:00 p.m. at trailhead near Sewanee Stadium; 1 mile, easy.

4/10 Stone Door Wildflower Pilgrimage — Meet at 1:00 p.m. at the Stone Door Ranger Station; 4 miles, very strenuous.

4/16 Fiery Gizzard Trail — Meet at

10:00 a.m. at the Visitor Center with lunch, good shoes and a camera; strenuous.

4/16 Bridal Veil Falls of Sewanee — Meet at 1:00 p.m. at Morgan's Steep; 3 miles, moderate.

4/17 Hawk Watch — Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the "Cross" Overlook (University View) in Sewanee. Join other bird lovers in hopes of seeing migrating birds of prey from a grand overlook.

4/17 Lost Cove Cave Tour — Meet at 1:00 p.m. at Carter Natural Area Parking lot. Bring a light and drinking water; 4.5 miles, strenuous.

4/23 Grundy Forest Day Loop — Meet at 1:00 p.m. at the Visitor Center; 2 miles, moderate.

4/30 Tom Pack Falls — Meet at 10:00 a.m. at Franklin Forest Lake, off Hwy. 156; 2 miles, easy.

## Upcoming Hikes

### MEMPHIS CHAPTER

4/9 Mt. LeConte trip — Contact Betty Porter, 901-363- 0213

4/16 Natchez Trace State Park — Details this issue

4/23 Spring in the Forest — Details this issue

5/21-22 Petit Jean State Park — Betty Porter, 901-363- 0213

### MURFREESBORO CHAPTER

4/2 Wildflower Hikes, Long Hunter

State Park — Contact Reggie Reeves for details, 615-885-2422

4/10 Short Springs Wildflower Hike — details this issue

5/21 Bike Hike, Historic Murfreesboro — Maryedith McFarlin, 615-896-1344.

### NASHVILLE CHAPTER

4/2-3 Cumberland Falls Moonbeam Watch — details this issue

4/16-17 Long Hunter Backpack —

Leader is Mike England, 615-366-6213

4/17 Hidden Passage Trail — details this issue

4/23-24 Big South Fork Wildflower Weekend — details this issue

5/14-15 Big South Fork Wildflower Weekend — changed to April 23-24. Details this issue

5/28-30 Waterfall Hike — Leader is David Stidham (615- 736-5115)

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