



# Tennessee rails

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## The Obedient Raccoon

By Bob Barnett

**N**ow I'm not scared of raccoons. At least I claim that I'm not fearful because I'm from Tennessee and that's our genuine, official state animal.

This story isn't about Tennessee raccoons, though. The focus is on Wisconsin raccoons that live in Devil's Lake State Park. Seven of my Tennessee friends and I saw some raccoons in August of 1986 at our first camping stop in the Badger State as we were bound for the North Woods that Longfellow wrote about.

The eight of us set up camp in the group camp area at Devil's Lake. Some claim this park is the prettiest in all of Wisconsin. We weren't disappointed, though we were a bit concerned about some young neighbors in the campground and the noise they were producing.

After all the driving we had done plus exploration of the park, our energy level was low. The campfire was enjoyable, especially since Wisconsin's August night temperatures are more akin to Tennessee's October temps. We were all pretty sleepy and hoped the neighbors would quiet down soon.

The noise got louder. Screams were now coming from that group as raccoons made food raids into their campsite. The loudest screamer was a girl named Brenda and you would have thought she had come eyeball to eyeball with a grizzly bear the way she screamed every time a raccoon darted into sight.

One of my friends stuck her head out of her tent and said, pleadingly, "Bob, Paul, you've got to do something to quiet those kids down."

Paul's not tall, but is hefty enough to cast an imposing figure. As for myself, I stand around 6'3" and weigh in at close to 200 pounds. As we entered the campsite, Brenda began screaming "Jason! Jason!" making reference to the murderer from the *Friday the 13th* movies.

I came into the light and explained that no, I was not Jason, but I was going to get more than perturbed if the noise did not stop soon. Paul and I both made it clear that the screaming had to cease.

Quiet finally settled over the group camp and soon I was fast asleep until a different sort of noise awoke me. Those raccoons that had been raiding our neighbor's campsite must have scraped up all the food they could find there because they were now foraging in our site. One of the pesky rascals popped up over the log where I had been sleeping. I snarled and he darted off. He must



have decided that I was too big for a meal or a wrestling match.

It dawned on me that we had not put away all our food or store coolers in the cars. Though I didn't know it at the time, the raccoons had seized a small cooler of mine and consumed my peanut butter and sucked down all my soda pop. Five more of the critters were fighting over a hunk of cheese, clamoring and snarling, and in general, not showing very good table manners.

About that time, Dean woke up and told her husband, Ken to go do something because those blame kids next door were turning the outhouse over. That's how loud those pesky raccoons were. They sounded more like a band of fifty masked marauders than only five raccoons.

I thought that somehow Paul was sleeping through all the infernal racket when all of a sudden, I heard him say, "You put those eggs down right now!"

He was giving orders to the biggest and baddest of all the raccoons. I decided he was the ring leader and that his name was Scratch as in the *Gremlins* movie character. You know what? That big critter put down those eggs!

I'm not sure, but I think Paul ate eggs for breakfast the next morning. That was an obedient raccoon. Maybe Scratch and his cohorts had found all the food they wanted by the time of Paul's order or maybe

they had somewhere else to go. Me, I think that raccoon could tell Paul meant business so he decided it was best to obey.

When someone mentions Devil's Lake State Park, I remember the

clear lake and the gorgeous hiking trail leading to Balanced Rock and the rock formation known as the Devil's Doorway. I also remember the effigy Indian mounds, but I may have changed the animal's shape in my memory from a bird to a rac-

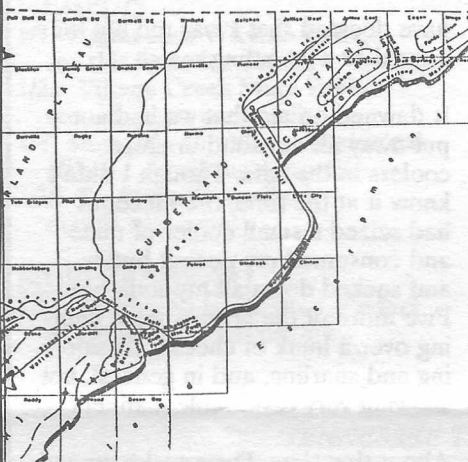
coon. This story is a salute to Scratch, the obedient raccoon who knew Paul wanted those eggs more than he did and was not going to be denied.

## Cumberland Trail News

### Historical Significance of the Cumberland Trail

#### Geology of the Cumberland Mountains

By Bob Brown



On topographical maps, the Cumberland Mountains, lying just northwest of C.T. sections 1, 2, and 3, stand out as a jumble of peaks higher than any points on the rest of the Cumberland Plateau. Many of these peaks exceed 3,200 feet and a few, including Frozenhead Mountain, are over 3,300 feet. Frozenhead's summit often appears white-capped in winter when its treetops are sheathed in ice or hoarfrost. The tallest, Cross Mountain, at 3,534 feet is the highest point between the Great Smoky Mountains and the Black Hills of South Dakota.

The last period of mountain building in the Southern Appalachians occurred during the late Paleozoic Era, over 230 million years ago. Forces produced by ocean floor spreading or continental collision far to the southeast, thrust northwestward buckling and fracturing the Appalachian surface into a high range of mountains extending

from Pennsylvania to Alabama. Much parallel folding, faulting, and displacement of strata northwestward also occurred west of today's Appalachians in the Great Valley of Tennessee.

The westernmost extent of late Paleozoic deformation in Tennessee was in the Cumberland Plateau region where the folds were gentler and less numerous, and the faults mostly confined to one system collectively called the Cumberland Plateau Overthrust Fault. Along this fault, running from the mouth of the Obed River on the northeast to near Spencer on the southwest, older strata were thrust up and displaced over younger strata for a distance of up to ten miles. A similar sliding action occurred along the Pine Mountain Overthrust Fault running northeast from Pioneer past Jellico into Kentucky and Virginia.

Along the northeastern and southwestern boundaries of today's Cumberland Mountains are vertical "tear" faults that run at right angles to the Cumberland and Pine Mountain Overthrust Faults. They indicate that this part of the Cumberland Mountains area stood fast while the Cumberland and Pine Mountain Overthrust Sheets tore loose and moved past it on either side in a northwesterly direction. The southernmost of these tear faults, the Emory River Fault, lies along the line of the Little Emory, Emory, and Obed Rivers, and the northernmost, the Jacksboro Fault, lies along the line of Cove Creek.

Post-Paleozoic erosion of younger Pennsylvanian sandstones, interbedded with may coal seams, proceeded more slowly in the Cumberland Mountains than elsewhere in the Plateau. Perhaps the absence

of folding and faulting within this region provided fewer paths for rapid expansion of stream drainage areas. More importantly, the early Pennsylvanian sandstones were downwarped into the Wartburg basin, centered near Frozenhead Mountain, leaving upward-tilting erosion-resistant sandstone surrounding the Cumberland Mountains. Also, the northwestward folding of Waldens Ridge sandstones and their upthrusting above a fault lying all along the southeastern edge of the Cumberland Mountains may have inhibited erosion in that direction.

*Our Restless Earth*, by Edward T. Luther, University of Tennessee Press 1977

*Pennsylvanian Geology of the Cumberland Plateau*, by Charles W. Wilson, Jr., John W. Jewell, and Edward T. Luther, Tennessee Department of Conservation — Division of Geology 1956

### Tennessee River Gorge Snow Hike

C.T. Section 9

Jan. 21 or alternately, Feb. 11

Ed Schell's breathtaking photographs of Cumberland Trail scenes along the Grand Canyon of the Tennessee are truly unforgettable. Graham Hawks showed us many of these slides in his presentation to the Nashville Chapter on the Tennessee River Gorge Natural Areas Trust.

Particularly striking were the snowscapes from Edwards Point. Then and there, everyone present knew we had to have a Section 9 snow hike.



As on last September's great hike, Graham will lead us from Signal Point along the C.T. 2 1/2 miles to Edwards Point. This time, however, the latter will be our destination and turnaround point. Snow and ice will make our walk along the rocky trail a slow and careful one, but the views and beauty of woods in winter will more than repay the effort.

If there is no snow in the Gorge on January 21, we will cancel the hike and reschedule for February 11. If Feb. 11 brings no snow, we'll go anyway. Please call Bob Brown at 615-748-4816 or Graham Hawks at 615-226-0314 no later than Thursday, Jan. 19, and we will let you know then which date we'll go.

We will meet at 8:00 a.m. EAST-ERN standard time at Signal Point on the date of the hike. Possibly frigid weather requires plenty of layers of wool clothing, hats, gloves, and as always, wind and rain gear. Also, crampons wouldn't hurt now would a backpack stove with the "makins" for soup or hot chocolate.

## State News

### Tennessee Recycling Conference February 17-18

The Tennessee Environmental Council is sponsoring the Tennessee Recycling Conference in February in Nashville at the Doubletree Hotel. They encourage all who can to attend. This conference will provide comprehensive coverage on recycling for citizens, local government officials, and professionals seeking solutions to the garbage crisis.

A faculty of national and regional experts will examine how to fit recycling into solid waste management programs, the benefits of recycling for local governments, program options and costs, markets for recyclables, public opinion, the role of citizens' organizations, and how to organize local efforts. The Friday session focuses on local governments and the Saturday session focuses on private citizens.

Registration for either the Friday, February 17th sessions or the Saturday, February 18th sessions for citizens is \$25.00. To attend both days, the registration is \$40.00 if received by February 10. For more information, contact the Council office at 1725 Church Street, Nashville 37203, or call 615-321-5075.

### Volunteer Trail Hike Sierra Club/TTA, January 21st

The Memphis Chapter of the Sierra Club is hosting the quarterly meeting for the Sierra Club at Cedars of Lebanon the weekend of the 21st.

In honor of this and as a thank-you for all of you who have written letters, etc., regarding the fate of the Volunteer Trail with the Zoo controversy, I am leading this hike.

Meet at the Volunteer trailhead at 9:00 a.m. (no matter what the weather does). The hike will be 12 miles or you can take the shorter 4-mile loop with Mike England leading. Bring a lunch and fluids.

This will be a good chance for those of you who have not seen the Volunteer Trail to walk it and get an update on the zoo issue. If you would like to volunteer as sweep (person following the pack), please let me know. For more information, call Bob Barnett at 831-1136.

### Cedars of Lebanon State Park Hike January 22

As the Sierra Club quarterly meeting winds down at Cedars of Lebanon State Park, I plan to lead a second joint TTA/Sierra Club hike; this one on my adopted trail at Cedars of Lebanon.

Bring lunch, if desired, and meet at the Hidden Springs trailhead at 11:30 a.m. This is an easy 4 1/2 mile trail. We will hike to the springs and stop for lunch before taking a more brisk pace on our return loop.

Once again, if anyone would volunteer to be sweep, I would appreciate it. I'll be glad to swap duties on the way back. — Bob Barnett, 831-1136.

### Rails To Trails Conservancy

Today, 18 million hikers, bikers, and cross-country skiers take advantage of the USA's 160 "rail-trails" — railroad tracks converted to scenic asphalt trails. But that's just the beginning, says David Barwell of the Rails to Trails Conservancy.

"Two years ago, our abandoned rail system was considered trash land at best. Now it could be the backbone of an interconnected park system stretching from Cape Cod to California and from the Great Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico.

"President Reagan just approved a law to convert 30,000 miles of railroad land into recreational trails. About 150 new trails are under way.

"Railroads abandon about 3,000 miles a year. Less than 2% have been converted. The battle is far from won, but the momentum is rapidly shifting. RTC has grown from 400 to 15,000 members in just one year."

Rail-trails recently opened in Michigan, California, Rhode Island, and Florida. For more information: Rails to Trails Conservancy, 300 USA, 1400 16th Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20036.

### The Trust For Public Land Negotiations Local Rails to Trails Project

The Trust for Public Land has been negotiating with the CSX Corporation (the railroad conglomerate who owns the right-of-way). Plats have been examined and we are about

ready to make a counter offer to the railroad's rather high original offer. We are still trying to get the legislature to foot the bill with income from the Natural Resources Trust Fund — dollars which were dumped into the General Fund last year.

We think that this project will work for several reasons:

1. The railroad owns the land, not just a right-of-way.
2. We have approached adjacent landowners and have support from most of them.
3. This effort started in Sewanee, Cowan, Monteagle, and Tracy City.

We hope to connect the Cowan Railroad Museum with the Boy Scout park in Tracy City. The trail would touch or come near the Hawkins Cove State Natural Area, Sewanee Natural Bridge, Carter Mountain Wildlife Management Area, St. Andrew's Sewanee School, the

*A message to President-Elect Bush and our newly elected government officials:*

## **I Am the People, the Mob**

**By Carl Sandburg (1916)**

I am the people—the mob—the crowd—the mass.

Do you know that all the great work of the world is done through me?

I am the workingman, the inventor, the maker of the world's food and clothes.

I am the audience that witnesses history. The Napoleons come from me and the Lincolns.

They die. And then I send forth more Napoleons and Lincolns.

I am the seed ground. I am a prairie that will stand for much plowing. Terrible storms pass over me. I forget. The best of me is sucked out and wasted. I forget. Everything but Death comes to me and makes me work and give up what I have. And I forget.

Sometimes I growl, shake myself and spatter a few red drops for history to remember. Then—I forget.

When I, the People, learn to remember, when I, the People, use the lessons of yesterday and no longer forget who robbed me last year, who played me for a fool,— then there will be no speaker in all the world say the name: "The People," with any fleck of a sneer in his voice or any far-off smile of derision. The mob—the crowd—the mass—will arrive then.

University of the South, Carter Cave State Natural Area, I-24, the South Cumberland Recreation Visitor Center, Fiery Gizzard State Natural

Area, Grundy Lakes, Monteagle, Bridal Veil Falls, and Deerlick Falls. — Doug Cameron

## **Chapter News**

### **Memphis Chapter**

#### **January Meeting**

**January 19, 7:30 p.m., Kingsway Church**

Your presence is needed for the election of 1989 officers, and also for a group project — writing letters in hopes of persuading the powers-that-be to construct a parking lot near the Chickasaw Bluffs trailhead.

#### **Wapanocca Wildlife Refuge** **January 7**

Carpool at the church at 7:00 a.m., or meet at the park office at 8:00 a.m. We can hike up to 13 miles, but since it is straight in and out, those who don't wish to go the full distance may turn around anytime. Bring lunch, water, and snacks. Wear boots and dress warmly; it's colder out near the lake. Binoculars are recommended; if we're lucky,

we might see waterfowl. Call Jerri Bull at 363-4408 for details.

#### **Village Creek State Park** **January 21**

Carpool at church, 7:30 a.m., or meet at 9:00 a.m. at the park office. This will be a 7-mile hike over easy terrain. Bring water and lunch. Call Julie Barham at 452-0085 for more details.

#### **Memphis Chapter News**

Congratulations to Jill Norvell, who gave birth to a 9 lb., 2 oz. boy on November 29. His name is Will Johnston Norvell, and he'll be hiking with us before long, if he follows the family tradition.

Those who have enjoyed TTA float trips may wish to read Debbie Gilbert's account of a canoe journey down the Wolf, on page 76 of the December issue of *Memphis* magazine.

#### **Trip Report** **Night Hike, Shelby Farms**

On November 17, a clear, cold evening, 18 people ( $\frac{1}{3}$  of them newcomers) braved the mud puddles for a 5-mile walk along the Wolf River trail. The moon was so bright that we scarcely needed our flashlights. But our hike was marred by the stench from the nearby landfill, and the powerful streetlights from the newly-completed Humphreys Boulevard destroyed the illusion of being in wilderness. — Debbie Gilbert

#### **Trip Report** **After Thanksgiving Hike**

Heavy rains on Saturday and light rain on Sunday morning didn't keep 18 hikers from enjoying Memphis Chapter's annual after Thanksgiving hike on the Chickasaw Bluff Trail at Shelby Forest State Park.

After all the Thanksgiving goodies it felt good to be walking again, even though the trail was soggy and slip-



pery in places. Most of the leaves were gone from the trees, but some of the maples were still a beautiful yellow and sycamores were a stark white background.

We didn't see any animals because of the rain, but did see a few birds after the rain stopped around noon. There were lots of deer tracks in the soft ground, and Steve Smith, who works at the park, said he had seen a cougar track earlier in the day.

We enjoyed our lunch at the Woodland Shelter and especially want to invite our visitors to hike with us again. A special thanks to Steve Smith for going with us and helping out since Gary McEntire was unable to be with us. — Jerri Bull

### Trip Report

#### Ouachita National Forest and Pinnacle Mountain State Park

November 5 was a dark and stormy Friday night when we left Memphis and drove west to Little Rock. Fortunately, we missed the heavy rains associated with this weather system, but we were dazzled by a beautiful display of lightening across the flat Arkansas landscape.

Saturday morning, when we started west on the Ouachita Trail at Lake Sylvia, was cool and sunny with a bright blue sky and strong winds. This trail is not terribly difficult, is fairly well marked, and would be a very good trail for novice backpackers. Starting at Pinnacle Mountain State Park, the route extends 250 miles through the beautiful Ouachita Mountains into eastern Oklahoma.

We were pleased to find the woods in full color and oohed and aahed all along the way at each new vista or special sight. At about 1:30, under temporarily darkening skies, we realized that our 6-mile-in hike was really going to be more like 8<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> miles and that we would not reach our goal of Flatside Pinnacle and still get out by dark. So, reluctantly, we turned around and hiked out, vowing to return another day to make the push for the top. Sunday was again cool, windy and sunny — perfect conditions for the

very steep <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> mile climb up Pinnacle Mountain. Being on the trail early has its advantages, and we were certainly rewarded at the summit with a great, clear view of the surrounding country. To top this moment of achievement, though, was the appearance of a mature bald eagle lazily soaring above our heads in the bright blue sky.

After descending, we walked the <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> mile Kingfisher Trail to work the stiffness out of our legs and also to see the huge 500-600 year old cypress trees growing along the Little Maumelle River. Still not wanting to quit, we then hiked the Rocky Valley and East Quarry Trails, a 3-mile loop with a scenic vista above the Arkansas River valley. Faced with over a 3 hour drive back to Memphis, we finally took off our boots and prepared to leave.

Sharing with friendly companions the difficult physical accomplishments and the beauty of the outdoors gives me a sense of personal satisfaction which I find nowhere else in my life. I thank Anne, Jerri, Gene, Linda, Cathy, Maryanne, and Ray for making this trip another memorable experience.

P.S. This proves again that you don't stay home just because it is raining in your front yard! — Betty Porter

## Murfreesboro Chapter

### Chapter News

The Murfreesboro Chapter of TTA recently held a re-organization meeting. The following chapter officers were elected:

#### Quotable Quote

“After you have exhausted what there is in business, politics, conviviality, and so on — have found that none of these finally satisfy, or permanently wear — what remains? Nature remains.”

— Walt Whitman

- James W. Herring, Chairman, 896-4356
- George Williams, Vice-Chair., 890-3683
- Fran Shepherd, Secretary, 895-2098
- Bertha Chrietzberg, Treasurer, 896-1146
- Ruth Ann Henry, Board Rep., 473-6298

Chapter meetings will be held on the 3rd Thursday of each month at St. Marks Methodist Church, 1403 E. Main Street in Murfreesboro at 7:00 p.m. (CST).

1989 is going to be an exciting year for the Murfreesboro Chapter. We will be hosting the Annual Meeting October 6-8 at the DuBose Center in Monteagle. Make your plans to “Come hike with us” then and on our regularly scheduled hikes this year. We have the most ambitious hiking schedule planned for 1989 in the history of the Murfreesboro Chapter. . . from easy 3-milers to challenging overnight backpacks. Fifteen hikes are planned.

The Murfreesboro Chapter was represented in the local Christmas Parade this year. Over 50,000 people watched the three hour parade on a beautiful sunny but cool afternoon.

### Trip Report

#### Long Hunter Day Loop Hike

On Saturday, November 12, eight members of the Murfreesboro Chapter and their guests hiked the 4-mile day loop at Long Hunter State Park near Nashville. Sherry Billingsby, Lifestyles Editor of *The Daily News Journal* in Murfreesboro accompanied the hikers on the easy, rolling hike near Percy Priest Lake and did a feature article in the following Sunday paper, complete with pictures and an outstanding description of the objectives of TTA.

As a result of this article and an appearance of Chapter Chairman, James Herring, on a local radio program in behalf of TTA, we have acquired three new members and ten inquiries about TTA.

## Nashville Chapter

### January Speaker January 26, 7:30 p.m.

Meet us Thursday, January 26 at the Cumberland Museum to hear Walt Jones, Director of the Grassmere Wildlife Park (Nashville's first zoo), and Asst. Director Deborah McDowell discuss Grassmere. They will give a slide or video presentation and then open the floor to questions. Most of you who are familiar with the plans for Grassmere are eager to see it completed and should enjoy this meeting.

### New Chapter Leaders

In our November meeting, our 1989 chapter officers were elected.

Evelyn Tretter has graciously agreed to be our chapter's chairwoman. Evelyn also has an article appearing in the current issue of *Tennessee Conservationist*. Marilyn Wolven and Micky Sutton will once again serve as Vice-Chairperson and Sect./Treasurer respectively. We appreciate these three and their willingness to serve.

If you have any suggestions for speakers at our meetings this year, or have a topic you'd like covered, please contact Marilyn Wolven at 226-4663.

It was good to see Marck and Susanne Powers with their 2 month old family addition, Jessica at our last meeting. She looks like a sturdy future hiker.

Two Nashville members are hobbling these days. Bob Brown broke his ankle while in the Big South Fork recently and Jim Holder is sporting a bizarre leg brace after falling down a flight of stairs. Like the Sarge used to say on Hill Street Blues, "Let's be careful out there!"

### New Year's Day Angel Falls Overlook Hike

Meet at Leatherwood Ford at 10:00 a.m. CST with sturdy footwear,

lunch, water, and raingear. This Class II/III trail is along the Big South Fork River to a spectacular overlook — a great way to start the New Year. Length: 4½ miles. Leader: Linda Bowman, 449-2575

### Virgin Falls Day Hike January 14

Come join us on a vigorous hike to visit the spectacular and unusual Virgin Falls, an area located on the scenic Caney Fork river in White County.

Virgin Falls is a unique area because of a stream that emerges from a cave, runs across a cliff, drops 110 feet and then disappears into another cave. Another smaller, but similar cave will be visited on the hike, plus other small waterfalls and overlooks.

The hike is approximately eight miles in length and is rated as difficult. Bring appropriate clothing and footwear, plus water, snacks and lunch. Meet at the KMart parking lot on Donelson Pike near I-40 at 6:30 a.m. to carpool to the trailhead. Call Kevin Kimbro for more details at 333-0629.

### Eagle Watch on Dale Hollow Lake January 21

On Saturday, January 21, we will join the Corps of Engineers as they take a barge full of birders out on Dale Hollow Lake to look at the eagle population there. The barge trip will take about 2 hours and though there will be several that day, we will take the 12:30 trip. Dress warmly and bring a thermos with something warm to sustain you.

Pre-registration is required since space is limited. Call Marilyn Wolven at 226-4663 and tell her to save you a spot or leave word on her code-a-phone.

Carpoolers meet at the Donelson Road KMart at 8:15 that morning or meet us at the Lillydale Recreation Area at Dale Hollow Lake between

noon and 12:30 when we leave the dock.

### Snow Hike, Plan A January 29

We will hike at Old Stone Fort State Park near Manchester. Meet at the Bell Road Cracker Barrel on I-24 at 9:00 a.m. CST to carpool. Wear cold weather gear and boots. Bring water and lunch. This two mile, class II trail is challenging in the snow.

If snow is a no show, we'll go with Plan B at South Cumberland. For more information, call Pat Anderson, 383-2355.

### No Business Creek Backpack Big South Fork February 18-19

We will hike from the Divide Road eight miles on the John Muir Trail to the No Business Creek overlook and camp ½ mile further by the creek. Remembering 50% of the best views are behind you, we'll retrace our steps on Sunday.

Meet at 10:30 a.m. (CST) at Pickett State Park office. Carpooling will be coordinated by the leader. Please pre-register. — Gene Curp, 615-256-2566 (days)

### Trip Report Mammoth Cave National Park

Gene and Sara Curp with nephew Wesley (11) and puppy Ranger (4 months) were joined for a 10-11 mile jaunt by Millie Jeppesen (Nashville), Jim Janca (Hendersonville), plus Lawrence and Natalie Learner (Brighton).

Sharp-eyed hikers always managed to find the next critical piece of flagging to keep the party on the rather dim trail. Speaking of dim, at the park boundary, we met a father/son opening day-gun season-deer hunting act. The father was most encouraging. He pointed out that all the other hunters were crazy and would shoot at anything. Then he



tried to route us miles out of our way by road.

With the words ringing our ears that he'd "send it right back" if anyone started "slinging lead" at him, we held our fire and returned to the

trail at a good pace. All ended well with Wesley spotting one deer which was safely inside the Park. — Gene Curp

## News From Our Parks

### Warner Park Nature Center Nashville

1/10,11 Astronomy Program — 7:30-9:30 p.m. Registration opens 12/27.

1/18 Exploring Nature After Dark — 7:00-9:00 p.m., registration opens 1/4. Night hike to a warm campfire and hot drinks.

1/25,28 Trees In Winter — 9:00-11:30 a.m. and 1:00-3:00 p.m. Registration opens 1/11.

### Long Hunter State Park

Long Hunter State Park will be closed from sunset, 12/24 to 8:00 a.m. on 1/2. All parking area and facilities will be closed during this time. The Couchville and Bryant Grove boat launch ramps will remain open.

### South Cumberland State Park

1/1 Raven Point Excursion — Meet at 1:00 p.m. at the Visitor Center. 2 miles, easy

1/7 DogHole Trail — Meet at 10:00 a.m. at the Visitor Center. 5 miles, moderate

1/8 Ranger Falls — Meet at 10:00 a.m. at the Stone Door Ranger Station. 7 miles, strenuous  
1/14 Greeter Trail — New Trail! Meet at 10:00 a.m. at Stone Door Ranger Station. 3 miles, moderate  
1/28&29 Hobbs Cabin Overnighter — Meet at 10:00 a.m. Saturday at the Savage Gulf Ranger Station. 18 miles, round-trip, moderate. Must have proper equipment and pre-register by 1/27.

### Lichterman Nature Center Memphis, 901-767-7322

1/14,21,28 Meet With Mother Nature — program for pre-school children and their parents. 10:00 a.m. (free to members)  
1/21 Travel to Alaska Show — 1:00-2:00 (free to members)

### FIRST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH (Sept.-May):

Children's Programs — Variety of programs for kids from 4 yrs. up through 4th grade.

### PLAN AHEAD:

4/28-30 Great Smoky Mountains Wildflower Pilgrimage — a weekend in the Smokies among colorful spring flowers in the Greenbrier area around the

Sugarlands Valley. Accommodations at Tremont, an environmental education facility within the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Price, including lodging, transportation (from Memphis), and all but Friday's lunch and Sunday's dinner is \$130/110 (non-member/member). Call the Center for more information.

7/26-8/6 Alaska Wilderness & Wildlife Expedition — In response to the success of our previous Alaskan Adventures, we are offering our 3rd summer of travel to the ultimate in American wilderness. Led by Assistant Curator, Bob Barni, the group will explore the Kenai Peninsula, Kenai Fjords National Park, and Denali National Park and Preserve. The high point of the trip will be 4 days at Camp Denali/Northface Lodge, located 100 miles within Denali National Park in the shadow of Mt. McKinley. Cost of trip is \$2400. For more information, call Bob Barni, 901-767-7322.

## NOTICE! It's Time To Renew Your Membership.

Please register me as a member for the calendar year 1989 (Jan.- Dec.) with the type membership checked below:

<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

Students 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: \_\_\_\_\_

## 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). In other

words, if you are leading a hike in February, submit your hike details to Dot Fowler by the 15th of January.

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, raingear, 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.

## Upcoming Hikes

### MEMPHIS

- 1/7 Wapanocca Wildlife Refuge — see this issue for details
- 1/21 Village Creek State Park — see this issue for details
- 2/4 Memphis Downtown Historical Hike — details next month
- 2/18 Ft. Pillow State Park — details next month

### MURFREESBORO

- 1/21 Hidden Springs Trail, Cedars of Lebanon — details not

received. Call Melissa Tucker, 896-7048 for details

- 2/18-19 Backpack with Campus Recreation — details next month from Glen Hanley
- 2/18 Bryant Grove Trail, Long Hunter — details next month from James Herring

### NASHVILLE

- 1/1 Angel Falls Overlook — details this issue
- 1/14 Virgin Falls Day Hike — details this issue

- 1/21 Barge Trip Eagle Watch — details this issue
- 1/29 Snow Hike — details
- 2/4 Laurel Snow — details next month
- 2/5 Radnor Lake — details next month

### STATE

- 1/21 TN River Gorge — details this issue
- 2/11 C.T. Brady Mtn. — details next month

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