



# Tennessee rails

## The Bruin In the Dark

By David Stidham

(Written in 1963 after a Boy Scouts trip)

The trail shelter was packed that night, with boys even sleeping on the ground inside. I lay at the outside edge in one corner. We were all pretty tired and quieted down soon. I lay there listening to two bear cubs screaming almost like humans. Finally, they quieted down.

We must have all been asleep when I was awakened in the darkness by a noise outside the shelter. I soon realized it was the chain of the pole on which the food had been hung. Two things instantly came into my mind — the mother bear and our food. Moving as if by an inner force, I found I had a stick in my hand, since I was next to the fireplace. I could make out a dark shape with two glowing eyes leaning against the pole with one arm upraised. I had the stick to throw at it, but my arm froze, from fear I suppose.

It was only a few seconds after I woke up when I heard and recognized the sound of the bear's paw coming into contact with a plastic bag full of

our food. The sound of our food thumping as it hit the ground followed. The bruin lumbered past me not ten feet away with what I thought was the sack of food in his mouth.

"I don't suppose anyone is very hungry," I said aloud, because I thought this incident surely had awakened the whole troop. A few boys stirred in their sleeping bags, but no one seemed excited and I decided I was the only

one who knew what had just happened. So, I lay back down.

After a time, I heard a few others talking. I took this opportunity to tell them about the previous incident. Unbelieving, they got out a flashlight and examined the pole. The food no longer hung from the chain, but to my relief and surprise, it was nearby, strewn on the ground.

By this time, many others were awake and the incident was thoroughly looked into. It turned out that the bear had only stolen one package. I put the remaining food in another bag and strung it up again. Everything quieted down in the shelter as I lay there listening.

In a few minutes, I heard the chain rattle again. This time, though, I threw a stick in its direction. The stick glanced off the metal pole and the bear scampered down the hill. I had saved the food. After a third try, the bear finally gave up. We all calmed down and fell off into a dead sleep, not to be aroused until morning.



EDITOR'S NOTE: Reprinted from the September 1988 Tennessee Trails Newsletter.



## THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN . . .

HELLO. The quarterly board meeting was held on June 15, 1991 at the Visitors Center of South Cumberland State Park. As I reported in my column in the June Newsletter, we discussed the Cumberland Trail and TTA's involvement with it. Our organization was founded to bring this trail in to existence and over the last twenty years we have worked toward that goal. During that endeavor, we helped convince the State to pass a bill called The Tennessee Scenic Trails Act in which the State designated several trails for scenic trail status. To date the Cumberland Trail is the only one still in existence. We also signed a contract with the State to help maintain the Cumberland Trail and in turn they would setup a Trails Administrator. This position was a victim of the State budget cuts. We agreed to work on establishing the trail south of Interstate 40, but over the last few years we had concentrated our efforts north of I-40 because that is where the Administrator was located. At the board meeting it was decided to go back to our original plan in view of the lack of State support and the lack of Chapters in the northern area. In support of this effort, Bob Brown reported that some contact had been made with Bowater Pulp and Paper Company, and that they may be willing to allow us to route the trail across some of their land. This would allow us to complete thirty new miles of trail and connect the Piney River Trail and the Laurel Snow Trail on the Eastern slope of Walden Ridge. The board voted to allow Bob and myself to further explore this possibility. This is both intimidating and exciting; we would be building trails where none exist. However, that is what the founders of TTA did. Anyone interested in helping, please contact me at (615)895-2098.

The board also decided to explore the possibility of setting up an Outdoors Skills Class sometime early next year. This received support from several members who can teach courses needed in this type of training.

A few housekeeping notes. Chapter Chairs who need a listing of your members both past and present, contact me at (615)895-2098. The video the board ordered on the Appalachian Trail is in and can be obtained by contacting Bertha Chrietzberg at (615) 896-1146. The board decided that the 3rd quarter meeting will be held in Jackson, on the first full weekend in September, not August 11 as was originally setup. This is out of consideration for our West Tennessee members.

GOOD HIKING

TOM SHEPHERD



# STATE NEWS

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## EAF Report

The 1991 Legislative session very well may have been the most successful one that the Environmental Action Fund has ever had.

Of foremost interest to most TTA members is the fact that there is a new funding source for the acquisition of public lands. EAF was part of a coalition on this bill that included the Farm Bureau, Lobbyist-Commissioner of Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, Tom Hensley, and local parks people who helped lobby municipal government folks. In regard to this bill's passage, let me once again thank EAF lobbyist John Williams and principle sponsors Rep. Gary Odom of Nashville, and Senator Ward Crutchfield of Chattanooga.

The Governor and his staff should be commended for getting behind and pushing forward with a comprehensive solid waste bill. Probably the most important component of this bill is setting the goal of reducing waste by 25%. Setting up regional recycling sites is a part of the bill and a funding source was found to implement the provisions of this bill that call for expenditure of funds.

Senator Ronnie Greer of Greenville, and Rep. Bill Purcell of Nashville, were the primary sponsors for this bill. John Williams, Pam Wolfe, and many other environmentalists should be given credit for helping to shape this legislation in its formative stages. On behalf of EAF and the Tennessee Environmental Council, Pam Wolfe monitored this bill's progress and helped push for its passage.

Senator Greer and Rep. Purcell were also primary sponsors of an important bill that provides for permit fees dealing with air and water quality. These funds would be used to speed up the permit process and to provide more vigorous monitoring and enforcement. Many business leaders/lobbyists got behind this bill because a faster permitting process helps industries too.

The passage of the permitting fess bill and the passage of the bill for public lands acquisition with a provision aimed at the acquisition of wetlands, may mitigate in a positive way to repaire damage that has been done (or potential damage) by the Farm Bureau sponsored bill which allows draining of the wetlands.

EAF lobbyist John Williams had a bit of his time preoccupied by a very detrimental bill, the permitting of blasting for septic tank construction. This bill was sponsored in the Senate by Senator Bob Rochelle of Lebanon, and Rep. Joe Bell, also of Lebanon. Since the bill sought to permit blasting in Sumner and Wilson Counties, it would be no mystery to hikers in these areas that such a proposal is a bad idea due to all the bedrock, caves, and sinkholes in those counties.

This bill has ended up in conference committee (Representatives and Senators seeking a compromise.) The ultimate compromise bill may allow blasting to happen only for builders who had permits prior to the passage of the 1989 bill. It is likely a sunset provision would be instituted, which would set a fixed date when blasting would no longer be allowed.

Please take time to write or call the Senators or Representatives mentioned in this article; ask them if they supported these bills. If they say yes, then thank them. If, however, they say no, then ask them to please be more sensitive to environmental issues in 1992. This would also be a good opportunity to express concerns about funding cuts and how they effect the fate of the Cumberland Trail.

Rep. Gary L. Odom  
992 Davidson Drive, Suite F  
Nashville, TN 37205  
353-0246

Senator Ward Crutchfield  
615 Lindsay Street  
Chattanooga, TN 37402  
756-6700

Senator Ronnie Greer  
206 So. Irish St.  
P.O. Box 454  
Greenville, TN 37744  
638-1221

Rep. Bill Purcell  
131 2nd Avenue N.  
Nashville, TN 37201  
256-2229

Rep. Bell  
1755 West Main Street  
Lebanon, TN 37087  
444-2173

Senator Rochelle  
148 Public Square  
Lebanon, TN 37087  
444-2611



# CHAPTER NEWS

## Clarksville

Meets the third Tuesday of each month. Meetings begin at 7:00 PM in the Community Room at the Governor's Square Mall.

### Upcoming Events:

#### July 13-Harpeth River Canoe Trip

Please contact Dave Thomack, 358-3516, for more information.

## Cookeville

Meets the first Tuesday of each month at the home of Beth and Randy Hammontree, 558 Burton Lane, at 6:30 PM.

### Upcoming Events:

#### July 13-Local Waterfalls

July 27-Big South Fork Horseback Ride/Campout  
For more information, please contact Jennifer Gaspard, 526-5242.

## Memphis

Meets the third Thursday of each month at Kingsway Church, at 7:30 PM.

### Upcoming Events:

July 14-Spring River Canoe Trip  
For more details, contact Ray Berkett, 386-8613.

## Murfreesboro

Meets the third Tuesday of each month at St. Mark's Methodist Church. Meetings begin at 7:00 PM. All are welcome.

### Upcoming Events:

#### Monthly Meeting

Bertha Chrietberg will give a program on Tennessee wild orchids of Summer.

#### July 19-21-Rock Island S.P.

(Highway 70 South between McMinnville and Sparta.) Camping, swimming, and hiking fun. Regular campground, \$11 for two people, .50/extra person. Primitive: \$8.50 (tables, pump, outhouse), across from the park office. Leader will camp Friday and Saturday nights, probably in the primitive area. Meet Saturday at 10 AM at the park office for swimming below Great Falls parking lot. (not at the public swimming beach.) Stone steps go down at far end of parking lot. Bring lunch, water, head scarf or hat. Some shady spots. Wear wading shoes. Those who do not wish to swim or wade may hike on the trails. Sunday will be open for swimming or hiking. Call Evelyn Tretter to arrange carpooling from Nashville or Murfreesboro-859-0566.



**August 10-Wild Orchid Hike**  
in the South Cumberland State Park. Meet at 9:30 CDT at the the Visitor Center, located about three miles from I-24 on Hwy. 56 between Monteagle and Tracy City. The area behind the Visitor Center abounds with a variety of summer wildflowers and two varieties of yellow fringed wild orchids. After the easy stroll through these meadows, the group will meet in the picnic area for lunch. Bring your own lunch and beverage.

We will then caravan to Foster Falls where we should find the white fringeless orchid, along with a variety of other summer wildflowers. These are easy walks with wildflower identification, so bring your wildflower book or a small notebook and paper if you wish to remember them. Preregistration is not necessary, but call Berth Chrietberg, (615) 896-1146, if you need more information.



# CHAPTER NEWS (continued)

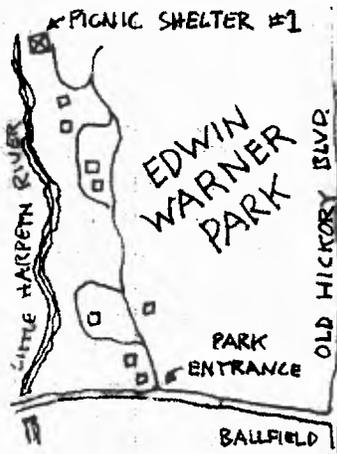
## Nashville

Meets the fourth Thursday of each month, at the Cumberland Science Museum, 7:30 PM.

### Upcoming Events:

#### Monthly Meeting

We will not meet at the Cumberland Museum the 4th Thursday of this month. Instead, we are having a picnic on Sunday, July 28th, at picnic shelter #1 at Edwin Warner Park, from 4:00 PM til ??? Bring a potluck dish to share and your own drink. The club will provide plates, utensils. We will eat about 5:30. See the map for directions.



**July 27-Mt. Cammerer S.P. THIS HIKE HAS BEEN CANCELED. IT WILL BE RE-SECEDED IN AUGUST.**

**July 27-Cedars of Lebanon-Fullmoon Hike** Take I-40 East to the Lebanon/ Murfreesboro exit. Turn right on State Hwy. 231 and follow the signs to the park. We will meet at 6:30 PM at the park office. We will hike for approximately an hour on the Hidden Springs Trail then retrace our steps. After the hike we will meet at Shoney's in Lebanon around 9:30 PM for food and drink. Bring a flashlight, but we will try to use them as little as possible. **Please preregister by calling Bob Barnett, 832-6484.**

### Membership Renewal

Unless you have a Lifetime Membership in the Tennessee Trails Association, your membership expires on January 1, of each year. All TTA memberships are based on the calendar year and not one year from the month you join.

Please register me as a member for the calendar year 1991 (Jan.-Dec.) with the type membership checked below:

Student \$ 6.00  
 Individual/Family \$ 15.00  
 Supporting \$30, \$40, or \$50  
 Life \$150.00

#### MAIL DUES TO:

Tennessee Trails Association  
P.O. Box 41446  
Nashville, Tennessee 37204

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 receive a separate newsletter.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ WORK PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE LIST ME WITH CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_ OR AT LARGE \_\_\_\_\_



# NEWS FROM OUR PARKS

Forty-one of Tennessee's forty-eight state parks provide daily recreation and interpretive programs beginning Memorial Day weekend and extending through Labor Day. Hikes, tours, campfires, movies, music, dance, crafts, cave tours, and games are but a few of the weekly events scheduled. For further information, please contact Program services at (615) 742-6675. **Special Note:** Specific program dates and/or times are subject to change.

The following schedule gives only the dates, events and the location of scheduled activities. Please refer to the contact person for further details.

July 4-7	July Fourth Celebration	David Crockett State Park	Mike Scott (615) 762-9408
July 6	Live Music and Dance	Chickasaw State Park	Park Office (901) 989-5141
	Roan Mtn. S.P. Fireworks	Roan Mtn. State Park	Jennifer Wilson (615) 772-3303
	Eagle Bluff Hike	Cumberland Scenic Trail	Bobby Harbin (615) 566-0902
July 8-13	Savage Gulf Wilderness Skills	South Cumberland Rec. Area	Park Office (615) 924-2980
July 15 & 16	The Wataugans	Sycamore Shoals Historic Area	Park Office (615) 543-5808
July 15	Education Awareness	Cove Lake State Park	Park Office (615) 522-8355
July 20	Live Music and Dance	Chickasaw State Park	Park Office (901) 989-5141
	Overnight Canoe Trip	Henry Horton State Park	Park Office (615) 364-7724
July 20 & 21	Living History	Fort Loudon St. Historic Area	Jeff Wells (615) 884-6217
July 27	Folklife Festival	Warriors' Path State Park	Park Office (615) 239-8531
	Children's Day	Old Stone Fort Archaeological	Park Office (615) 723-5073
	Elk River Canoe Trip	South Cumberland Rec. Area	Park Office (615) 924-2980
July 28	CCC Reunion	Frozen Head (Shelter A)	Park Office (615) 346-3318

"... In the cities and towns  
There are millions who dream  
But the traffic's so loud  
That you can't hear them scream  
There's a heaven on earth  
That few ever find  
But the map's in your soul  
And the road's in your mind

So many mountains before us  
So many rivers to cross  
Where is the wisdom to bring  
Back the vision we've lost

When you sleep on the ground  
With the stars in your face  
You can feel the full length  
Of the beauty and grace

In the wild places  
Man is an unwelcome guest  
But it's here that I'm found  
And it's here I feel blessed

---The Wild Places  
lyrics by Dan Fogelberg from the album, *The Wild Places*, 1990

Please support the Wilderness Society in the fight against the oil industry lobbying Congress to break into the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and drill its very heart for oil. The wildest of all wild places must not be destroyed!



# TRIP REPORT

Annual TTA Waterfalls Weekend  
May 25-27, 1991 (Saturday, Sunday, Monday)

## Participants:

David Stiddem	Betty Porter
Esther Stiddem	Edith Caywood
Vic Canada (Sat. & Sun.)	Jerri Bull
Evelyn Tretter	Anne Lindholm
Jessica Edwards (Sun. only)	Faye Guarienti (Sat. & Sun.)
1069 Heritage Drive	Rich Guarienti (Sat. & Sun.)
Madison, Tennessee 37115	Kristin Harter (Sat. only)
Bill Jones	Billy Davenport (Sat. only)
Melissa L. Edwards (Sun. only)	Alan Stokes (Sun. & Mon.)
3844 Saunders Avenue	Linda Bowman
Nashville, Tennessee 37216	Gayle Douglas (Sat. only)
Martha Lisle (Sun. only)	Janet Norris (Sat. & Sun.)
Trina Kimball (Sun. only)	Debby Doyle (Sat. & Sun.)
Chad Marcum (part of Sun. only)	

Since 1979, nearly every Memorial Day weekend David Stiddem has led TTA on a waterfall excursion. On the first day of this year's trip, 16 folks met him at the Old Stone Fort Visitor Center for a day of waterfall hikes in the Normandy Lake area. The day's accomplishments included Rainbow Falls, Bosworth Falls, Baker Falls, Sluice Creek Falls, and an unnamed waterfall. In addition, while the leader was trying to get his vehicle unstuck in a ditch, the others hiked to Cascade Falls and Spring. After a stormy Saturday night in the Old Stone Fort State Park campground, 19 hikers began another great day looking for waterfalls near Normandy Lake. Some of the waterfalls this day included Rutledge Falls, Machine Falls, Disappearing Falls and Poke Salad Falls. An unscheduled stop was the home of Faye and Rich Guarienti for drinks, lunch, a splendid view of Normandy Lake, and their own Rozel-Guarienti Falls. We also got to see where the "rich and famous" live at the beautiful Ovoca estates. Our rich, but certainly gracious hosts greeted us with delicious lemonade as we returned from the expedition to Ovoca Falls and Bridal Veil Falls, led by her son, Chad.

At times, Stiddem's leadership ability was questioned, but the sight of Copperas Falls at the end of the day seemed to satisfy the doubters. Rain again Sunday night did not discourage the final 10 campers who held out for the last (and I might say, climatic) day. A scenic, if not intermittently rainy drive cross south central Tennessee led the group to the rain swollen streams of the western highlands, reminders of the flood waters which covered roads and homes the day before. Marcella Falls and Rattlesnake Falls were raging torrents, but no less impressive. Our big surprise, or should I say, delight, greeted us as we traveled further west to Falls Branch. There, we found bridges flooded, trees crossing roads, and Falls Branch Falls inaccessible. Not to have traveled in vain, Bev Asbury, Vanderbilt's Chaplain, suggested we check out his Pretty Little and York Hollow Falls instead. To our sheer delight, York Hollow, after 12 inches of rain in 24 hours, was literally full of waterfalls. Every turn in the trail revealed another beautiful waterfall or cascade. In all, there were 7 significant waterfalls or cascades in this 1 mile hollow. Besides us hikers, we know of at least one raccoon who was enjoying the water. Total count: 23 waterfalls for the weekend. One last thought - it surely is wonderful to see grown adults having such a joyful time playing in the cascades and creeks. Don't miss out on the fun next year.

David R. Stiddem, Hike Leader



# UPCOMING HIKES

## CLARKSVILLE

7/13 Harpeth River  
Open Picnic

## COOKEVILLE

7/13 Local Waterfalls  
7/27 Big South Fork  
Horseback Ride  
8/10 Flat Creek Wade  
8/17 Buggy Top Cave

## MEMPHIS

7/14 Spring River Canoe  
8/18 Picnic

## MURFREESBORO

7/20 Rock Island S.P.  
8/10 Wild Orchid Hike

## NASHVILLE

7/27 Cedars of Lebanon  
Mt. Cammerer **Canceled**  
8/25 Bledsoe Creek S.P.  
8/30 Frozen Head S.P.

## INACTIVE CHAPTERS

Chattanooga  
Cumberland Mountain

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### Objectives:

To promote, construct, and maintain a statewide system of hiking trails, and to work for the conservation of natural resources inherent to this objective. Sponsor for the Cumberland Trail.

## 1991 TTA LEADERS

**PRESIDENT:** Tom Shepherd 615-895-2098  
**VICE PRESIDENT:** Bob Barnett 615-832-6484  
**CORR. SEC/TREAS:** Dot Lingerfelt 615-842-8043  
**SECRETARY:** Evelyn Tretter 615-859-0566  
**IMMEDIATE PAST PRES:** Jerri Bull 901-363-4408  
**BOARD REP.** James T. Jones 901-422-1444  
**BOARD REP.** Bertha Chrietzberg 615-896-1146  
**BOARD REP.** Sally Garrard 615-356-3867  
**MEMBERSHIP:** Bob Barnett 615-832-6484

Bob Brown, TTA Chairman, Cumberland Trail 615-352-7474  
Bob Barnett, Adopt-A-Trail State Coordinator 615-832-6484  
Randy Hammontree, Cookeville Chapter Chair 615-526-5242  
Bettie Herring, Murfreesboro Chapter Chair 615-895-8171  
Debbie Gilbert, Memphis Chapter Chair 901-454-0613  
Evelyn Baker, Nashville Chapter Chair 615-391-3479  
Roger Greer, Clarksville Chapter Chair 615-648-8769  
Kellie Jones, Newsletter Editor, 615-662-1303  
111 Old Hickory Blvd., SW #294, Nashville, TN 37221

Mail dues, address changes/corrections and membership applications to:  
TTA, P.O. Box 41446, Nashville, TN 37204

Come Hike With Us!  
Tennessee Trails Association  
P.O. Box 41446  
Nashville, TN 37204



EVAN MEANS  
200 BUTLER BLVD.  
OAK RIDGE, TN 37830