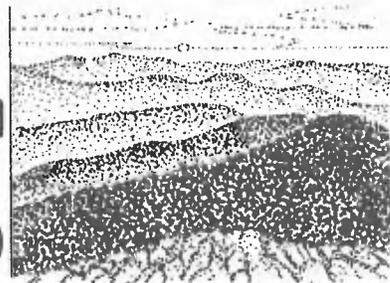


TENNESSEE TRAILS

The monthly newsletter of the Tennessee Trails Association



THE FLOWERS OF SUMMER

by Bertha Chrietzberg

We think of spring as the time when wildflowers are at their peak of beauty. However, the Wildflowers of August are equally spectacular. They are bigger and more bountiful as their blooms spread out in the meadows to reach the hot sun of summer's end. Now is the time to plan a family outing, to stroll through the meadows and introduce yourself and your family to the brilliant colors of nature's summer display.

Flowers are not displaying their beauty for human pleasure. They must depend on insects and birds in order to propagate. Every intricate part is designed to attract and induce its wary pollinator to pick up pollen and distribute it to another blossom to insure that their particular plant will be around for another season. Some plants rely on color, others on scent, some actually furnish food in the way of sweet nectar, and there are a few that trap and devour the insect in order to get needed nutrients.

Some flowers have pads that trigger the pollen-carrying stamens to flip down and coat the back of the insect like the snapdragons. Others have a deep throat with sweet nectar at its base, that requires the insect to crawl in to suck up the nectar, and pick up pollen on its way out. A somber thought . . . if we spray pesticides and kill the insects, then that dependant flower that it pollinates will also die. Fruit and seeds would not form. Our apples, pears, peaches, etc depend on insect pollinators.

Hummingbirds are attracted to red flowers and are necessary pollinators of many deep-throated red flowers, like the trumpet creeper. Had you ever realized that Europe doesn't have many red native wildflowers because they don't have any hummingbirds. Hummingbirds are unique to our American continents.

There is an orchid in Africa that has all the visual characteristics of a particular female wasp. The male hatches first, when these orchids are in full bloom, and is fooled into copulation with the orchid before the female wasp hatches. In this way, the orchid pollen is transmitted from flower to flower.

The plain green insignificant flowers of our weeds don't need to be attractive, because their pollen is distributed by the wind. It is wind-blown pollen that is the culprit for hayfever sufferers, so don't put the blame on the beautiful goldenrod which requires an insect pollinator.

On August 10 at 9:30 CDT, we are planning a wild orchid and wildflower walk in the South Cumberland State Park. Come and join us. See Murfreesboro Chapter news for details.



HELLO. It's summertime and boy is it hot! A good time to plan future hikes and enjoy water sports. Speaking of planning it's time to start planning our annual meeting and the election of new officers. The reservation sheets will be in the September newsletter, but please start planning to join us on the first weekend in November at Standing Stone S.P. The board is hosting the annual meeting this year and we are planning a few new events with all the traditional happenings. I will be attending school next year (everyone should change careers at 40) and I will not be able to serve as President. Ms. Dot Lingerfelt, our longtime Corr. Sec./Treas., is resigning, so we will need someone to serve in that capacity. Anyone interested in serving or who knows someone interested, contact Bob Barnett (615) 832-6484, Jerri Bull (901) 363-4408, Roger Greer (615) 648-8769 or Tom Shepherd (615) 895-2098. Ladies and Gentlemen, this is your nominating committee. I will continue to work for TTA in '92 in a less time consuming area. I have said I will continue to keep the membership list and help with the newsletter. All persons nominated must be willing to serve, so please consult anyone you nominate.

Bob Brown, Bob Barnett, Fran and I attended a meeting of the Cookeville Chapter on the first Tuesday night of June. It was good to get out and meet some members that we have not met before. The nicest thing was to meet and talk with hikers and concerned outdoors people. The Cookeville Chapter is having its chapter elections at their next meeting. Randy is also resigning, he is not going to be the Chapter chair next year. I am sure that the new chair will continue to be an asset to our Association and our State. Beth and Randy, on behalf of TTA, thank you for your time and energy the last two years. Memphis, I have not forgotten you, but a trip to West Tennessee takes a little planning. I will attend one of your meetings before the end of the year.

GOOD HIKING

FOR SALE

One reservation for the Mt. LeConte hike and overnight stay in the Lodge, also includes 2 meals. The group trip is sponsored by University of Tennessee, Knoxville, on November 2-3, 1991. If interested, please call **Jane Kersten (615) 865-0564 (h), or 327-4951 (w).**

The following poem was written by Jeanette Gaspard, age 11, daughter of Beth Hammontree.

TRAIL OF TEARS

by Jeanette Gaspard

The time has come and we must leave;
Jackson's got something up his sleeve.
Though we tried to be like whiteman,
They still betrayed us and took our land.

All papers signed by the President's hand,
No help will come for you or me:
Great Spirit, save the Cherokee.

My horse rides by a moonlit sea,
But beauty does not comfort me.
I lost my hopes to have my fears;
I left my hopes on the Trail of Tears.



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.

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:

****Change of meeting place****

Bring your picnic and come to the home of Bonnie Greene-232 Sugar Hill Drive in Sparta, TN. The first Tuesday in August (6th), at 6:30 PM.

Memphis

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

Upcoming Events:

August 18-TTA Annual Picnic at Lichterman Nature Center, 3:00-5:00 PM, at 5992 Quince Road. Bring food for yourself and any guests you may want to bring, also bring a beverage. **There are no alcoholic drinks allowed at the park.** You may also want to bring a lawn chair; there are picnic tables, but a chair might be more comfortable.

There are about three miles of trails, and a swimming area is available. Admission is free for museum members, if we have ten members or more at the picnic. The fee is \$2.50 for adults and \$1.75 for seniors and students. Please call and let me know if you plan to attend, or have any questions, **363-4408**.

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

This month we will have an Ice Cream meeting at Heloise Shilstat's house on the Stones River. Contact Betty Herring, 895-8171, or Fran Shepherd, 895-2098 for more details.

August 10-Wild Orchid Hike

in the South Cumberland State Park. Meet at 9:30 CDT at 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 Bertha Chrietzberg, (615) 896-1146, if you need more information.

Nashville

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

Upcoming Events:

Monthly Meeting

We are going to view the new video that TTA owns, "Five Million Steps" is the story of how 16 people hiked through the Appalachian Trail from Georgia to Maine.

August 10-Radnor Lake Hike

We will beat the summer heat and see the forest at its best by hiking the Ganier Ridge Trail at 6:00 AM. This is a 2.5 mile strenuous hike, followed by an optional restaurant breakfast.

August 16/17-Mt. Camerer Day Hike

Some of us will arrive on Friday afternoon and camp at the group camp. We will begin the hike at 9:00 AM on Saturday. This hike is strenuous as we will gain about 2500 feet in 2.5 miles. The total length of the hike is seven miles round trip. Hiking boots are strongly



STATE NEWS (continued)

Parks Bill a Long-Sought Victory

by John Williams

When you buy a piece of land or a new house, you will pay a higher tax to record your deed. But the money will go for a good cause -- acquisition of parkland.

The State and Local Parks and Recreation Partnership Act of 1991 will provide a stable source of funding for both state and local parks for years to come. The increase in the real estate transfer tax will generate approximately \$1.5 million a year to purchase land for state parks, forests, natural areas, and scenic river boundary areas. This money may also be used for the purchase of easements or the construction of trails.

Approximately \$1.75 million will go annually to local parks, natural areas, and greenways. This money may be used for land acquisition, trail construction, and capital projects in local parks. Each state grant to a local government must be matched with an equal amount of local government money or an in-kind donation of like value from a third party of land, equipment, or services.

The allocation of these funds will be made by the new Department of Environment and Conservation. The tax money will be kept in a dedicated trust fund in the state treasury, so it will accumulate interest and the unspent portion will not revert to the general fund at the end of the fiscal year.

The new law also extends the Wetlands Acquisition Fund indefinitely. That fund is used by the Wildlife Resources Agency to acquire wetlands. It is also funded through the real estate transfer tax and was scheduled to go out of existence in 1996.

The law also creates the Agricultural Nonpoint Water Pollution Control Fund, which will receive approximately \$1.5 million a year from the real estate transfer tax. This fund will be administered by the Department of Agriculture, but the Commissioner of Environment and Conservation must sign off on all expenditures from the fund. The money will likely be used to stop erosion and runoff from animal feedlots.

The Environmental Action Fund drafted and obtained sponsors for the bill, and coordinated the lobbying efforts throughout the legislative session. The sponsors were Sen. Ward Crutchfield (D-Chattanooga) and Rep. Gary Odom (D-Nashville), who did an excellent job of handling the lengthy discussions which occurred in committee and on the floor of the Senate and House.

The Tennessee Recreation and Parks Association (TRPA), the Tennessee Conservation League, the Nature Conservatory, the Tennessee Municipal League, the Tennessee County Services Association, and the Tennessee Development District Association all supported the legislation. The Tennessee Farm Bureau added its support in the final weeks of the session because of the amendments providing funding for agricultural pollution control.

Two key players in the lobbying efforts were Kathleen Williams, executive director of TRPA, and Tom Hensley, a member of the Wildlife Resources Commission and liquor lobbyist (who is sometimes known as the Golden Goose.) Kathleen generated enormous support from local parks and recreation directors. Tom, a veteran of 25 years on Capitol Hill, knows which buttons to push with many legislators.

Despite this broad base of support, the bill passed the House by a margin of only 50-39. The close vote was due to intense opposition by the Tennessee Realtors Association. The Senate margin of 24-7 was more comfortable. (Note: A bill must receive a "constitutional majority" in both houses. In the House this is 50 votes and in the Senate this is 17 votes.)

For at least three years, conservation groups have sought a source of funding for parkland acquisition. Passage of this bill is indeed a sweet victory.



UPCOMING HIKES

CLARKSVILLE

Open Picnic
9/7 Swimming Hole Hike

COOKEVILLE

8/10 Flat Creek Wade
8/17 Buggy Top Cave
9/7 Virgin Falls Work Party

MEMPHIS

8/18 Picnic
9/21 Natchez Trace S.P.

MURFREESBORO

8/10 Wild Orchid Hike
9/14 Savage Falls Backpack

NASHVILLE

8/25 Bledsoe Creek S.P.
8/30 Frozen Head S.P.
9/23 Volunteer Day Loop

INACTIVE CHAPTERS

Chattanooga
Cumberland Mountain

TENNESSEE TRAILS is printed by Budget Rapid Printers, Nashville, 327-1068

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

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

